# SITUATION IN THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN

# **ANNEX - PUBLIC**

Annex to Request for Leave to Submit Observations on behalf of Human Rights Organisations

## Annex - the Amicus Curiae Organisations

### 1. Jerusalem Institute of Justice (JIJ)

The Jerusalem Institute of Justice is a legal and research non-partisan NGO, dedicated to cultivating and defending the rule of law, and promoting human & civil rights for all people in Israel and the Middle East. JIJ advocates in the courts, and before legal and governmental bodies in Israel and across the globe.

Based in Jerusalem, JIJ works to uphold human rights in the region by submitting legal complaints of the gravest crimes to international tribunals and governmental bodies. Using first-hand evidence and testimonies, we target perpetrators of heinous human rights violations against innocent civilians that have so far enjoyed impunity.

### 2. International Legal Forum (ILF)

The International Legal Forum is a nonprofit, proactive legal hub, centralizing efforts of lawyers, organizations and activists worldwide, in their fight to promote justice, peace and equality in Israel and the Middle East. The ILF provides them with the much-needed knowledge, strategic planning, research and international network in order to successfully tackle human rights violations, radical ideologies, terror and the BDS movement.

It is only in the past few years that groups and individuals have begun to try and advance these objectives. Yet many of them lack resources, experience, information and a broader perspective, leaving them to essentially fight this relatively new and important battle alone. We believe that joined efforts create leveraged relationships and therefore are a true necessity in the creation of true, sustainable change. That is

why we are dedicated to providing thousands of lawyers, organizations and activists with the tools they need and to incorporate them in our own initiatives, thus creating a global network of shared enterprises.

### 3. My Truth

My Truth is a grassroots, non-profit, educational organization comprised of IDF reserve soldiers who seek to share the values and experiences of Israeli soldiers and show the high moral standards they strive to meet. My Truth soldiers speak out openly and in firsthand about the unparalleled ethical dilemmas and complexities Israeli soldiers face. My Truth soldiers present an objective picture regarding the conduct of Israeli soldiers and their commitment to the IDF's ethical code.

#### 4. Simon Wiesenthal Centre

The Simon Wiesenthal Centre was founded in 1977 in honour of the Nazi war criminal investigator, who brought over 1,200 Holocaust murderers to the bar of justice. He acted on behalf of six million Jews and five million other victims, including Roma, Slavs, homosexuals, and other resistants.

In this spirit, in 1993, the Museum of Tolerance was opened by UNESCO Director-General, Federico Mayor, at the Centre's Los Angeles headquarters. Dubbed a "human rights laboratory", it has hosted Heads of State such as the late King Hussein of Jordan, religious leaders including the Dalai Lama, and run training programmes on multiculturalism and online hate for law enforcement, military, judges and adolescents convicted of racially aggravated offences from the United States, France, Germany, Ireland and Argentina. It is visited by some half a million young people each year.

The Centre's cinematic division, Moriah films, has produced 15 full length documentaries, including two Academy Award Oscars - "Genocide" with Elizabeth Taylor and Orson Wells and "The Long Way Home" on the plight of refugee migrants.

The Centre is today an international Jewish human rights organization with a constituency of over 400,000 members. It applies the lessons of the Holocaust to counter antisemitism and other contemporary forms of discrimination and hate.

Its international network works through regional offices for Europe in Paris, Latin America in Buenos Aires, and the Middle East in Jerusalem.

It is accredited as an NGO at the United Nations, UNESCO, the OSCE, the Organization of American States (OAS), the Latin American Parliament (PARLATINO) and the Council of Europe. Together with ECCAR - the European Coalition of Cities Against Racism - the Centre shares with its 158 city members its programme "11 Points against Racism", now adopted by the Organization of American States (OAS) with 35 member states, as "11 Points against Racism in Sports."

The Centre in 2014 created - in co-sponsorship with UNESCO - an exhibition entitled "People, Book, Land: the 3500 Year Relationship of the Jewish People with the Holy Land."

The exhibition reflects the code of ethics and human rights values contributed by the Jewish people to civilization: from the freeing of slaves to the 7th day of rest, to the role of the Biblical prophets to check and balance the monarch, a precursor to the rule

of law. The United Nations Declaration of Human Rights of René Cassin and the Genocide Convention of Raphael Lemkin, both reflect their Jewish values.

Following its June 2014 inauguration at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, the exhibition was displayed at the United Nations in New York, the US Congress, the Israeli Knesset, the Vatican, Copenhagen Town Hall, the UK Parliament and the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, with the support of 42 member-States. Its worldwide itinerary includes so far, Santiago de Chile, Panama, Buenos Aires, Lima, Baku, New Delhi, Hong Kong, Tokyo, the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, Malmö, Podgorica, Tirana, Rome and the Frankfurt Book Fair.

For further information, please contact Dr. Shimon Samuels, Director for International Relations of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre at +33 609 770 158 or email <a href="mailto:csweurope@gmail.com">csweurope@gmail.com</a>.

#### 5. The Lawfare Project

The Lawfare Project is a global network of legal professionals that contribute our skills, time and expertise to defending the civil and human rights of the Jewish people and pro-Israel community, and fighting discrimination wherever we see it.

- We defend the civil and human rights of the pro-Israel community across a range of cross-cutting areas.
- We forced Kuwait Airways to terminate half of its U.S. operations and all inter-European flight routes due to its practice of discriminating against Israeli passport-holders.

- We succeeded in canceling a Hamas event scheduled to be held at an InterContinental Hotel Group (IHG) hotel in Doha, Qatar by advising IHG on the criminal and civil liabilities that can attach for hosting a designated terrorist organization.
- We have stopped corporations from implementing BDS practices by counseling them on the legal implications (and penalties) of discriminatory commercial conduct.
- We successfully demanded that the U.S. Congress hold the United Nations accountable for promoting and inciting violent radicalization among Palestinian children in UNWRA refugee camps.
- We secured a team of three attorneys to provide *pro bono* assistance to a college student who was physically assaulted by a supporter of the Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP). Criminal proceedings resulted in a court order that the attacker participate in anger management counseling and community service, issue an apology, and pay court costs and supervision fees.

#### 6. UKLFI

UK Lawyers for Israel is an association of lawyers who seek to ensure the proper application of laws in matters relating to Israel, not least with respect to fundamental human rights of equality, freedom of expression, and the right to life. Our members and honorary patrons include some of the most distinguished members of the British legal profession, including in the fields of human rights law, international law and criminal law. Together with partners in the United States, Israel, South Africa, Canada, Australia, Ireland, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, The Netherlands, Belgium, Norway, Sweden, Bulgaria, Switzerland and other countries, we work to ensure that Israelis and Jews are protected from discriminatory, politically motivated litigation

and legal proceedings tainted by extraneous considerations. We regularly support individuals in national, transnational and international criminal, civil and public law proceedings which engage international human rights law.