

Criticizing Nuclear Armed Israel and Its Illegal Settlements Must Not be Construed as Antisemitism

By <u>Anthony Bellchambers</u> Global Research, April 13, 2016 Region: <u>Middle East & North Africa</u> Theme: <u>Law and Justice</u>, <u>Militarization and</u> <u>WMD</u> In-depth Report: <u>Nuclear War</u>

The current Likud coalition government of the State of Israel, is headed by Binyamin Netanyahu, a Revisionist Zionist whose ideology is rooted in the former paramilitary activities of the Irgun Zvai Leumi (ETZEL) militia of Ze'ev Jabotinsky which was responsible for the bombing of the King David Hotel in 1946 and the massacre at Deir Yassin in 1948.

Netanyahu has continued the so-called official policy of 'Nuclear Ambiguity' that conveniently enables the Israeli state to have built and maintained the world's only undeclared nuclear weapons arsenal that is estimated by American scientists to hold up to a maximum of 400 nuclear warheads – sufficient to destroy the whole of the Middle East and most of Europe.

The State of Israel is one of the only UN member states to refuse to ratify the NPT (Non-Proliferation Treaty) to which all 28 members of the EU are signatories in addition to the

United States, China and Russia. Israel is now estimated to be the 3rd most powerful nuclear state in the world, but the only one that is undeclared and therefore not subject to any report or inspection by the IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency) of the UN. This raises urgent concerns regarding global security and criticism of its covert nuclear policies that apparently have the support of a lobby-influenced US Congress.

The charge of 'antisemitism', raised by the Israeli government and its diplomatic missions, on every available occasion, is an official strategy of obfuscation designed to obtain exemption from international agreements on warfare and civil rights, plus immunity from the International Criminal Court (ICC) in the Hague, a court that it refuses to recognise. Another example of Israel's intransigence is its government's refusal to ratify the Chemical and Biological Weapons Conventions to which all EU member states and the US are signatories. Yet, astonishingly, both the EU and the US continue to be Israel's primary trading partners apparently oblivious to the danger inherent in allowing the sharing of national security systems with a non-European, foreign state.

 \cdot Surely British national security is more important than bilateral trade with one particular state?

Surely criticism of trading with an undeclared nuclear power and its potential for war cannot be termed 'antiSemitic'?

• Surely it must be obvious that European/British Jewry have nothing whatsoever to do

with violations of the human rights of 5m civilians in the Occupied Palestinian Territories?

• Surely it cannot be right to allow lobbyists for a Middle East state with a documented reputation for warmongering and illegal expansion to influence British politics?

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