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April 19, 2024

President Joe Biden  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Secretary of State Antony Blinken  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Acting Legal Advisor Richard C. Visek  
Office of the Legal Adviser  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C Street, N.W.  
HST, Room 6421  
Washington, D.C. 20520

Senator Chris Van Hollen  
730 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Rule-based international order and *de facto* pardon of Israel's notorious war crimes in Gaza

Dear Mr. President:

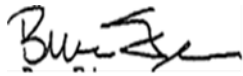
Your administration has rhetorically championed a rule-based international order to diminish the incidence of war and its grisly atrocities. But your actions or inactions have repeatedly betrayed the emptiness of the rhetoric. The most recent example is Israel's merciless destruction of Gaza and its 2.2 million Palestinian civilians in violation of at least ten (10) international humanitarian law prohibitions fortified by your unconditional massive delivery of weapons to the IDF and sharing of intelligence. You have *de facto* pardoned Israel of the following international law offenses:

1. Genocide by deliberate killings of Palestinians. Genocide Convention. Article II (a).
2. Genocide by deliberately inflicting on Palestinians in Gaza conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part. Genocide Convention, Article II (c)
3. Collective punishment of Palestinians in violation of Article 33 of the Fourth Geneva Convention and Article 4 of the Additional Protocol.

4. Crimes against humanity: Extermination and persecution of 2.3 million Palestinians in Gaza as part of a systematic attack directed at Palestinian civilians. Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, Article 7.
5. Deliberately targeting civilians and civilian property for destruction. Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, Article 8 (b) (i).
6. Failing to provide for the security and welfare of the inhabitants occupied by the Israeli Armed Forces in Gaza.
7. Constantly impeding the delivery of humanitarian assistance. Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, Article 8 (b) (xxv)
8. Forcible relocation of the Palestinian civilian population. Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, Article 8 (b) (viii)
9. Use of military force causing civilian casualties vastly disproportionate to the importance of any legitimate military objective. Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, Article 8 (b) (iv)
10. War of aggression against Gaza Palestinians not in self-defense. Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, Article 8 *bis*.

By example, you have regressed international law backward to conditions where “the strong do what they can and the weak suffer what they must” Thucydides, *History of the Peloponnesian War*. Silence for the citizenry is not an option.

Sincerely,



Bruce Fein, Esq.



Ralph Nader, Esq.