



**H.Con.Res. 21 - Calling on the United Nations Security Council to charge Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad with violating the 1948 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide and the United Nations Charter because of his calls for the destruction of the State of Israel**

**Floor Situation**

H.Con.Res. 21 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Rep. Steve Rothman (D-NJ) on January 9, 2007. The bill was ordered to be reported from the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

H.Con.Res. 21 is expected to be considered on the floor on June 18, 2007.

**Summary**

H.Con.Res. 21 condemns, in the strongest terms, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's offensive remarks, contemptible statements, and reprehensible policies aimed at the destruction of the State of Israel and calls on the United Nations Security Council to charge Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad with violating the 1948 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide and Article 2, Section 4, of the United Nations Charter.

It further calls on the United Nations Security Council and all Member States of the United Nations to consider measures to prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons, which would be both a dangerous violation of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and a potential means to the end of carrying out President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's threats against Israel and reaffirms the unwavering strategic partnership between the United States and Israel and reasserts the steadfast commitment of the United States to defend the right of Israel to exist as a free and democratic state.

**Background**

The 1948 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (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, and it also prohibits conspiracy to commit genocide, as well as 'direct and public incitement to commit genocide.'

On October 27, 2005, at the World Without Zionism Conference in Tehran, Iran, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad called for Israel to be 'wiped off the map', described Israel as 'a disgraceful blot [on] the face of the Islamic world', and declared that '[a]nybody who recognizes Israel will burn in the fire of the Islamic nation's fury.'

On December 12, 2006, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad addressed a conference in Tehran questioning the history of the Holocaust and said that Israel would 'soon be wiped out.'

On December 14, 2006, incoming United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon said that Iran's calls for Israel's destruction and its dismissal of the Holocaust are 'unacceptable', and expressed concern about the regional and global security implications of Tehran's nuclear program.

On August 3, 2006, in a speech during an emergency meeting of Muslim leaders, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad stated that the Middle East would be better off 'without the existence of the Zionist regime', called Israel an 'illegitimate regime' with 'no legal basis for its existence', and accused the United States of using Israel as a proxy to control the region and its oil resources.

It has been proven that Iran funds, trains, and openly supports terrorist groups, including Hamas, Hezbollah, and Islamic Jihad among many others, that are determined to destroy Israel.

### **Staff Contact**

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