



17<sup>th</sup> October 2023

To:

**Sam Hawgood**, MBBS, Chancellor, Arthur and Toni Rembe Rock Distinguished Professor

**RE: Your letter to the UCSF community regarding the genocidal massacre by Hamas in Israel titled: 'Supporting All of Our Communities Affected by the War in the Mideast'**

Dear Prof. Hawgood,

We, at [Bashaar](http://bashaar.org.il) – Academic Community for Israeli Society\*, appreciate the UCSF good intention in writing this letter to the UCSF community, particularly starting by denouncing Hamas's horrendous atrocities.

We would like, however, to emphasize that **there is no symmetry between the actions of Israel and those of Hamas in this on-going war.**

The events of October 7th are not just another clash between Israel and Hamas. Hamas terrorists butchered and slaughtered more than 1000 civilians: old people, men, women, pregnant women, elderly, children and babies. Parents were tortured in front of their children, babies and children were tortured and their bodies mutilated. They were shot, beheaded, burned alive, fetus cut brutally of his 9th month pregnant mother, women raped and then murdered, families burned and corpses then triumphantly displayed to cheering ecstatic crowds - all in the inhuman ISIS tradition.

200 Israelis were taken hostage, amongst them elderly sick people, men, women, children and babies and Hamas is cynically using them together with Gaza civilians as human shields. This is **pure evil** and one cannot stay within the realm of "politically correctness" vis-a-vis these horrible atrocities.

It is crucial to convey a clear moral message to villains around the world that their heinous acts against humanity will not be tolerated or accepted by the international community.

Finally, there is a profound and moral difference between Israel's efforts to avoid harming civilians and Hamas' ruthless attempt to inflict mass slaughter and torture to as many civilians as possible.

We support a peaceful and just solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Supporting Palestinian rights is fundamentally different from supporting the barbaric brutality of Hamas.

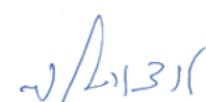
We will greatly appreciate if you can amend your message in view of these remarks.

Thank you for your attention,

Hoping for Better days,



Prof. Hagit Messer-Yaron  
Chairperson, BaShaar



Dr. Vered Ariel Nahari  
CEO, BaShaar

Copy: Prof. **Paul Joseph Fitzgerald**, S.J - President of the University of California San

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\*"BaShaar – Academic Community for Israeli Society" is a registered non-profit and a non-government organization, established in 1999 by academic leaders. BaShaar lists over 2,000 senior faculty members from all institutions of higher education in Israel, including former presidents and rectors, Nobel Laureates, laureates of the Israel Prize and other prestige awards.