

The Biased “Experts” Leading the UNHRC’s “Inquiry”

UN guidelines require officials leading any Commission of Inquiry (COI) to “have a proven record of independence and impartiality.” In the case of the UNHRC’s COI on Israel, its commissioners are blatantly biased.

The president of the commission, Navi Pillay, has falsely accused Israel of apartheid and endorsed a letter that asked countries to “[suspend] free trade agreements with Israel.” She also spoke at the Durban Conference in 2009 and defended it following a hateful speech by former Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, who has called for Israel’s destruction. The Durban Conference is notorious for its history of antisemitism and was boycotted by thirty-eight countries in 2021.

In light of Pillay’s track record of anti-Israel bias, UN Watch issued a petition and a formal request calling for Pillay to resign or be removed as head of the COI. The president of the Human Rights Council has since come to the support of Pillay and her presidency, claiming that the Commission “deserves the full respect and cooperation of all Council stakeholders.”

Much concern also surrounds the anti-Israel bias of the COI’s remaining two commissioners: Miloon Kothari and Chris Sidoti. Kothari has previously accused Israel of war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and a “banstustan-type [sic] situation,” while referring to terrorism against Israelis as “resistance.” Chris Sidoti has previously accused Israel of disrespecting international law.

With the UNHRC refusing to comply with UN guidelines and secure impartial commissioners for its COI targeting Israel, there is little doubt that the “findings” of this “inquiry” will be every bit as biased as the officials leading it.