



38th Regular Session of the United Nations Human Rights Council



Joint Oral Intervention

Al-Haq – Law in the Service of Man

and BADIL Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights

Item 6 – Universal Periodic Review Outcome of Israel

29 June 2018

Mr. President.

Al-Haq and BADIL thank the Working Group for compiling Israel's third UPR outcome and condemn Israel's refusal to attend its adoption. We note that Israel systematically refuses to engage with UN human rights mechanisms by not attending the Council under item 7 and refusing to cooperate with independent experts, including by denying country visits to special rapporteur Michael Lynk.

In this regard, it is troubling that Israel could not commit to Switzerland's recommendation to invite the special rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders for a visit as soon as possible and without precondition, while accepting ten recommendations to protect civil society space.

Mr. President,

Out of 240 recommendations received by Israel, nearly two thirds were noted, most of which relate to the human rights of Palestinians and the situation in the occupied Palestinian territory, amongst which only eight out of 101 were fully supported.

Meanwhile, the recommendation by Germany to "end practices of collective punishment such as the demolition of homes, revocation of residency permits in East Jerusalem, and the closure of entire areas" did not enjoy Israel's support, nor did recommendations to halt settlement construction and end the closure of the Gaza Strip. Similarly, Brazil's recommendation to "take measures in order to abide by international law, especially the fourth Geneva Convention" was merely noted.

Al-Haq and BADIL deplore that Israel's engagement with the UPR process is once again disingenuous. It's time to act and impose sanctions on Israel until this impunity ends.

Thank you.