U.N. Cuts Mic of Speakers Calling Out Anti-Israel Bias

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The United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) cut the sound from the microphone when a couple of speakers criticized the anti-Israel bias permeating the body on March 18.

Activist Anne Bayefsky was rebutting a prior speech from United Nations Special Rapporteur Michael Lynk in which he used “Nazi and anti-Semitic tropes” against Israel; her microphone was frequently cut off throughout the speech. On two occasions UNHRC President Coly Seck told her to stop using “insulting comments.” Eventually Bayefsky’s microphone was cut altogether and she had to end her speech early.

Bayefsky [told](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/260536) Arutz Sheva, “I attempted to draw attention to the horrible murder of Ori Ansbacher because she was a Jew, and the absence of any mention of her by the UN’s Israel investigator who claimed he was reporting on the ‘current human rights situation.’ The Council President’s response? He cut my mic! He interrupted me twice, calling my remarks naming the Council ‘expert’s’ analogies of Israelis to Nazis ‘insulting.’”

“I ‘insulted’ anti-Semites by attempting to draw attention to their anti-Semitism,” Bayefsky said. “As I would have ended my statement – if I had been allowed to speak – at this UN, anti-Semitism is not a problem. It’s a human right.”

Additionally, Hillel Neuer, executive director of U.N. Watch, tweeted that his microphone was cut off shortly after he started speaking after he “tried to simply read out the names of the countries that spoke today in the debate against Israel.”

The United States left the UNHRC in June, then-United Nations Ambassador Nikki Haley [said](https://www.cnn.com/2018/06/19/politics/haley-pompeo-human-rights-bias/index.html) the move was due to the body’s anti-Israel bias.