

Israel's Nine Fictional Claims presented to the UN Security Council. Israel is the Victim of "Palestinian Terror"

By Middle East Monitor

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On 16 October 2015, Israeli Ambassador Roet addressed the UN Security Council in an emergency session on the escalating situation in Israel and Palestine. Below are excerpts of his speech followed by facts disproving them provided by the <u>Palestinian government in a statement released yesterday</u>.

Israeli Ambassador Roet: "Israel is facing an onslaught of terrorism; men, women and children are being stabbed to death on the streets on a daily basis. Yet for them there has been no demand for an emergency session at the Security Council."

Fact: The Palestinian people are a defenceless and unarmed population suffering gross violations of human rights under Israel's illegal occupation. It is in fact the Israeli occupation that is the source and context of all of the violence, violence that has been inflicted by Israel with total impunity for over 48 years on the Palestinian people. Yet Israel has the audacity to oppose international action to protect the civilian population.

Israeli Ambassador Roet: "These are just a few of the silent victims of Palestinian terror."

Fact: Individuals that carried out the alleged stabbings acted alone and without the support of others. On the contrary, Israeli settlers carry out terrorist acts with Israeli state protection – military and political. Nearly 200 acts have been carried out by settlers against Palestinian civilians in the past month. These include stoning and firebombing Palestinian cars, houses and civilians; trespassing on villages and property; setting fire and damaging crops; and attacking, beating and shooting at Palestinians, including children.

Israeli Ambassador Roet: "Over the course of the last month, 24 terror attacks have claimed the lives of eight Israelis, and injured 70."

Fact: Israel, the occupying power, is not a victim in this situation. Since 1 October 2015, over 1,850 Palestinians have been injured and at least 46 killed, including at least 18 in demonstrations. The Israeli occupying forces (IOF) have greatly intensified their excessive use of force, especially to suppress protests, through the use of rubber bullets, tear gas, sound canisters and live fire.

Israeli Ambassador Roet: "The root cause of this wave of terror is clear."

Fact: The root cause of the current violence is Israel's half century illegal occupation of the Palestinian land and its subjugation of the Palestinian people. Palestinians, many of them children, are killed, wounded, arrested and harassed and intimidated every day while their property is seized, demolished, or bombed. This incessant oppression leaves little hope for a peaceful and stable future, deepens despair and encourages the oppressed to resist injustice.

Israeli Ambassador Roet: "Israel is firmly committed to the status quo which protects the right of Muslims to pray in the mosque."

Fact: The IOF has intensified incursions and attacks at Al-Aqsa Mosque compound by allowing terrorist settlers free reign to storm the holy site in attempts to change the historic status quo. Between 14 January and 15 September, the IOF and settlers under their protection carried out more than 450 attacks against this holy site and Palestinian civilian worshippers.

Israeli Ambassador Roet: "It is inflammatory rhetoric and lies lit the fuse, and incitement that keeps feeding the flames."

Fact: Israeli leaders have long and recklessly cultivated a culture of hate against Palestinians that's manifested in the constant and excessive use of violence by the IOF and terrorist settlers. For example:

"We will not provide immunity to any rioter, inciter, or terrorist, not anywhere and under no conditions. Israel's security forces have no limits when it comes to defending Israelis," said Benjamin Netanyahu, prime minister of Israel, on 5 October. "Palestinians have to understand they won't have a state and Israel will rule over them," said Eli Ben-Dahan, deputy defence minister of Israel, on 10 October. "The entire Palestinian people is the enemy...in wars the enemy is usually an entire people, including its elderly and its women, its cities and its villages, its property and its infrastructure," said Ayelet Shaked, Israeli justice minister, on 7 July 2014.

"Instead of calming tensions, Palestinian leaders continue to lie and use inflammatory rhetoric."

Fact: The Palestinian Government has repeatedly affirmed that it supports peaceful and legal means to end the illegal Israeli occupation. President Abbas recently stated: "I support a popular, nonviolent struggle and oppose all violence and use of weapons. I've made clear a number of times that I don't want to return to the cycle of violence."

Israeli Ambassador Roet: "Such acts of terror do not occur in a vacuum."

Fact: Indeed, they don't occur in a vacuum. They occur when there is constant impunity for brutal crimes by the IOF and terrorist settlers. This includes the burning of teenager Mohammed Abu Khdeir, the arson attack of the Dawabsheh family home, and the mounting

executions of Palestinian civilians, including children and youths by the IOF with live fire. When the IOF investigates soldiers for suspected criminal activity against Palestinians, it closes 94 per cent of cases without prosecution.

Israeli Ambassador Roet: "Prime Minister Netanyahu stood here in the UN and declared that he is ready for direct negotiations with the Palestinians without any preconditions."

Fact: The Israeli government tells the UN it's prepared for negotiations while telling the Israeli public a Palestinian state will never come to be. On 18 October, Justice Minister Shaked avowed: "We are against a Palestinian state. There is not and there will be no Palestinian state." Direct negotiations are inherently asymmetrical as Palestine is under Israel's occupation. The international community must present a multilateral and time-bound negotiating process to salvage the prospects of peace, beginning with concrete steps to end this illegal occupation without delay.

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