

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable António Guterres
Secretary-General
United Nations
760 United Nations Plaza
New York, NY 10017

October 24, 2024

Dear Secretary-General Guterres:

We write to express our deep concern about prospective efforts of the Palestinian Authority to downgrade Israel's status at the U.N. General Assembly (UNGA) and strip the State of Israel of its key privileges in the body. Any downgrade in Israel's status or standing at the UNGA will result in a corresponding downgrade of U.S. financial, material and political support to the U.N.

We were outraged by the recent vote at the UNGA to implement the one-sided International Court of Justice's (ICJ) advisory opinion undercutting Israel's right to defend itself against Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad, and other Palestinian terrorist organizations by calling on Israel to completely withdraw from the West Bank with no recognition or consideration of Israel's legitimate security concerns. It fits a longstanding pattern of an obsessive bias against Israel in the U.N. that pervades the entire system, even in the aftermath of the October 7th massacre.


Congress has taken note of the numerous U.N. actions aimed to delegitimize Israel's right to self-defense, raising serious questions over the future of U.S. funding to the U.N. We have concluded that the U.N. is not a neutral party, but one that has definitively taken sides against Israel.

We remind you that the U.S. is the largest donor to the U.N. Our contributions account for one-third of the body's collective budget. We will not accept the U.N.'s ongoing hostility to our ally Israel.


You should further be aware that bipartisan legislation was recently introduced in Congress to prohibit U.S. funding to the U.N. if Israel's status at the UNGA is downgraded or its participation is otherwise restricted such that it may not participate fully and equivalently with other member states.


Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. We respectfully request that you expeditiously notify the "Permanent Observer Mission of the State of Palestine to the United Nations" of the seriousness of their actions.


Sincerely,


Michael V. Lawler
Member of Congress

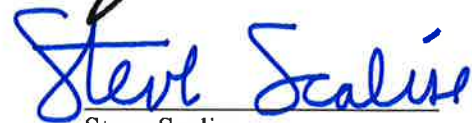

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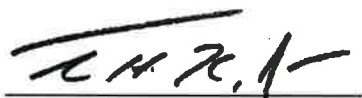
Jen A. Riggans
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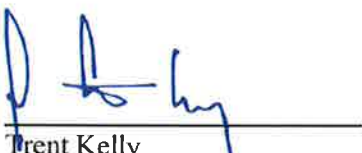
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Vince Fong
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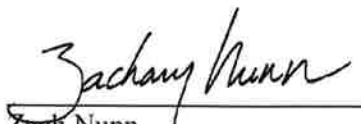
Michael Guest
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Debbie Lesko
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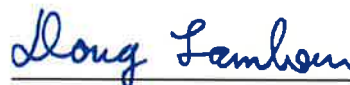
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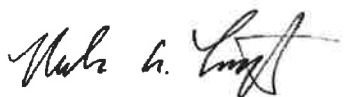
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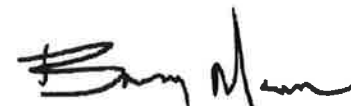
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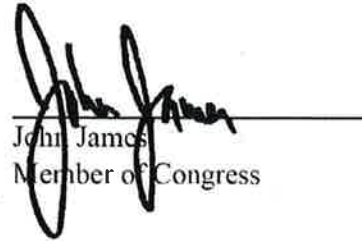
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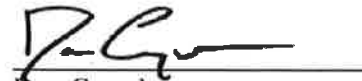
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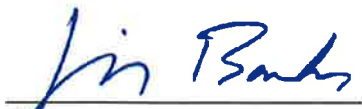
Michael Waltz
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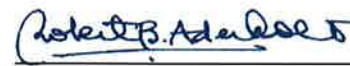
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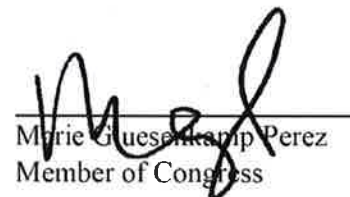
Marcus J. Molinaro
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Ann Wagner
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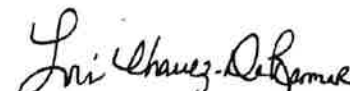
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Ritchie Torres
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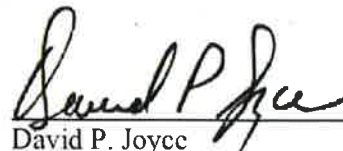
Alex X. Mooney
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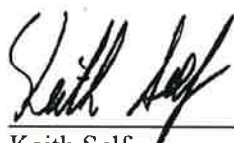
Chip Roy
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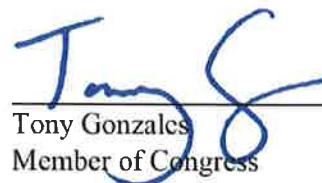
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