



INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL SUPPORTING FAIR TRIAL & HUMAN RIGHTS

Registration No. 2795/2012

OFFICIAL LETTER HEAD OF THE ORGANIZATION

USA STANDING AGAINST HUMAN RIGHTS



The United States has announced its departure from the United Nations' main human rights body, UN HRC, as President Trump continues to defend his policy of separating migrant families and supporting Israeli apartheid

ICSFT condemns in the strongest terms the Trump Administration after its announcement that the United States is pulling out of the United Nations Human Rights Council (HRC). The HRC is a 47-state body entrusted with protecting and promoting human rights, one of the three pillars set out in the U.N. Charter. The HRC has a history of bringing global attention to human rights violations, condemning the actions of those involved, and reinforcing a commitment to protecting the rights of individuals. Therefore abdicating responsibility and blaming other countries is cowardly, especially coming from a country that claims to hold a high moral standard on human rights.

ICSFT in special consultative status with the ECOSOC / Center Oecumenique des eglise 150, Route de Ferney 1211, Offices: 191&192, Geneva, Switzerland, Tel: +41227884808/ 5&6- Fax:+ 41227884807- Website: www.icsft.net- Email: uncoordinator@icsft.net / info@icsft.net



INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL SUPPORTING FAIR TRIAL & HUMAN RIGHTS

Registration No. 2795/2012

OFFICIAL LETTER HEAD OF THE ORGANIZATION

The Trump administration withdrew from the United Nations Human Rights Council on Tuesday, fulfilling a pledge made by Nikki Haley, USA ambassador to the UN, a year ago when she visited the UN HRC in Geneva to leave a body she accused of hypocrisy and bias against Israel.

In her statement on Tuesday at the State Department in Washington Nikki said “For too long, the Human Rights Council has been a protector of human rights abusers, and a cesspool of political bias,” she further stated the decision was an affirmation of U.S. respect for human rights, a commitment that “does not allow us to remain a part of a hypocritical and self-serving organization that makes a mockery of human rights.” In simple terms, USA is supporting over 50 years of Israeli occupation and the killings of hundreds of innocent Palestinian protestors calling for their right to return to their home, which is disheartening and legitimizing an act of aggression. USA undermining an important human rights organ in defence of Israel’s systemic oppression of Palestinians which amounts to a gross violation of international human rights law is truly tragic.

This decision comes just a day after the UN human rights commissioner denounced the Trump administration for separating migrant children from their parents at the US-Mexico border. HC Zeid in his last address to the HRC said “the thought that any state would seek to deter parents by inflicting such abuse on children is unconscionable”.

HC Zeid said following the USA’s decision to withdraw from the UN HRC,

“Disappointing, if not really surprising, news,”

ICSFT in special consultative status with the ECOSOC / Center Oecumenique des eglise 150, Route de Ferney 1211, Offices: 191&192, Geneva, Switzerland, Tel: +41227884808/ 5&6- Fax:+ 41227884807- Website: www.icsft.net- Email: uncoordinator@icsft.net / info@icsft.net



INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL SUPPORTING FAIR TRIAL & HUMAN RIGHTS

Registration No. 2795/2012

OFFICIAL LETTER HEAD OF THE ORGANIZATION

“Given the state of human rights in today’s world, the US should be stepping up, not stepping back,” he added.

USA withdrawing from the HRC is yet again another illustration of its one-dimensional and biased human rights policy. It all comes down to if it is not our way then there is no way : defending Israeli abuses from criticism takes precedence above all else. Trump’s administration withdrawal from UN HRC is just the latest in a long string of actions by the current U.S. government administration that undermine human rights and displays its complete disregard for the fundamental rights and freedoms the US claims to uphold. While the Human Rights Council is by no means perfect, it remains an important force for accountability and justice. If anything, nations championing human rights are better able to counter members with poor track records by remaining involved with the body.

This reckless decision by the USA, a country that claims to be the watch dog for human rights, sets a bad precedent that if powerful countries do not get preferential and selective treatment at the UN HRC withdrawal from this key human rights body will be the answer. Most importantly, such self-serving and hypocritical move will make it more difficult to advance human rights priorities and aid victims of human rights abuse around the world. This also calls into question USA’s commitment, if any at this point, to human rights and democracy.

ICSFT urges the USA to urgently reverse this decision and stand on the right side of history.

ICSFT in special consultative status with the ECOSOC / Center Oecumenique des eglise 150, Route de Ferney 1211, Offices: 191&192, Geneva, Switzerland, Tel: +41227884808/ 5&6- Fax:+ 41227884807- Website: www.icsft.net- Email: uncoordinator@icsft.net / info@icsft.net