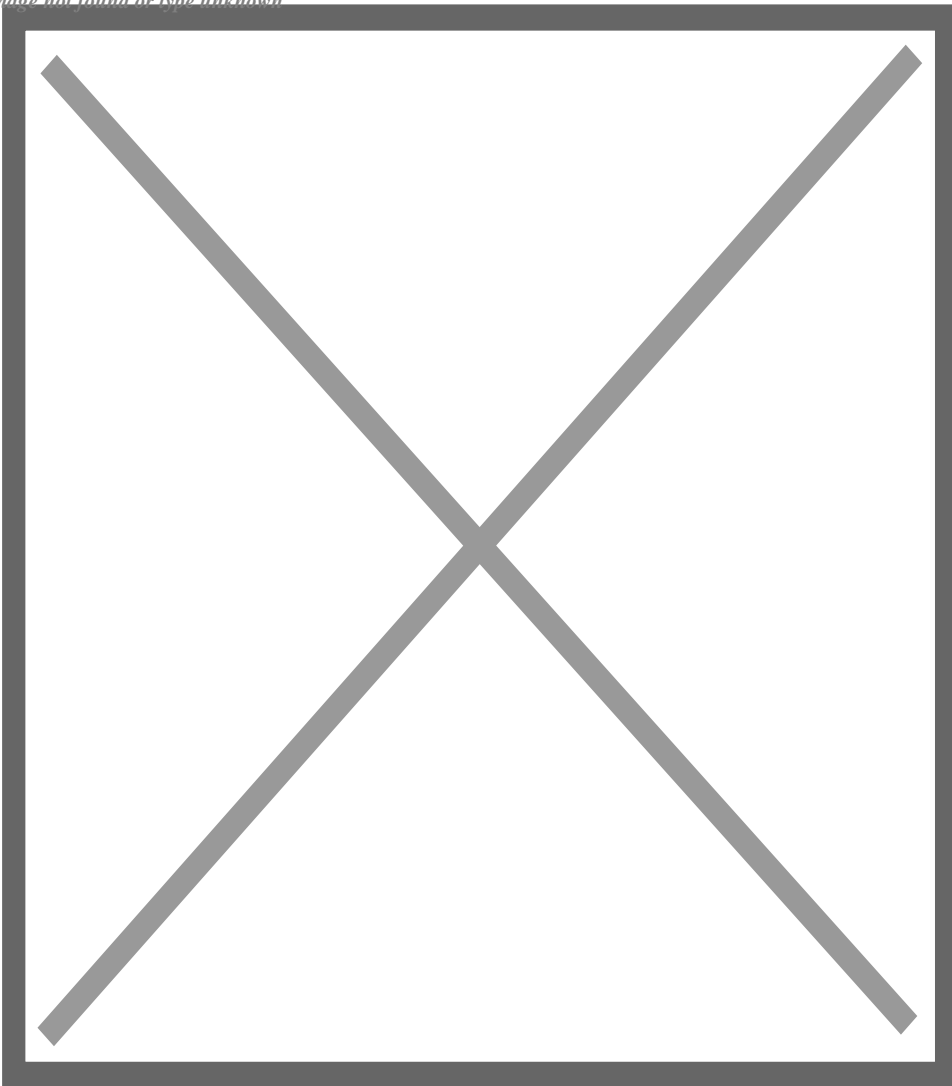


Iranian UN envoy says Israeli regime's actions against civilians are blatant example of terrorism

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Iran's permanent representative to the United Nations Office in Geneva, Ali Bahraini.

Geneva, August 14 (RHC)-- Iran's permanent representative to the United Nations Office in Geneva has called for Israeli institutions to be recognized as "terrorists," stressing that the regime's inhumane actions against Palestinian civilians constitute "a clear example of terrorism."

Ali Bahraini made the appeal in three separate letters to UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Turk, the UN special rapporteur on extra-judicial summary or arbitrary executions, Morris Tidball-Binz as well as UN Special Rapporteur on human rights in the occupied Palestinian territories Francesca Albanese on Wednesday.

According to Article 2.1 of the international convention to prevent the financing of terrorism, the institutions of "the Zionist regime" must be identified as terrorists, he said, adding that "the actions carried out by the Israeli regime against civilians and Palestinian areas are a clear example of terrorism."

Bahraini also noted that from Iran's point of view, Hamas is "a liberation organization" that fights for the freedom and independence of Palestine. Therefore, he said, the assassination of Hamas leaders is aimed at undermining the morale of the Palestinian people in their struggle to end the occupation and achieve the right to self-determination.

The Iranian diplomat also emphasized that by eliminating the Palestinian leaders, Israel seeks to destroy the Palestinian political identity and the inalienable right of the Palestinian people to have an independent state.

He further referred to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice (ICC), which recognizes the right of Palestinians to self-determination, and described any action that violates this right as illegal.

Elsewhere in his remarks, Bahraini strongly denounced as "a gross violation of international law" the assassination of Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh in the capital Tehran.

He also urged UN officials to condemn the assassination decisively and to document it in their future reports.

The top Iranian diplomat also stressed the need for more efforts to achieve justice for the Palestinian people and to hold the Israeli regime accountable for its crimes.

Haniyeh, who was in Tehran to attend the swearing-in ceremony of Iran's newly-elected President Masoud Pezeshkian, alongside other Axis of Resistance leaders, was martyred in an attack early on July 31.

Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei has warned the Israeli regime of a "harsh response" for Haniyeh's assassination, calling it the Islamic Republic's duty to avenge the Palestinian resistance leader's blood.

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