

# **Demands for Israeli Ambassador to UK's Expulsion After 'Clear Call for Genocide'**

"The Israeli ambassador has gone on national British radio and incited genocide," said one columnist. "This is an illegal act under the 1948 Genocide Convention."

By [Julia Conley](#)

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*A member of British Parliament demanded the foreign secretary "take the strongest possible action against" Tzipi Hotovely, the Israeli ambassador to the U.K., after she appeared on a radio broadcast of LBC and told host Iain Dale in no uncertain terms that Israel's military must target civilian infrastructure in Gaza—a war crime under the [Geneva Conventions](#).*

Hotovely told Dale that the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) have found that "every school, every mosque, every second house, has an access to tunnel," referring to the tunnels used by Hamas—which were [first built](#) when Gaza was under Israeli control in 1980.

"That's an argument for destroying the whole of Gaza, every single building," Dale said, prompting Hotovely to ask, "Do you have another solution, how to destroy the underground tunnel city?"

Journalist Hamza Ali Shah said the ambassador's statement amounted to "a clear call for genocide."

Israeli ambassador to the UK Tzipi Hotovely says every school, mosque and second house is a target for Israel.

Asked if that's effectively a call for the destruction of all of Gaza, she asks "do you have another solution?"

A clear call for genocide. [pic.twitter.com/VERR3x9XUA](https://pic.twitter.com/VERR3x9XUA)

— Hamza (@Hamza\_a96) [January 3, 2024](#)

Hotovely is [hardly](#) the first [Israeli official](#) to [publicly call](#) for genocidal [violence](#) in Gaza—even as the government continues to claim it is targeting Hamas and protecting civilian lives and as the U.S., which has [provided military aid](#) for Israel's bombardment and vehemently defended the IDF, [claims](#) accusations of genocide are “meritless.”

But her statement on British national radio underscored how genocidal language has become [commonplace](#) among Israel's mainstream political class since the country began its bombardment in retaliation for Hamas' October 7 attack.

British journalist Robert Carter [said](#) Hotovely's comments make her “a good pick for Israel's envoy to the U.K.”

“She always finds a way to properly sum up how evil Israel's colonialist project is and what Tel Aviv's true ambitions are—the total genocide and land theft of all Palestine,” he said.

Mitchell Plitnick cautioned observers against dismissing Hotovely's remarks as the musings of a extremist whose views are outside the mainstream under Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government.

Understand, Tzipi Hotovely is not Smotrich or Ben Gvir. She is a long time Likud stalwart, very much a part of Netanyahu's team, from his party. Here, she calls for [#genocide](#)." When asked about it, she doubles down. This is the very heart of what the US is supporting. <https://t.co/6lyfM7cb4r>

— Mitchell Plitnick 🇺🇸 (@MJPlitnick) [January 3, 2024](#)

Afzal Khan, a Labour MP, wrote to British Foreign Secretary David Cameron to demand that Hotovely's comments be met with “stern denunciation” from the government.

“The situation is unfathomable, and the words of the Israeli ambassador make clear that it is the intention of the Israeli government to continue with its horrific bombardment and ground fighting until there is nothing and no one left in Gaza,” wrote Khan.

The Israeli Ambassador, Tzipi Hotovely, has encouraged the full destruction of Gaza. This is a clear call for the genocide of Palestinians.

I've written to the Foreign Secretary, calling on him to condemn this and to take the strongest possible action against the Ambassador 🇺🇸  
[pic.twitter.com/qksXFkC4JM](https://pic.twitter.com/qksXFkC4JM)

— Afzal Khan MP (@Afzal4Gorton) [January 4, 2024](#)

Others, including *Guardian* columnist Owen Jones and research analyst [Naks Bilal](#), said Hotovely should be expelled from her role.

“The Israeli ambassador has gone on national British radio and incited genocide,” [said](#) Jones. “This is an illegal act under the 1948 Genocide Convention. As such, the U.K. must expel Tzipi Hotovely immediately.”

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