Elise Stefanik Blasts UN for ‘Antisemitic’ Report Accusing Israel of Sexual Violence in Gaza

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US President Donald Trump’s nominee to serve as the next American ambassador to the United Nations has repudiated a new UN-backed report accusing the Israel Defense Force (IDF) of perpetrating sexual violence against Palestinians in Gaza, lambasting its claims as “antisemitic” and baseless.

“The corrupt UN Human Rights Council’s new baseless report is antisemitic and anti-Israel slander,” [US Rep. Elise Stefanik](https://www.algemeiner.com/2025/01/21/elise-stefanik-calls-out-antisemitic-rot-at-united-nations-vows-to-stress-the-importance-of-standing-with-israel/) (R-NY) posted on social media on Thursday, when the report was published. “The so-called ‘Human Rights Council’ [UNHRC] has failed to condemn the barbaric atrocities committed by Hamas terrorists against Israel including the brutal slaughter, torture, kidnapping of thousands of innocent civilians, and Hamas’s horrific use of rape and sexual violence against Israeli women and girls, yet disgracefully attacks Israel with unfounded smears.”

Stefanik continued, “This report exposes the disgraceful and obsessive antisemitism of UNHRC and reaffirms why President Trump took the strong, correct decisive executive action to withdraw from it.”

The UN Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Thursday [published a report](https://www.algemeiner.com/2025/03/13/israel-slams-un-report-charging-idf-with-sexual-violence-in-gaza/), commissioned by the Human Rights Council, that accused Israel of committing “genocidal acts” and employing sexual violence in Gaza. The report alleged that Israeli military forces have used sexual abuse and forcible stripping as weapons of war against Palestinian civilians.

“Israeli authorities have destroyed in part the reproductive capacity of the Palestinians in Gaza as a group, including by imposing measures intended to prevent births, one of the categories of genocidal acts in the Rome Statute and the Genocide Convention,” the report said.

Upon the report’s release, Israel’s permanent mission to the UN released a statement rejecting the allegations, arguing that they lacked substantiation and were based on uncorroborated sources.

“In a shameless attempt to incriminate the IDF and manufacture the illusion of ‘systematic’ use of [sexual and gender-based violence], the [Commission of Inquiry] deliberately adopts a lower level of corroboration in its report, which allowed it to include information from second-hand single uncorroborated sources,” the mission said.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu also repudiated the UNHRC, arguing that the “antisemitic” council has launched unsubstantiated allegations against the Jewish state with the goal of tarnishing its reputation.

“Instead of focusing on the crimes against humanity and war crimes committed by the Hamas terrorist organization in the worst massacre committed against the Jewish people since the Holocaust, the UN is [once again choosing to attack Israel](https://www.algemeiner.com/2024/06/07/un-adds-israel-infamous-list-shame-prompting-outrage/) with false accusations, including unfounded accusations of sexual violence,” Netanyahu wrote.

In contrast, Hamas, the terrorist group that runs Gaza, said that the report confirmed Israel’s “genocidal” actions within the enclave.

“The UN’s investigation report on Israel’s genocidal acts against the Palestinian people confirms what has happened on the ground: genocide and violations of all humanitarian and legal standards,” Hamas spokesperson Hazem Qassem told AFP.

Several investigations have revealed that [Hamas-led Palestinians perpetrated widespread sexual violence](https://www.algemeiner.com/2024/12/30/israeli-report-un-exposes-hamas-torture-sexual-abuse-hostages-including-children/) against Israeli women and girls not only during their Oct. 7, 2023, invasion of southern Israel but also later against Israeli hostages kidnapped during the onslaught.

Anne Herzberg, legal adviser and UN representative for NGO Monitor, told *The Algemeiner* that the International Criminal Court and International Court of Justice will likely use the report to bolster their [genocide cases against Israe](https://www.algemeiner.com/2025/02/13/south-africa-says-no-chance-will-withdraw-genocide-case-against-israel-despite-us-pushback/)l. Other anti-Israel initiatives such as the boycott, divestment, and sanctions movement (BDS) will also likely reference the report in future activities.

Stefanik was [tapped by Trump to serve](https://www.algemeiner.com/2024/07/18/rnc-spotlights-campus-antisemitism-elise-stefanik-teases-bombshell-findings-us-congressional-probe/) as the ambassador to the United Nations for the current administration. However, Stefanik has not yet been confirmed by the US Senate to serve in the post. Senate Republicans are reportedly slowing her confirmation process due to concerns over the narrow Republican majority in the House of Representatives, where her vote is seen as necessary to pass key legislation.