



**Republican
National
Committee**

Counsel's Office

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO SELF DEFENSE AND
CALLING FOR THE DEMILITARIZATION OF GAZA**

WHEREAS, Israel is a strong, reliable Democratic ally of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Israel has a sovereign right to defend itself, its territory and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, Hamas, a U.S. designated terrorist organization, has fired more than 3,000 rockets at Israeli civilians; and

WHEREAS, Hamas, counter to international law, uses its civilians as human shields and locates its missile batteries in and near schools, hospitals and mosques; and

WHEREAS, Israel takes great care to avoid civilian casualties, including the use of phone calls, text messages, leaflet drops to encourage evacuation from dangerous areas; and

WHEREAS, Hamas appears to be following the model of the terrorist group Hezbollah in Lebanon, by which it integrates itself into the political system while maintaining its terrorist force; evidenced by Hamas maintaining authority over its military forces and rocket arsenal in Gaza; and

WHEREAS, Hamas is a violent and unrepentant terror organization that has shown no signs of moderation or reform from their stated goals to “unify the Palestinian people against ... the Zionist enemy” and to fight for the “liberation of Jerusalem, the West Bank and the rest of Palestine [i.e., the entire State of Israel];” and

WHEREAS, Hamas has conducted numerous acts of terror against innocent civilians in Israel and has launched tens of thousands rockets and artillery from Gaza and dug "terror tunnels" designed to kill innocent civilians in Israel; and

WHEREAS, Hamas has used their civilian population as human shields during times of war, as well as launched airborne attacks from civilian homes, schools, hospitals and municipal buildings; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Republican National Committee supports the bi-partisan concerns expressed by an overwhelming majority of both houses of the US Congress in support of the state of Israel to defend themselves against Hamas as well as for the safety of innocent civilians in Israel and Gaza; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Republican National Committee supports the permanent demilitarization of the Gaza Strip, including the dismantlement of Hamas' rockets and tunnels; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Republican National Committee condemns Hamas' continued use of innocent civilians as human shields; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Republican National Committee supports continued and additional funding to enhance Israel's defensive capabilities, including the replenishing of the Iron Dome anti-rocket system; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that upon the approval of this resolution, the Republican National Committee shall deliver a copy of this resolution to the President of the United States Barack Obama, US Secretary of State John Kerry, the political leadership of both houses of the US Congress and The Prime Minister of The State of Israel, Benjamin Netanyahu.

**As adopted by the Republican National Committee on August 8, 2014.*