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Swaziland

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Observers:

Hong Kong

Zimbabwe

Hon. Alfred Cannan MHK
Chief Minister
Legislative Buildings, Finch Road
Douglas, IM1 3PW
ISLE OF MAN

10 July 2025

Dear Chief Minister,

We are writing to you to express our deep concern about a motion that is now being proposed in Tynwald on 14th July, pressing your administration to lobby the UK government to sever all defence, security, or intelligence support to any state "engaging in, or credibly alleged to be committing, war crimes, crimes against humanity, or serious breaches of international law; under formal investigation by competent international bodies for such violations."

This motion is proposed by Joney Faragher MHK and is clearly simply an extension of her endless campaign against the State of Israel. You will recall that Ms Faragher has aggressively challenged you on locally manufactured F-35 spare parts being sent to Israel and has been prominent at pro-Palestinian demonstrations posturing for peace by demanding an immediate ceasefire in Gaza without calling for the release of all hostages or the disarmament of Hamas.

The motion is supported by MLC Gary Clueit, who is similarly implacable in his inveterate hatred of Israel, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Jumping on the bandwagon of the 'lawfare' campaign being waged at the International Court of Justice by the Republic of South Africa is an underhand means of trying to get at both your government and the UK government to act against current British foreign policy.

We do not wish to interfere in local politics, nor express an opinion as to whether your government should be taking a position on British foreign policy (or even whether the motion is properly on the order paper at all), but you should be in no doubt as to the purpose of this motion. It aims to undermine the strong alliance between the UK and Israel, the only democracy in the Middle East, which has had to spend the last two years facing down an existential threat from Iran and its various

Accredited to

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proxies. It seems wrong to us that Tynwald should be used as a Trojan horse to try to sneak such egregious motions towards the UK government. Hopefully you agree.

If adopted, this motion will support organisations such as Hamas and Hezbollah, which are actually explicitly, in their own founding documents, committed to mass genocide through the eradication of the State of Israel and its mainly Jewish inhabitants. Of course, they are not states, but non state terrorist actors, so they are not covered by the proposed motion!

We know already that this proposed motion is causing alarm to Jewish and non-Jewish residents of, and investors in, the Isle of Man. We strongly urge its rejection.

Relatedly, and by way of balance, we take this opportunity to ask the government of the Isle of Man, in common with the UN, UNESCO, OSCE, EU Agency for Fundamental Rights, European Commission, Council of Europe, the Organisation of American States and 35 other governments around the world (including the UK government, all three devolved governments and over 200 local councils), to formally adopt the IHRA definition of anti-Semitism in order to forestall any future pernicious attacks on the right of the Jewish people to remain in the homeland vouchsafed to them by the United Nations in 1948, after 2,000 years of exile. We know that adopting the IHRA Working Definition is something you have been considering but urge that the decision to adopt the Definition be taken now. This action will give considerable comfort to Jewish residents and friends of the Isle of Man.

We stand ready, together with members of the Manx Jewish Community, to meet with you to discuss this further at a mutually convenient time.



Lord Jon Mendelsohn
Chairman



Howard Rosen
Trustee

CC: Mr Isai Scheinberg