

March 01, 2024

HJ 0001 - UNV

Supporting a Long-Term Ceasefire in Israel and Palestine

Dear Chair Anne Healey, Vice-Chair Marvin E. Holmes Jr., and Members of the Rules and Executive Nominations Committee,

The leadership of the Islamic Resistance Movement, a.k.a. HAMAS, say over and over again, that all of the land within the borders of the state of Israel belongs to the Ummah, a.k.a. the community of believers in Islam or the Islamic world. They say repeatedly that it is a duty of all Muslims to fight against the existence of Israel until Israel is defeated. They say that any ceasefire is a temporary pragmatic step towards preparing for the inevitable final battle that they will win. For example, Ismail Haniyya stated that 'The Palestinians will never succumb under the pressure to recognize Israel, they will keep up the resistance until Palestine is liberated ('Al-Filastiniyyin lan yardakha abadan li-l-durut allati tumarisu alayhim li-lirtiraf bi-Israil')... We will never recognize the ... Zionist system ('Lan natarifa abadan bi l-nizam al-Sahyuni')... We will not stop the jihad until entire Jerusalem and the Palestinian lands are liberated... The world and the Zionists have the arrogance to confiscate our land and to demand that we stop the resistance...' [Al-Quds al-Arabia, 11 December 2006].

HAMAS and peace co-exist like fire and water, they are mutually exclusive. There was a ceasefire between Israel and Hamas that was breached by HAMAS on October 7th, one of a series of ceasefires that HAMAS has violated. They deliberately incite conflict by using mosques as gathering areas to prepare for stone throwing clashes, then they employ heated language to first promote and then justify their own sadistic brutality, the nature of which they simultaneously falsely deny. The HAMAS leadership uniformly justifies, and endorses repeating, the brutal Oct. 7 attacks. Accordingly, it is difficult to understand how any "long-term ceasefire" can achieve, or even promote, peace. This resolution is disconnected from reality, it is misdirected, and as such lacks ethical substance.

Mathew Goldstein
3838 Early Glow Ln

Bowie, MD 20716