

September 16, 2024

His Excellency Luis Abinader Corona
President
Embassy of the Dominican Republic
1715 22nd Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20008

Dear President Abinader:

The United States-Dominican Republic relationship is an important and strategic one founded on our common interests and shared values. I appreciate the steps you have taken to address the threats to the stability and democratic values in the Western Hemisphere. It is essential that the United States and the Dominican Republic continue to work together on areas of mutual interest and concern in the region and beyond.

This week, the Palestinian Authority (PA) will encourage support for the Palestinian Division (DPR) and the Palestinian Committee (CEIRPP), as well as offer an anti-Israel resolution at the U.N. General Assembly. Last year, your country abstained when voting on a resolution that renewed the mandate and funding for the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories (SCIIHRP), a hostile directive to the State of Israel. This mandate, first created in 1968, continues to waste valuable U.N. resources and energy in pointless and harsh investigations of Israel alone—a nation under siege by Iran and its proxy groups like Hamas, Hezbollah, the Houthis, and others. Likewise, the DPR and CEIRPP support proceedings to gnaw away Israel's sovereignty over its own territory.

The PA's resolution calls for the end of an Israeli presence in the Palestinian areas within six months, the Israeli Defense Forces' withdrawal from these areas, a halt to Israeli "settlements," and the return of Palestinians to their land. It also calls on countries to not legally recognize Israel's presence in the Palestinian areas, enforce sanctions on Israeli officials, cease the transfer of arms to Israel that could be used in the Palestinian areas and to avoid establishing diplomatic missions in Jerusalem. These are severe demands that aim to destroy the independence of the Middle East's only democracy. All democracies should oppose these adverse ambitions.

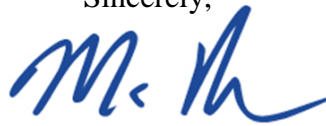
The U.S. is firmly committed to achieving a lasting peace in the Middle East, but anti-Israeli bodies of international organizations, like the SCIIHRP, DPR, and CEIRPP, present an obstacle to fulfilling that goal. The attacks launched on October 7, 2023, by Hamas and

subsequent attacks by Iran, Hezbollah, the Houthis, and others, have exacerbated the existential threat Israel faces from its neighbors and terrorist organizations that use the Palestinian areas, and its people, as safe havens and human shields. U.N. Member States should heartily support Israel's right to defend itself, oppose any anti-Israel PA resolution, and stop funding detrimental entities like the SCIIHRP, DPR, CEIRPP that would endanger Israel's ability to protect its Jewish and Arab citizens.

I respectfully urge that when this resolution comes up for a vote, the Dominican Republic will join the U.S. in voting "no" and stand for a peaceful future in the Middle East.

Thank you for your consideration on this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Rubio", is positioned above the printed name.

Marco Rubio
U.S. Senator