**Anti-Semitism of William Schabas, UN Panel Head to Investigate Israel**

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Israeli TV’s Channel 2 interviewed Prof. William Schabas, who is one of the commissioners who will be [investigating Israel on behalf of the United Nations Human Rights Council](http://www.jspacenews.com/look-appointees-uns-panel-investigating-israel-war-crimes/), on August 12. Schabas was asked about some of his anti-Israel rhetoric, including the fact that his “favorite would be Netanyahu within the dock of the International Criminal Court,” a statement that Schabas made in 2013.

When asked by Channel 2 as to why Schabas called Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu his “favorite” to indict in the International Criminal Court, instead of Syria’s Bashar al-Assad or Hamas leader Khaled Mashal, Schabas explained that he merely “echoed” the Goldstone Report, which says that the International Criminal Court should deal with issues from the Goldstone Report, such as human rights violations during Operation Cast Lead. However, Netanyahu was not in power at the time of the report, and, in fact, is not mentioned anywhere in the Goldstone Report.

During the interview, Schabas also refused to say if his commission of inquiry would examine crimes by Hamas and also said that he needs to check with the other commissioners. Schabas also refused to call Hamas a terrorist group, despite the fact that it is legally defined as such by the United States, the European Union, the United Kingdom, Canada, Jordan, Egypt, Australia, Japan, and Israel.

Schabas also said that Israel “gets off light at the Security Council,” despite the fact that most countries, including many of the world’s worst abusers, never get criticized at all in the United Nations Security Council, whereas Israel has been criticized in numerous United Nations Security Council resolutions, debates, and presidential statements.

Schabas was also called out in the Channel 2 interview for going after former Israeli President Shimon Peres a few years earlier, when he said, “Why are we going after the president of Sudan for Darfur and not the president of Israel for Gaza?” Schabas said that this was an “exaggeration” made of his comments.