

## Submission to UNHRC COI

My name is David L. Ruhm. I am an American citizen living in California, in the USA. This submission is made in response to the call for submissions concerning the Commission of Inquiry created by the UN Human Rights Committee. The following topics are addressed:

- Facts and circumstances regarding alleged violations of international humanitarian law and alleged violations and abuses of international human rights law leading up to and since 13 April 2021.
- Identification of those responsible.

The following article provides evidence addressing these topics and is included herein by reference. It is publicly accessible through the link below:

“ Hamas, Not Israel, Violated International Humanitarian Law”, Samuel Estreicher and Julian Ku, New York Law Journal, 10 June 2021, reprinted in Verdict, 14 June 2021

<https://verdict.justia.com/2021/06/14/hamas-not-israel-violated-international-humanitarian-law>

In summary: In the 2021 conflict, Israel did everything possible to minimize casualties while defending itself. Gaza's Hamas did everything possible to increase casualties, while attacking Israel continuously. Which side respected human rights and humanitarian law? Which side do you respect? Which side reflects your morality?

In addition, the following is pertinent to this matter:

When a nation upholds human rights to a high degree, and that nation is threatened with destruction, and yet still endeavors to uphold the sanctity of human life and human rights while it wages war for its survival; and then, the UN investigates that nation for alleged criminal acts, while performing no comparable investigation into any other country's or entity's actions; then, by doing so, the UN repudiates its commitment to human rights, and the world's commitment, since the UN is the only worldwide body of its kind.

It is not proper to require Israel to meet a certain standard unless that requirement is also required of every other nation in the world. Only that same application of a principle among a community can be considered justice, including the community of nations. Therefore, if Israel is to be judged and scrutinized according to some principle of justice, let every other country be scrutinized with regard to that principle of justice, at the same time and in the same process, along with Israel. And, to do otherwise is to convert a good principle of justice that applies to all nations in order to sanctify humanity, into a bad weapon of warfare, pointed like a dagger at one country by its brethren nations. At this time, put down that dagger, and restore justice among nations.