

Report: 14 Countries to Form Block Against Israel's Membership of African Union

By [Middle East Monitor](#)

Global Research, August 04, 2021

[Middle East Monitor](#) 2 August 2021

Region: [Middle East & North Africa, sub-Saharan Africa](#)

Theme: [History](#)

All Global Research articles can be read in 51 languages by activating the "Translate Website" drop down menu on the top banner of our home page (Desktop version).

Visit and follow us on Instagram at [@crg_globalresearch](#).

Israel's return to the African Union (AU) as an observer state has sparked a huge backlash in the continent with as many as 14 countries said to be ready to form a block to reject the occupation state's membership.

Online newspaper *Rai Al-Youm* reported that Algeria has agreed with South Africa, Tunisia, Eritrea, Senegal, Tanzania, Niger, the Comoro Islands, Gabon, Nigeria, Zimbabwe, Liberia, and Seychelles to expel Israel from the AU.

It's reported that the new block will reject the decision to include Israel in the AU to preserve the principles of the union and support the Palestinian Arab state.

Algerian Foreign Minister Ramtane Lamamra is expected to discuss the issue of Israel's membership in the African Union in his upcoming trips to Tunisia, Ethiopia, Sudan, and Egypt. He has previously [stressed](#) that Algeria will not stand idly by while Israel is allowed to join the block with the consent of its members.

Though *Rai Al-Youm* did not include Namibia on its list of countries to have agreed with Algeria to block Israel's admission, the southwest African state's ministry of international relations released a strongly worded denunciation of the AU's decision to grant observer status to the occupation state.

"Granting observer status to an occupying power is contrary to the principles and objectives of the Constitutive Act of the African Union," Penda Naanda, executive director of Namibia's Ministry of International Relations and Cooperation, said in a statement.

Naanda said it was wrong to grant Israel observer status, particularly at this time, when the state of Israel is increasing its acts of oppression in total violation of international law and disregard for the human rights of the Palestinian people. He stressed that the AU Commission's decision was against the usual firm and solid commitments made by several African heads of state and government who unequivocally support the Palestinian cause.

“Namibia, therefore, disassociates itself from [granting observer status to the state of Israel](#),” the statement said.

South Africa was one of the first countries to express condemnation of the AU’s decision. It said that it was “[appalled](#)” by the decision to grant observer status to the 55-country block.

*

Note to readers: Please click the share buttons above or below. Follow us on Instagram, @crg_globalresearch. Forward this article to your email lists. Crosspost on your blog site, internet forums. etc.

The original source of this article is [Middle East Monitor](#)
Copyright © [Middle East Monitor](#), [Middle East Monitor](#), 2021

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Middle East Monitor](#)

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: publications@globalresearch.ca
www.globalresearch.ca contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: publications@globalresearch.ca