Israel's UN ambassador slams Hamas' 'evil and depraved' display of hostages' coffins

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The bodies of Kfir Bibas, Ariel Bibas and Oded Lifshitz were returned to Israel more than 500 days after they were taken hostage, the [Israel Defense Forces](https://www.foxnews.com/category/world/world-regions/israel) (IDF) has confirmed. Hamas, though, was not finished disrespecting and using the hostages.

Instead of sending the body of Shiri Bibas in the coffin bearing her name and photo, Hamas handed Israel an unidentified body. The IDF said the DNA of the body in the coffin does not match any other known hostage.

In a display of brutality, coffins containing the remains of the three murdered Israeli hostages were put on display in a ceremony that has been nearly universally condemned.

In a ceremony that has been nearly universally condemned, Hamas set out four coffins on a stage in front of a grotesque caricature of Israeli Prime Minister [Benjamin Netanyahu](https://www.foxnews.com/category/person/benjamin-netanyahu) on a banner that read in English, ‘The war criminal Netanyahu & his Nazi army killed them with missiles from Zionist warplanes.’

On the coffins were photos of the deceased with their names and the words ‘arrest date’ and the date of the Oct. 7 attacks.

‘Under international law, any handover of the remains of [the] deceased must comply with the prohibition of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, ensuring respect for the dignity of the deceased and their families,’ the United Nations Geneva tweeted, attributing the quote to High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Türk.

Türk’s condemnation of the Hamas ceremony, however, rang hollow for many who pointed out the U.N.’s reluctance to condemn the terror organization by name.

‘Hamas parading four coffins onstage to music is evil and depraved,’ Israeli UN Ambassador Danny Danon said in a statement to Fox News Digital.

‘For 16 months, Israel has been fighting a deranged terrorist organization that places no value on human life, especially if it is Israeli or Jewish— all while international institutions like the UN refrained from condemning Hamas and formally demanding the immediate return of [our hostages](https://www.foxnews.com/opinion/you-freed-me-from-hamas-president-trump-please-save-my-brother-too).’

On Oct. 7, 2023, Türk put out a statement that appeared to equate Hamas’ attacks with Israel’s response, saying he was ‘shocked and appalled’ by the violent attacks and condemning Israel’s response.

Director of the Touro Institute on Human Rights and the Holocaust and President and Human Rights Voice Anne Bayefsky accused Türk of being ‘one of the leading drivers of Palestinian terrorism and [global antisemitism](https://www.foxnews.com/category/topic/anti-semitism) in the world today.’

‘He [Türk] personifies the use and abuse of ‘human rights’ as a front to perpetrate evil. He has blood on his hands,’ Bayefsky told Fox News Digital. ‘Volker Türk - the UN's top human rights official - is a human rights fraud who has more concern for Jews after death than saving Jewish lives from Palestinian savagery before they've perished.’

United Nations watchdog organization UN Watch called for Türk’s resignation in its December 2024 report showing that the human rights commissioner condemned the U.S. more than China, North Korea, Cuba, Saudi Arabia and Qatar combined. The organization also accused Türk of focusing on the Jewish state.

‘Türk was obsessed with condemning Israel, the only democracy in the Middle East, making 58 condemnations during the past two years, with 49 on the Hamas-Israel war. To put this in perspective, over the same two years, the Maduro regime in Venezuela was criticized only 4 times,’ the report reads.

After the Oct. 7 attacks, Shiri Bibas and her sons, Kfir and Ariel, became symbols of Hamas’ brutality. The image of a terrified mother holding her 4-year-old and 9-month-old quickly spread around the world. Yarden Bibas, Shiri’s husband and the father of Kfir and Ariel, was taken captive separately and was ultimately released from Gaza on Feb. 1.

In addition to the bodies of the Bibas boys and Lifshitz, Israel is preparing to receive six living hostages on Saturday as part of its ongoing ceasefire deal with Hamas.

In response to a Fox News request for comment on critics who say Türk’s condemnation of the ceremony was not sufficient, the UN's Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights said Türk had been ‘clear, and steadfast, in his condemnation of the war crimes committed by Palestinian armed groups.’