



**Briefing Paper 1**

**January 12, 2025**

## **The Biden Administration's Plan to Harm Israel on the Way Out**

### **The Top Line**

According to former National Security Council Senior Director Dr. Michael Doran<sup>1</sup>, the Biden Administration appears to have a “January Surprise” for Israel. If anti-Israel officials have their way, the U.S. government would declare Israel in breach of an American law concerning other members of the United Nations Security Council to sanction Israel for failing to fulfill demands made by the so-called “international community.”

The resolution reportedly would penalize Israel for purported war crimes in Gaza arising from her allegedly blocking humanitarian relief from reaching civilians there.

### **Analysis**

This initiative would reprise the Obama administration's parting shot at Israel when it abstained on the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 2334, thereby allowing it to pass. That resolution recognized the 1947 armistice lines as a legal international boundary, effectively criminalizing all Israeli settlements and presence in territories outside the Green Line, including in the Old City of Jerusalem.

That UNSC resolution was proposed by New Zealand, although it obviously was not acting alone. Rather, it served as a cat's paw for the Obama team. This tactic of using other nations to do the dirty work, while maintaining “plausible deniability,” is evident in the current plan as well.

The first of two possible resolution currently in play is predicated on an application of the Leahy Amendment to the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961. This amendment, known formally as Section 610(i), prohibits U.S. assistance to foreign security force units when there is credible information that the unit has committed a “gross violation of human rights.”

On October 13, 2024, Secretary of State Tony Blinken and Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin sent a joint letter to the Israelis putting them on notice that they risked having this section invoked if the U.S. government deems the humanitarian assistance reaching civilians in Gaza to be inadequate.

Apparently, the plan is, first, for those officials to render an official finding that Israel is blocking the required aid. Team Biden, however, would cynically seek to minimize domestic political blowback by choosing not to impose the cut-off of military assistance to the Jewish State.

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<sup>1</sup> Based on the [research](#) of Dr. Mike Doran of the Hudson Institute

But, secondly, by prearrangement, the official American finding will be used by the UN Security Council to adopt a punitive resolution against Israel. The resolution will once again be proposed by a rotating Council member, like Algeria or Slovenia (think, New Zealand 2.0). All other things being equal, the United States will not support the resolution's passage, but will decline to veto it by abstaining, ensuring the measure's adoption.

Then, third, once the UNSC resolution condemning and sanctioning Israel comes into effect, it and the official U.S. finding on which it will be predicated will be used by the likes of the International Criminal Court, the International Court of Justice and the European Union to delegitimize Israel, prosecute her leaders and otherwise inflict penalties on Israeli agencies, businesses and individuals.

### **The Bottom Line**

The Biden team's insidious and largely stealthy efforts to weaponize the UN Security Council against Israel – a purpose its parent organization is happy to serve *and does* every day – has another intent: to create facts on the ground that will internationalize its hamstringing of the incoming Trump presidency and, thereby, make it more difficult for Biden's successor to effect the necessary course-corrections in U.S. Middle East policy.

For all these reasons, the Victory Coalition calls on the Biden administration to halt its 11<sup>th</sup>-hour efforts to sabotage Israel and for President-elect Trump to insist upon such a cessation, as well.