

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 574

Calling on the United Nations to take concerted actions against leaders in Iran for their statements calling for the destruction of another United Nations Member State, Israel.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 20, 2012

Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Ms. AYOTTE, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. KIRK, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MORAN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. BEGICH, and Mr. JOHANNES) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

RESOLUTION

Calling on the United Nations to take concerted actions against leaders in Iran for their statements calling for the destruction of another United Nations Member State, Israel.

Whereas, on August 2, 2012, President of Iran Mahmoud Ahmadinejad stated that “anyone who loves freedom and justice must strive for the annihilation of the Zionist regime in order to pave the way for world justice and freedom”;

Whereas, on August 17, 2012, President Ahmadinejad gave a televised statement that “the Zionist regime and the Zionists are a cancerous tumor,” and that “the nations

of the region will soon finish off the usurper Zionists in the Palestinian land,” contending that “with the grace of God and help of the nations, in the new Middle East there will be no trace of the Americans and Zionists”;

Whereas, on February 3, 2012, Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khamenei told an audience that “the Zionist regime is a real cancerous tumor that should be cut and will be cut, God Willing”;

Whereas, on August 17, 2012, leader Ayatollah Ahmad Khatami, addressing worshippers at Tehran University, stated that “Zionists understand only the language of force” and claimed that “the Zionist regime will meet destruction through unity in the Islamic world”;

Whereas, in 2009 and 2011 speeches before the United Nations General Assembly, President Ahmadinejad insulted Israel, called into question its very existence, and denied the fact that there was a Holocaust;

Whereas other leaders in Iran have made similar statements, and the Government of Iran has displayed inflammatory symbols that express similar intent;

Whereas the Government of Iran funds, trains, and supports terrorist groups, including Hamas, Hezbollah, and Islamic Jihad Movement in Palestine among many others, all of which have murdered United States citizens, Israelis, and non-Israeli Jews and are determined to destroy Israel, and continues to support the Government of Syria in its continued oppression, violence, and abuse of its people;

Whereas, on August 30, 2012, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) reported that the Government of Iran has doubled its capacity to enrich uranium to 20

percent purity at Iran's Fordow Fuel Enrichment Plant since May 2012;

Whereas the longstanding policy of the Iranian regime is aimed at destroying the democratic State of Israel, a vital ally and longstanding friend of the United States, which is confirmed by statements such as those made by President Ahmadinejad and Supreme Leader Khamenei demonstrating the threat of a nuclear-armed Iran;

Whereas, 67 years ago, the United Nations was founded in the wake of the Holocaust, the Nazi genocide carried out during World War II that resulted in the slaughter of 6,000,000 Jews in Europe, in order to "save succeeding generations from the scourge of war" and uphold and protect the "dignity and worth of the human person";

Whereas Article 2, Section 4, of the United Nations Charter, to which Iran has agreed as a Member State of the United Nations, requires all Member States to "refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state";

Whereas the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, done at Paris December 9, 1948 (commonly referred to as the "Genocide Convention"), defines genocide as, among other things, the act of killing members of a national, ethnic, racial, or religious group with the intent to destroy, in whole or in part, the targeted group;

Whereas Article 3 of the Genocide Convention prohibits conspiracy to commit genocide, as well as "direct and public incitement to commit genocide";

Whereas Article 4 of the Genocide Convention provides that individuals committing any of the listed genocidal crimes shall be punished “whether they are constitutionally responsible rulers, public officials or private individuals”;

Whereas 142 Member States of the United Nations, including Iran, have ratified or acceded to the Genocide Convention and thereby pledged to prosecute those individuals who violate its criteria for incitement to commit genocide, as well as those individuals who commit genocide directly;

Whereas, on August 18, 2012, United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon condemned the Government of Iran’s “offensive and inflammatory statements” and his office reiterated that, “in accordance with the United Nations Charter, all members must refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state”; and

Whereas, on November 9, 2006, an international coalition of 29 nongovernmental organizations urged the Government of Iran to renounce President Ahmadinejad’s call for Israel to be wiped off the map: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) condemns, in the strongest possible terms,
 3 Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khamenei and President
 4 of Iran Mahmoud Ahmadinejad’s offensive remarks,
 5 contemptible statements, and reprehensible policies
 6 aimed at the destruction of the State of Israel, and
 7 urges all United Nations Member States to do the
 8 same;

1 (2) calls on the United Nations Security Coun-
2 cil to take more concerted actions against Iran for
3 blatantly violating the United Nations Charter, in-
4 cluding by requesting that the prosecutor of the
5 International Criminal Court investigate leaders in
6 Iran for violating the Convention on the Prevention
7 and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, done at
8 Paris December 9, 1948 (commonly referred to as
9 the “Genocide Convention”), and Article 2, Section
10 4, of the United Nations Charter;

11 (3) further calls on all Member States of the
12 United Nations to fully implement existing United
13 Nations Security Council resolutions sanctioning
14 Iran and to take additional stronger unilateral diplo-
15 matic and economic measures to prevent the Govern-
16 ment of Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons, which
17 would be both a dangerous violation of the Treaty
18 on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, done
19 at Washington, London, and Moscow July 1, 1968,
20 and entered into force March 5, 1970, and a poten-
21 tial means to the end of carrying out President
22 Ahmadinejad’s threats against Israel;

23 (4) further calls on the United Nations Security
24 Council and all Member States of the United Na-
25 tions to consider targeted sanctions, travel bans, and

1 other measures linked to the cessation of the Gov-
2 ernment of Iran's incitement to hatred and genocide;

3 (5) calls for the United Nations Secretary Gen-
4 eral's Advisory Committee on the Prevention of
5 Genocide to implement its mandate to act as a
6 mechanism of early warning, and to make rec-
7 ommendations to the United Nations Security Coun-
8 cil to monitor and report on threats of genocide
9 made by leaders in Iran;

10 (6) further calls on parties to the Genocide
11 Convention to file a complaint against leaders in
12 Iran before the International Court of Justice for
13 the failure by the Government of Iran to abide by
14 its obligations under Articles 1, 4, and 5 of the
15 Genocide Convention; and

16 (7) reaffirms the unwavering strategic partner-
17 ship and close friendship between the United States
18 and Israel and reasserts the steadfast commitment
19 of the people and the Government of the United
20 States to defend the right of Israel to exist as a free
21 and democratic state.

○