

DRAFT

Resolution EC 2310 - 1

Unequivocal Support for, and Solidarity with, the State and People of Israel during the War inflicted upon it by Hamas

The Executive Committee of the World Jewish Congress, meeting in Zagreb on 16 October 2023,

RECORDS WITH PROFOUND SORROW that on Shabbat Simchat Torah 7 October 2023, another date that will “live in infamy” – Israel was suddenly and deliberately attacked by Hamas terrorists, by land, sea and air.

RECORDS WITH HORROR that the savage butchery that unfolded on that day was indescribably evil. More than 1,300 Israelis were hunted down and murdered in their homes and on the streets. Infants were murdered and some beheaded in their beds. Women were raped. The bodies of the victims were desecrated. . Thousands of innocent Israelis were grievously injured and more than 150 were abducted and brought to Gaza as hostages of Hamas and some were degraded in public. Whole communities were decimated, and buildings burnt to the ground;

UNEQUIVOCALLY CONDEMNS the Hamas murderers who conceived and perpetrated the most vicious and deadly attack on Jews since the dark years of the Holocaust;

EXPRESSES its deepest and most heartfelt sympathy to all the families and friends of those affected and prays for the speedy recovery of the injured;

URGES that the urgent and safe release of all of the hostages be given the highest priority by all governments and relevant international organizations;

EXPRESSES the unwavering commitment of the World Jewish Congress and its affiliated communities to Israel, the nation-state of the Jewish people;

RECOGNIZES the fundamental obligation of the government of Israel as with any nation, to protect its citizens and keep them safe and to take all measures necessary to safeguard and defend its citizens against external aggression;

ACKNOWLEDGES WITH DEEP APPRECIATION the outpouring of sympathy and support for Israel and Jewish communities from political leaders, other ethnic and faith communities and good people from many countries;

EXPRESSES GREAT APPRECIATION to those world leaders who have issued unequivocal statements of support for the State of Israel, in particular the President Biden of the United States, Prime Minister Sunak of the United Kingdom, President Macron of France, Chancellor Scholz of Germany and many others, as well as European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen European Parliament President Roberta Metsola both of whom visited Israel

immediately after the war started to demonstrate European Union support for Israel;

NOTES WITH GRAVE CONCERN that these events have triggered increased antisemitic sentiment and acts of violence worldwide and express gratitude to governments throughout the world that have taken measures to ensure that Jews and Jewish communities in their countries are able to continue to live freely and safely;

CALLS ON governments to take action to protect and ensure the well-being of their local Jewish communities;

RECOGNIZES that the avowed aim of Hamas is the eradication of Israel and its Jewish population, and that Israel has no alternative other than to eliminate Hamas as a matter of its survival;

CALLS ON the international community to support Israel in these darkest of days and beyond, notwithstanding that Israel's battle to eliminate the future threat of Hamas, whilst not a war against Palestinians, will result in the inevitable and highly regrettable Palestinian casualties;

COMMENDS the IDF for taking precautions to reduce as much as possible the casualties of Palestinian civilians in Gaza, notwithstanding Hamas' deliberate and strategic operations of deliberately putting those civilians of Gaza in harm's way, contrary to international law, to intentionally increase casualties for its own propaganda purposes;

CALLS ON all governments and the international community to forcefully condemn the actions of Hamas, and insist upon the immediate release of all hostages and the dignified return of all the bodies of those who have been tragically murdered;

CALLS ON the international community to acknowledge the grave and substantial threat posed by Hamas as a terrorist organization not just to the security of Israel and its people, and to the entire Jewish diaspora, but to the stability of the Middle East and worldwide;

FURTHER CALLS ON all states that have not yet done so to designate Hamas as a terrorist organization *in its entirety* and to condemn the role of Iran in aiding and abetting Hamas, Hezbollah and other terrorist groups;

REITERATES the World Jewish Congress' unwavering commitment to protecting Jewish communities across the world and supporting them in their time of need.