



Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
Ms Nazhat Shameen Khan
Palais des Nations
1211 Geneva 10
Switzerland

Zürich, May 26th 2021

The European Alliance for Israel is concerned about the special session taking place May 27th

Distinguished Ms Khan

Only few days ago, and with great concern, we learned about the upcoming special session taking place on May 27th 2021. The theme “on the grave human rights situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem” does not augur well in our view.

For years, we have witnessed the Human Rights Council repeatedly accusing Israel, unilaterally and in a prejudiced way, of ‘violating human rights’. Member states who consistently criticise and vote against Israel are often those whose own record of human rights abuses are appalling.

The recent conflict was a profound crisis with tragic effects upon civilians on both sides. Any discussion of the conflict that considers human rights must acknowledge the suffering of Palestinians and of Israelis. Only on this unequivocal basis can a proper discussion seeking just outcomes take place.

We therefore call upon you to do everything within your means to prevent a unilateral vilification of Israel in the upcoming special session.

For your feedback, we thank you most cordially already in advance.

Sincerely,

Lukas Blum
General Secretary EAI