US slams UN failure to condemn Hamas after West Bank terror attack

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<https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/international/190658-181210-us-slams-un-failure-to-condemn-hamas-after-west-bank-terror-attack>

US President Donald Trump’s Middle East envoy Jason Greenblatt slammed the “absolutely disgusting” [attack in Ofra on Sunday, s](https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/international/middle-east/190621-181209-six-injured-in-drive-by-west-bank-shooting-near-jewish-settlement)peaking out against the UN’s failed motion to condemn Hamas last week.

"@UN This is what you defended last week when you failed to condemn Hamas. Hamas praises yet another terror attack,” Greenblatt wrote on Twitter. “You had the ability to help fight against terror. Is this what the UN wants its legacy to be?”

“President Abbas, will you condemn this time?” the envoy asked, calling on the Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas to speak out against the attacks.

Abbas is often criticized for not condemning such attacks as well as maintaining the Palestinian Authority’s policy of [paying salaries to the families of terrorists.](https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/international/middle-east/180122-180724-abbas-vows-to-continue-to-pay-terrorists-even-if-it-costs-pa-its-last-penny)

The envoy's pointed statements came in response to the Hamas militant group hailing the attack that injured seven Israelis, including a pregnant woman whose baby was prematurely delivered at a hospital following the shooting.

"The West Bank is taking the initiative today to resist the occupation and to respond to its ongoing aggressions against our people," Hamas said. "The heroic shooting of a group of Israeli soldiers near the Ofra settlement in Ramallah was an affirmation of the right of our legitimate people to resist the occupation."

According to media reports, none of the injured Israelis were soldiers.

US Ambassador to Israel David Friedman also levied criticism at the UN vote failure after decrying the event as "another vile act of Palestinian terrorism."

"Hamas calls the shooters "heroic" yes, the same Hamas that the UN could not resolve to condemn last week. The US stands with Israel against terrorists even if others won't" the ambassador said.

Last week, the US, led by Ambassador Nikki Haley, [attempted to pass a resolution](https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/israel/diplomacy-defense/190404-181207-despite-broad-support-haley-fails-in-un-bid-to-condemn-hamas)at the United Nations condemning the Palestinian Hamas movement for firing rockets at Israel.

The resolution failed after falling short of the two-thirds majority required for adoption, receiving 87 votes in a show of broad support for the measure at the General Assembly.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu still hailed the unsuccessful vote for the fact that it had received majority backing.

"The draft condemnation of Hamas in the UN General Assembly received a sweeping majority by countries that stood against Hamas," Netanyahu said in a statement. "This is the first time that a majority of countries have voted against Hamas and I commend each of the 87 countries that took a principled stand."

"I thank the American administration and US ambassador to the UN Nikki Haley for the initiative."

Haley, who steps down from her post at the end of the year, has repeatedly accused the United Nations of having an anti-Israel bias and has defended Israel in its latest confrontation with Hamas, the Islamist militant group that has ruled the Gaza Strip since 2007.