

s22

From: s47F
Sent: Wednesday, 24 January 2024 1:49 PM
To: Media AHRC; Leanne Smith; Rosalind Croucher; s47F; Michael Badorrek
Subject: Re: Media enquiry - Guardian Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

First thing is to see the letter.

And definitely push the deadline back. 4pm today is completely unreasonable for such an enquiry.

s4

From: Media AHRC <media@humanrights.gov.au>
Date: Wednesday, 24 January 2024 at 1:39 pm
To: Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>, Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>, s47F <s22@humanrights.gov.au>, s47F <s22@humanrights.gov.au>, Michael Badorrek <s22@humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: Fwd: Media enquiry - Guardian Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi all,

Following The Guardian's enquiry yesterday, we have just received this follow-up from the journalist.

He confirms that he has been contacted by staff within the Commission, who have provided him a statement about their feelings on the matter at hand. Issues raised are listed below.

We have been given a very tight deadline of 4pm to respond, however we can extend to tomorrow if we require additional time to discuss this accordingly.

I had stepped away for lunch with s47F just before this email was received, and we will be back in the office shortly.

Thank you,
s47

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From: s47F @theguardian.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 24, 2024 1:14:22 pm
To: Media AHRC <media@humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: Re: Media enquiry - Guardian Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

You don't often get email from s47F. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organisation. Verify the sender before you click links or open attachments. Email purporting to be from staff may be an impersonation attempt.

Hi s47F

I've been in discussion with several staff at the commission in different areas about this topic and I've been provided a statement from them about the commission's handling of this issue. I would like to give you the opportunity to respond to their comments before I do a story. I can give you until 4pm but if you need time until tomorrow for a more complete response (would be good to get a comment on the record, not background) I can provide more time for that.

Basically they say:

- Staff are dissatisfied with the response to the ongoing genocide and occupation. The commission has a clear responsibility to act.
- There has been a pervasive culture of silence on this issue
- Staff feel neglected by senior management, with no support offered, including those directly impacted
- Staff have been treated with suspicion and hostility for raising concerns, or dismissed.
- There isn't a way to make anonymous complaints.
- Despite assurances that the commission would take as its north star the directives of the OHCHR, staff have faced barriers in progressing work aligned with those directives and the language used by the UN.
- Several staff have been reprimanded by management and HR for expressions of solidarity with Palestinian human rights, including wearing expressions of solidarity outside the workplace, engaging in collective action or anonymous petitions.
- s 47E(d) & s47F [REDACTED]
- It brings into question the commission's impartiality.

Staff say they are preparing a letter to management on this, and without an adequate response it will go public.

Happy to chat further if you need anything.

Thanks!

s47

s47F

Reporter
The Guardian | Australia

s47F



s47F [redacted]

theguardian.com/au

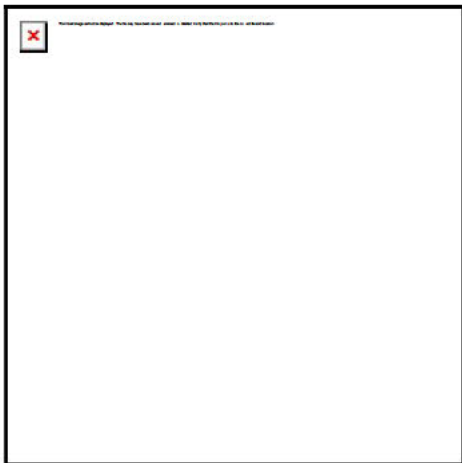
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On Tue, 23 Jan 2024 at 14:31, s47F [redacted] @theguardian.com> wrote:

Thanks for this, s47F [redacted] Much appreciated.

s47F [redacted]
Reporter
The Guardian | Australia

s47F [redacted]



s47F [redacted]

theguardian.com/au

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On Tue, 23 Jan 2024 at 14:30, Media AHRC <media@humanrights.gov.au> wrote:

Dear s47F [redacted] pleasure chatting earlier.

Sending you the following as background only, not to be quoted or attributed but to assist you in writing your story so you have a better understanding:

- The Commission has regularly issued public comments on the Israel-Hamas conflict and actively engaged in its domestic impacts.
- In the first week of the conflict, our Commission President, Emeritus Professor Rosalind Croucher AM, [issued a statement](#) calling for the human rights of all to be upheld.
- The Commission wrote a letter to Prime Minister Anthony Albanese on the dire human rights situation in Gaza, the domestic impact, and the polarisation of communities.
- In November, President Croucher also penned an [OpEd that was published by The Guardian](#), where she welcomed the temporary ceasefire.
- In early December, the Commission [hosted a visit from Francesca Albanese](#), the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian Territory.
- [President Croucher spoke](#) of the pain the conflict has caused annual at our Human Rights Awards on December 8.
- The Commission has been engaging extensively with representatives across affected communities to discuss their concerns, the human rights implications for people living in Australia, and, importantly, how the Commission can support.
- The Commission is also working with the Government to enhance its work under the national anti-racism framework to address the impacts of the current crisis on affected communities.
- As mentioned regarding your second question, confirming the Commission is aware of the matter you have raised and are looking into it.

Kind regards,

s47F

s47F

Media Advisor

Australian Human Rights Commission

GPO Box 5218, Sydney NSW 2001

s22

[W humanrights.gov.au](http://www.humanrights.gov.au)

The Commission supports flexible working arrangements, and I am sending this message at a time that is convenient to me and my work schedule. It is not my expectation that you read, respond, or follow up on this email outside your hours of work.



**Australian
Human Rights
Commission**

everyone, everywhere, everyday

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Gadigal peoples of the Eora Nation, and pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and future.

From: s47F [redacted] <s47F@theguardian.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2024 10:39 AM
To: Media AHRC <media@humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: Media enquiry - Guardian Australia

You don't often get email from s47F [redacted]. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hi,

I am working on a story regarding the Australian Human Rights Commission and the Israel-Gaza conflict.

I understand there is concern internally that the commission has not put out any statement about the conflict since October. I note that one of your commissioners had previously put out a statement [about Ukraine](#) just four days after the invasion.

Why hasn't the commission commented on it at all yet, and are there plans to issue a statement?

s 47E(d) & s47F [redacted]

s 47E(d) & s47F [redacted]

Does the commission have a position on staff undertaking this kind of activity?

My deadline is 3pm.

Kind regards,

s47

F

Reporter
The Guardian | Australia

s47F



s47F

theguardian.com/au

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s22 [Redacted]

From: Leanne Smith
Sent: Wednesday, 24 January 2024 1:54 PM
To: Graeme Edgerton
Subject: FW: Media enquiry - Guardian Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Security Classification: OFFICIAL

For your review, please.

From Document 1 [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

s22

From: s47F
Sent: Wednesday, 24 January 2024 2:21 PM
To: Leanne Smith; Media AHRC; Rosalind Croucher; s47F; Michael Badorrek; s47F; Graeme Edgerton; s47F; Rachel Holt
Subject: Re: Media enquiry - Guardian Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

@Rosalind and @Leanne, do you have a copy of this letter yet? It would be useful to see it before we discuss, rather than having to go on the journalist's description

From: Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>
Date: Wednesday, 24 January 2024 at 2:04 pm
To: Media AHRC <media@humanrights.gov.au>, Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>, s47F <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>, s47F <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>, Michael Badorrek <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>, s47F <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>, Graeme Edgerton <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>, s47F <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>, Rachel Holt <rachel.holt@humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Media enquiry - Guardian Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

s4 – can you please set up an urgent meeting for this group for 2.15pm?

From Document 1

[Large redacted block of text]

s22

From: s47F
Sent: Wednesday, 24 January 2024 2:22 PM
To: Miguel Artiles
Subject: FW: Media enquiry - Guardian Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Security Classification:
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From: Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, January 24, 2024 2:04 PM
To: Media AHRC <media@humanrights.gov.au>; Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>;
s47F <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; s47F <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; Michael
Badorrek <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; s47F <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>;
Graeme Edgerton <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; s47F
<s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; Rachel Holt <rachel.holt@humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Media enquiry - Guardian Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

s4 – can you please set up an urgent meeting for this group for 2.15pm?

From Document 1

[Redacted content]

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From: Leanne Smith
Sent: Thursday, 25 January 2024 12:41 PM
To: Media AHRC; s47F; Rosalind Croucher; s47F; Michael Badorrek
Subject: RE: Media enquiry - Guardian Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Security Classification: OFFICIAL

I don't mind it – applies to both sides

From: Media AHRC <media@humanrights.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2024 12:37 PM
To: s47F <s22@humanrights.gov.au>; Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>; Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>; s47F s22@humanrights.gov.au;; Michael Badorrek <s22@humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: Re: Media enquiry - Guardian Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

s47C & s47E(d)

[Redacted]

From: s47F <s22@humanrights.gov.au>
Date: Thursday, 25 January 2024 at 12:31 pm
To: Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>, Media AHRC <media@humanrights.gov.au>, Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>, s47F <s22@humanrights.gov.au>, Michael Badorrek <s22@humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: Re: Media enquiry - Guardian Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Still no word from the Guardian today.

I've drafted something that could form the basis of a statement if and when we receive the letter. This is framed as a public statement to the Guardian, not as a response to staff.

I've written as if from a spokesperson - but if it's to be in Ros's name, it could be personalised slightly.

s47F

s47C & s47E(d)

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

s47C & s47E(d)

From: Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>

Date: Wednesday, 24 January 2024 at 2:28 pm

To: s47F <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>, Media AHRC <media@humanrights.gov.au>, Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>, s47F <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>, Michael Badorrek <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Media enquiry - Guardian Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Initial thoughts for discussion:

- s47C & s47E(d)

From Document 1

s22

From: Rosalind Croucher
Sent: Thursday, 25 January 2024 1:07 PM
To: Leanne Smith; Graeme Edgerton; s47F; Media AHRC; s47F; Michael Badorrek; s47F; Senior Management
Subject: RE: Media enquiry - Guardian Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Security Classification:
 OFFICIAL

It is well done. For this purpose I would keep it as is.
 Ros

**Emeritus Professor Rosalind Croucher AM FAAL FRSA FACLM(Hon)
 President**

Australian Human Rights Commission

Level 3, 175 Pitt Street, Sydney NSW 2000

GPO Box 5218, Sydney NSW 2001

T +61 2 9284 9614

E rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au | W humanrights.gov.au



We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Gadigal peoples of the Eora Nation, and pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and future.

From: Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2024 12:48 PM
To: Graeme Edgerton <s22@humanrights.gov.au>; s47F <s22@humanrights.gov.au>; Media AHRC <media@humanrights.gov.au>; Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>; s47F <s22@humanrights.gov.au>; Michael Badorrek <s22@humanrights.gov.au>; s47F <s22@humanrights.gov.au>; Senior Management <seniorexecutives@humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Media enquiry - Guardian Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Agreed, s47C & s47E(d) s47F

From: Graeme Edgerton <s22@humanrights.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2024 12:46 PM
To: Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>; s47F <s22@humanrights.gov.au>; Media AHRC <media@humanrights.gov.au>; Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>; s47F <s22@humanrights.gov.au>; Michael Badorrek <s22@humanrights.gov.au>; s47F <s22@humanrights.gov.au>; Senior Management <seniorexecutives@humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Media enquiry - Guardian Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Agree that this looks really good. s47C & s47E(d)

From: Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2024 12:40 PM
To: s47F <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; Media AHRC <media@humanrights.gov.au>; Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>; s47F s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; Michael Badorrek <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; s47F s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; Senior Management <seniorexecutives@humanrights.gov.au>; Graeme Edgerton <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Media enquiry - Guardian Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thanks s47F I think this is a great draft.

I've made some edits in strikethrough and highlight below.

From: s47F <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2024 12:32 PM
To: Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>; Media AHRC <media@humanrights.gov.au>; Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>; s47F s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; Michael Badorrek <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>
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I've written as if from a spokesperson - but if it's to be in Ros's name, it could be personalised slightly.

s47F

s47C & s47E(d)

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

s22

From: Rachel Holt
Sent: Thursday, 25 January 2024 1:08 PM
To: Leanne Smith; Graeme Edgerton; s47F [REDACTED] Media AHRC; Rosalind Croucher; s47F [REDACTED]; Michael Badorrek; s47F [REDACTED]; Senior Management
Subject: RE: Media enquiry - Guardian Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Security Classification:
 OFFICIAL

Also agree this reads really well as a statement for the Guardian if and when required; and a very good idea to have a statement prepared in advance. R

From: Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2024 12:48 PM
To: Graeme Edgerton s22 [REDACTED]@humanrights.gov.au; s47F [REDACTED] s22 [REDACTED]@humanrights.gov.au; Media AHRC <media@humanrights.gov.au>; Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>; s47F [REDACTED] s22 [REDACTED]@humanrights.gov.au; Michael Badorrek <s22 [REDACTED]@humanrights.gov.au>; s47F [REDACTED] <s22 [REDACTED]@humanrights.gov.au>; Senior Management <seniorexecutives@humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Media enquiry - Guardian Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Agreed, s47C & s47E(d) s47F [REDACTED]

From: Graeme Edgerton <s22 [REDACTED]@humanrights.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2024 12:46 PM
To: Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>; s47F [REDACTED] s22 [REDACTED]@humanrights.gov.au; Media AHRC <media@humanrights.gov.au>; Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>; s47F [REDACTED] s22 [REDACTED]@humanrights.gov.au; Michael Badorrek s22 [REDACTED]@humanrights.gov.au; s47F [REDACTED] s47F [REDACTED] <s22 [REDACTED]@humanrights.gov.au>; Senior Management <seniorexecutives@humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Media enquiry - Guardian Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Agree that this looks really good. s47C & s47E(d) [REDACTED]

From: Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2024 12:40 PM
To: s47F [REDACTED] <s22 [REDACTED]@humanrights.gov.au>; Media AHRC <media@humanrights.gov.au>; Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>; s47F [REDACTED] s22 [REDACTED]@humanrights.gov.au; Michael Badorrek <s22 [REDACTED]@humanrights.gov.au>; s47F [REDACTED] <s22 [REDACTED]@humanrights.gov.au>; Senior Management <seniorexecutives@humanrights.gov.au>; Graeme Edgerton <s22 [REDACTED]@humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Media enquiry - Guardian Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thanks s47F [REDACTED] I think this is a great draft.

I've made some edits in strikethrough and highlight below.

From: s47F [REDACTED] <s22 [REDACTED]@humanrights.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2024 12:32 PM
To: Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>; Media AHRC <media@humanrights.gov.au>; Rosalind

s22

From: s47F
Sent: Thursday, 25 January 2024 2:17 PM
To: Leanne Smith; Graeme Edgerton; s47F; Media AHRC; Rosalind Croucher; s47F; Michael Badorrek; Senior Management
Subject: RE: Media enquiry - Guardian Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Security Classification:
 OFFICIAL

Hello All,

Apologies for the delayed response, have been in bargaining meetings.

I have added the following line. Let me know if you would like me to include more details, s47C & s47E(d)

s47C & s47E(d)

Regards

s47F

From: Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2024 12:48 PM
To: Graeme Edgerton <s22@humanrights.gov.au>; s47F <s22@humanrights.gov.au>; Media AHRC <media@humanrights.gov.au>; Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>; s47F <s22@humanrights.gov.au>; Michael Badorrek <s22@humanrights.gov.au>; s47F <s22@humanrights.gov.au>; Senior Management <seniorexecutives@humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Media enquiry - Guardian Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Agreed, s47C & s47E(d) . s47F

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Badorrek <s22 [redacted]@humanrights.gov.au>; s47F [redacted] s22 [redacted]@humanrights.gov.au>; Senior Management <seniorexecutives@humanrights.gov.au>; Graeme Edgerton <s22 [redacted]@humanrights.gov.au>

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Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2024 12:32 PM

To: Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>; Media AHRC <media@humanrights.gov.au>; Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>; s47F [redacted] <s22 [redacted]@humanrights.gov.au>; Michael Badorrek <s22 [redacted]@humanrights.gov.au>

Subject: Re: Media enquiry - Guardian Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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I've written as if from a spokesperson - but if it's to be in Ros's name, it could be personalised slightly.

s47F [redacted]

s47C & s47E(d) [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

From: Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>

Date: Wednesday, 24 January 2024 at 2:28 pm

To: s47F [redacted] <s22 [redacted]@humanrights.gov.au>, Media AHRC <media@humanrights.gov.au>, Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>,

s22

From: Miguel Artiles
Sent: Thursday, 25 January 2024 4:37 PM
To: Leanne Smith; s47F; s47F; Graeme Edgerton; Media AHRC; Rosalind Croucher; Michael Badorrek; s47F; Senior Management
Subject: RE: Media enquiry - Guardian Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Security Classification:
 OFFICIAL

I would add... s47C & s47E(d).

Miguel Artiles (He/Him/His)

Chief Operating Officer

Australian Human Rights Commission

GPO Box 5218

s22

W humanrights.gov.au

The Commission supports flexible working arrangements, and I am sending this message at a time that is convenient to me and my work schedule. It is not my expectation that you read, respond, or follow up on this email outside your hours of work.



We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Gadigal peoples of the Eora Nation, and pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and future.

From: Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2024 4:28 PM
To: s47F <s22@humanrights.gov.au>; s47F <s22@humanrights.gov.au>; Miguel Artiles <s22@humanrights.gov.au>; Graeme Edgerton <s22@humanrights.gov.au>; Media AHRC <media@humanrights.gov.au>; Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>; Michael Badorrek <s22@humanrights.gov.au>; s47F <s22@humanrights.gov.au>; Senior Management <seniorexecutives@humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Media enquiry - Guardian Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Great, thank you

From: s47F <s22@humanrights.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2024 4:25 PM
To: Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>; s47F <s22@humanrights.gov.au>; Miguel Artiles <s22@humanrights.gov.au>; Graeme Edgerton <s22@humanrights.gov.au>; Media AHRC <media@humanrights.gov.au>; Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>; Michael Badorrek <s22@humanrights.gov.au>; s47F <s22@humanrights.gov.au>; Senior Management <seniorexecutives@humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: Re: Media enquiry - Guardian Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

How about this? Only the final par has changed...

s47C & s47E(d)

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

From: Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>

Date: Thursday, 25 January 2024 at 3:51 pm

To: s47F <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>, Miguel Artiles s22 @humanrights.gov.au>, Graeme Edgerton <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>, s47F <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>, Media AHRC <media@humanrights.gov.au>, Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>, Michael Badorrek s22 @humanrights.gov.au>, s47F s22 @humanrights.gov.au>, Senior Management <seniorexecutives@humanrights.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Media enquiry - Guardian Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Nice.

s47 are you good to finalise this ahead of the weekend in case we need it?

From: s47F s22 @humanrights.gov.au>

Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2024 2:51 PM

To: Miguel Artiles <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>; Graeme Edgerton <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; s47F <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; Media AHRC <media@humanrights.gov.au>; Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>; Michael Badorrek <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; s47F s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; Senior Management <seniorexecutives@humanrights.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Media enquiry - Guardian Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

s47C & s47E(d)

s47F

Director, Strategic Communications

Australian Human Rights Commission

GPO Box 5218, Sydney NSW 2001

s22

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We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Gadigal peoples of the Eora Nation, and pay our respects to their Elders, past and present.

From: Miguel Artiles <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2024 2:44 PM
To: Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>; Graeme Edgerton <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; s47F <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; Media AHRC <media@humanrights.gov.au>; Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>; s47F <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; Michael Badorrek <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; s47F <s47F @humanrights.gov.au>; Senior Management <seniorexecutives@humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: Re: Media enquiry - Guardian Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

s47C & s47E(d)

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From: Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2024 12:47:45 PM
To: Graeme Edgerton <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; s47F <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; Media AHRC <media@humanrights.gov.au>; Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>; s47F <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; Michael Badorrek <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; s47F <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; Senior Management <seniorexecutives@humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Media enquiry - Guardian Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Agreed, s47C & s47E(d) . s47F

From: Graeme Edgerton <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2024 12:46 PM
To: Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>; s47F <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; Media AHRC <media@humanrights.gov.au>; Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>; s47F <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; Michael Badorrek <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; s47F <s47F @humanrights.gov.au>; Senior Management <seniorexecutives@humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Media enquiry - Guardian Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Agree that this looks really good. s47C & s47E(d)

s22

From: Rosalind Croucher
Sent: Thursday, 8 February 2024 7:10 PM
To: Leanne Smith
Subject: FW: Antisemitism in Australia [DLM=Sensitive]

FYI

**Emeritus Professor Rosalind Croucher AM FAAL FRSA FACLM(Hon)
President**

Australian Human Rights Commission

GPO Box 5218, Sydney NSW 2001

T +61 2 9284 9881 | F +61 2 9284 9611

E rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au | W humanrights.gov.au

Human rights: everyone, everywhere, everyday



We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Gadigal peoples of the Eora Nation, and pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and future.

Document 10



Document 10



Document 10



s22

From: Leanne Smith
Sent: Thursday, 7 March 2024 7:36 AM
To: Leanne Smith
Subject: FOR TOWN HALL [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Security Classification: OFFICIAL

From [REDACTED]
Document 1 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From Document 1

s22

From: The Intercept <membership@emails.theintercept.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 12 March 2024 2:57 AM
To: Leanne Smith
Subject: Can you chip in \$5 to help investigate AIPAC?

You don't often get email from membership@emails.theintercept.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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First, The Intercept reported on how the American Israel Public Affairs Committee delivered a series of donations worth \$95,000 to Republican House Speaker Mike Johnson in the days after he passed \$14 billion in military aid for Israel in November.

Meanwhile, AIPAC plans to spend upward of \$100 million to oust progressive Democratic members of Congress who have dared challenge Israel's brutal bombardment of Gaza.

It's all part of a yearslong effort to purge any Democrat who dares question Israeli policy from Congress, while elevating the most radical right-wing pro-Israel Republicans.

And with 30,000 Palestinians dead and Israel readying a brutal ground assault in Rafah, it's more important than ever for The Intercept to keep digging to expose AIPAC's lobbying activity and how the organization leverages its deep pockets to make sure the U.S. continues funding Israel's brutal war in Gaza.

[Will you make a donation to help continue our investigations into the influence of the pro-Israel lobby on Congress?](#)

If you've saved your payment information with ActBlue Express, your donation will go through immediately:

[DONATE \\$15 →](#)

[DONATE \\$25 →](#)

[DONATE \\$50 →](#)

[DONATE \\$100 →](#)

[DONATE ANOTHER AMOUNT →](#)

There's no way to fully understand why the U.S. keeps pouring guns and money into Israel's barbaric war on Gaza without closely scrutinizing the activities and spending of AIPAC. However, far too many mainstream news outlets ignore the group's influence — or worse, dismiss any criticism of pro-Israel groups as antisemitic.

AIPAC doesn't just regularly shower large donations on members of Congress who carry their water; it also funds congressional junkets to Israel through its sister organization the American Israel Education Foundation. These delegations have become well known on Capitol Hill as a kind of rite of passage for newly elected members.

And in recent years, the lobbying group has made it a top priority to defeat progressive pro-Palestinian members of Congress. During the 2022 midterms, an AIPAC-affiliated super PAC was the No. 1 outside spender in the entire Democratic primary process, and it successfully ousted Michigan Rep. Andy Levin. Now, AIPAC is pledging to spend \$100 million to defeat progressives including Jamaal Bowman and Summer Lee.

This is why the Biden administration continues to shovel bombs, guns, and other military aid to Israel, even as public opposition to Israel's war grows and Democratic political analysts warn that Biden's blank-check support for Israel could well cost him reelection.

The Intercept is committed to continue reporting on the ghastly atrocities unfolding in Gaza, as well as the powerful pro-Israel lobbying groups helping keep U.S. arms and money flowing to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government.

You simply won't see this kind of deep, investigative reporting into the pro-Israel lobby from the corporate media. So if you value hard-hitting independent reporting on the war in Gaza, please make a donation to The Intercept today.

[STAND WITH THE INTERCEPT →](#)



Thank you,

The Intercept team

The Intercept's fiscal sponsor is First Look Institute, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization (tax ID number 80-0951255).

The Intercept's mailing address is:

P.O. Box 27442

Washington, DC 20038

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s22

From: The Intercept <membership@emails.theintercept.com>
Sent: Sunday, 24 March 2024 7:50 AM
To: Leanne Smith
Subject: Follow the money. It leads straight to AIPAC.

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organisation. Verify the sender before you click links or open attachments. Email purporting to be from staff may be an impersonation attempt.



Poll after poll shows that the American people across ethnic, religious, and party lines support a permanent ceasefire in Gaza, and a growing majority say that Israel's military response to October 7 has gone too far.

Yet in Washington, Israel continues to enjoy the unqualified support of the U.S. government and a steady stream of bombs, guns, and bullets to be used against Palestinians.

Why the disconnect? Follow the money.

The American Israel Public Affairs Committee, or AIPAC, has become the No. 1 biggest outside spender in Democratic primaries, successfully ousting progressive Democrat Andy Levin in 2022 and pledging to spend \$100 million to defeat progressives this year.

Meanwhile, after Republican House Speaker Mike Johnson led a fast-track approval of \$14 billion in military aid for Israel's war on Gaza last November, he received \$95,000 in campaign contributions from AIPAC.

AIPAC has leveraged this spending to become arguably the most powerful lobbying force in U.S. foreign policy debates. **The Intercept has been tracking AIPAC's activity for years. With over 31,000 dead in Gaza and millions trapped and facing famine, it's imperative that the American people know the full truth about AIPAC.**

Will you make a donation to help continue our investigations into AIPAC and the influence of the pro-Israel lobby in Washington?

If you've saved your payment information with ActBlue Express, your donation will go through immediately:

DONATE \$15 →

DONATE \$25 →

DONATE \$50 →

DONATE \$100 →

DONATE ANOTHER AMOUNT →

It's impossible to fully understand U.S. policy toward Israel and Gaza without closely scrutinizing the activities and spending of AIPAC, which just last Monday hosted Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu for a speech in which he pledged to continue the war in Gaza and dismissed humanitarian concerns about the ghastly civilian death toll.

AIPAC has spent years courting individual members of Congress by funding junkets to Israel through its sister organization, the American Israel Education Foundation. These delegations have become well known on Capitol Hill as a kind of rite of passage for newly elected members, who quickly learn that aligning with AIPAC benefits their campaign coffers.

At the same time, members of Congress who challenge Israel become targets of intense attacks and well-funded challenges. Suffice it to say, there is no remotely comparable pro-Palestinian organization providing a counterweight to AIPAC in D.C.

Despite AIPAC's tremendous influence, far too many mainstream news outlets ignore the group — or worse, dismiss any criticism of pro-Israel groups as antisemitic.

The Intercept will not be cowed or intimidated. Our investigative reporters will follow the money wherever it leads.

So if you value hard-hitting independent reporting on the war in Gaza, please make a donation to The Intercept today.

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Thank you,

The Intercept team

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s22

From: Jodie Ball
Sent: Tuesday, 2 April 2024 2:34 PM
To: Rosalind Croucher
Cc: Rachel Holt
Subject: RE: Notes from the Commissioners' meeting [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Attachments: How the RDA applies to Anti-Semitic and Anti-Palestinian incidents.docx

Security Classification:
OFFICIAL

Hi Ros – I have made a couple of small changes to the write up of the presentation by Rachel and I.

I also attach my speaking notes from the meeting which I have tidied up.

Thanks so much for inviting me to the Commissioners' meeting.

Jodie

From: Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2024 11:41 AM
To: Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>; Rachel Holt <rachel.holt@humanrights.gov.au>; Jodie Ball s22 @humanrights.gov.au; Julie O'Brien <julie.obrien@humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: Notes from the Commissioners' meeting [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Dear all,

I've written up notes from the Commissioners' meeting last week, saved here: [📄 24.03.25 Notes from Commissioners' meeting Monday 25 March 2024.docx](#)

Before I post to the Commissioners' site, I'd be grateful if you could check these to see if I have captured your contributions fairly.

Julie, I've linked the relevant document from the RDT, which is saved on the Commissioners' site.

Thanks
Ros

**Emeritus Professor Rosalind Croucher AM FAAL FRSA FACLM(Hon)
President**

Australian Human Rights Commission

Level 3, 175 Pitt Street, Sydney NSW 2000

GPO Box 5218, Sydney NSW 2001

T +61 2 9284 9614

E rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au | W humanrights.gov.au

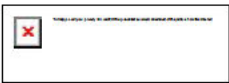


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s22

From: The Intercept <membership@emails.theintercept.com>
Sent: Saturday, 13 April 2024 1:06 AM
To: Leanne Smith
Subject: Will you donate \$5 to help expose AIPAC?

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In the wake of the Israeli strike that killed seven World Central Kitchen aid workers, more and more members of Congress are questioning whether the U.S. should be sending another \$14.1 billion in bombs, guns, and planes to Israel.

But with just days left before a critical primary election, AIPAC and its billionaire pro-Israel allies are unleashing a flood of campaign cash to silence dissent and stop that opposition cold.

AIPAC has pledged to spend a stunning \$100 million to unseat members of Congress who have dared to challenge Israel's conduct of the war. Right now, their top target, Rep. Summer Lee, D-Pa., is facing an AIPAC-recruited challenger in her April 23 primary race.

Polls show that voters — especially in Democratic primaries — are souring on continued U.S. aid to Israel. But without The Intercept on the beat, they won't learn the truth about the billionaire campaign cash now flooding the political process to shore up the bipartisan pro-Israel consensus.

With Congress preparing to send another massive arms package, it's critical that voters understand what's really at stake in these primary elections. Will you donate \$5 and help The Intercept expose AIPAC and its pro-Israel allies?

If you've saved your payment information with ActBlue Express, your donation will go through immediately:

DONATE \$15 →

DONATE \$25 →

DONATE \$50 →

DONATE \$100 →

DONATE ANOTHER AMOUNT →

For decades, AIPAC espoused a strict policy of nonpartisanship and avoided direct involvement in electoral politics.

But in 2021, AIPAC launched a pair of political action committees and announced a raft of endorsements, including blessing 109 Republican members of Congress who voted to overturn the 2020 presidential election.

Meanwhile, AIPAC laid out \$26 million during the 2022 cycle and successfully defeated progressive Democrats including Andy Levin, Donna Edwards, and Jessica Cisneros. This year, the Israel lobby is going even bigger, announcing a \$100 million war chest to attack members of Congress who fail to fully support Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's war in Gaza.

However, despite AIPAC's turn toward spending on election campaigns, much of the mainstream media has been slow to adjust its coverage, too often still portraying the group as the studiously nonpartisan organization of decades past. Worse yet, those who criticize AIPAC are frequently smeared as antisemitic.

The Intercept is doubling down on our efforts to follow the money and expose AIPAC, and as a nonprofit, reader-supported news site, we rely on donations to make this work possible.

[Donate \\$5 to The Intercept and help support our ongoing reporting to expose AIPAC.](#)

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Thank you,

The Intercept team

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to communicate with The Intercept's readers, but if you'd like to stop hearing from us, click here to [unsubscribe](#) from all communications. Protecting freedom of the press has never been more important. [Contribute now](#) to support our independent journalism.

s22

From: s47F
Sent: Saturday, 4 May 2024 10:16 AM
To: Rosalind Croucher; Leanne Smith; Darren Dick
Cc: s47F; s47F Julie O'Brien
Subject: FOR REVIEW Fw: Herald Sun Media [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Good morning all,

Apologies to disrupt your travels to Geneva, Ros and Leanne, but I just wanted to forward on the enquiry from the Sunday Telegraph/Herald Sun.

He references s47F & s 47E(d) and indicated over the phone he was directed s47F & s . The dropbox link he shares suggests the same.

The journalist stated over the phone that his deadline was Sunday, but he's moved it forward to the end of today (it must be for Sunday's paper now). It's just after 10am Saturday now.

s47F and I have drafted the following response for you to review. We thought best to keep it brief:

s47C, s47F, s47E(d)

Thanks so much,

s47F

s47F

Media Advisor

Australian Human Rights Commission

GPO Box 5218, Sydney NSW 2001

s22

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From: s47F [redacted] @news.com.au>
Sent: Friday, May 3, 2024 7:37 PM
To: Media AHRC <media@humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: Media

You don't often get email from s47F [redacted] news.com.au. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organisation. Verify the sender before you click links or open attachments. Email purporting to be from staff may be an impersonation attempt.

Hi,
 Thanks for your time on the phone today.
 Sorry for the late email.

The Sunday Telegraph has been provided with s47F & s47E(d) [redacted]
 [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

- s47F & s47E(d) [redacted]
- | [redacted]
- | [redacted]
- | [redacted]
- | [redacted]
- | [redacted]
- | [redacted]
- | [redacted]
- | [redacted]
- | [redacted]
- | [redacted]
- | [redacted]
- | [redacted]

My questions are....

s47F & s47E(d) [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

I would appreciate a response by COB on Saturday

--

s47F [redacted]



s47F

www.heraldsun.com.au

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land in all states and territories on which we work and report. We pay our respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders past, present and emerging, and honour their history, cultures, and traditions of storytelling.



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s22

From: s47F
Sent: Saturday, 4 May 2024 1:04 PM
To: Rosalind Croucher; s47F; Darren Dick; Leanne Smith
Subject: Re: FOR REVIEW Herald Sun Media [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thank you all!

Leanne, the enquiry was emailed through at 7.40pm last night. s47F & s 47E(d)
 I can provide some of my takeaways then.

Hope you have a safe and fruitful journey, and much appreciate everyone's swift response for a weekend.

Kind regards,
 s47F

s47F
 Media Advisor

Australian Human Rights Commission

GPO Box 5218, Sydney NSW 2001

s22

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From: Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>
Sent: Saturday, May 4, 2024 12:57 PM
To: s47F s22 @humanrights.gov.au; s47F s22 @humanrights.gov.au; Darren Dick <darren.dick@humanrights.gov.au>; Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: Re: FOR REVIEW Herald Sun Media [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Have just read, with Leanne. Agree to this response. Well done.
 Ros

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From: s47F s22 @humanrights.gov.au>

Sent: Saturday, May 4, 2024 12:50:44 PM

To: s47F s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; Darren Dick <darren.dick@humanrights.gov.au>; Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>; Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>

Subject: Re: FOR REVIEW Herald Sun Media [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thank you all,

Julie has advised that it is s47C, s47F, s47E(d).

So I have the updated response to be:

s47C, s47F, s47E(d)

I'll standby for the notes from Ros and Leanne.

Thank you all,

s47F

s47F

Media Advisor

Australian Human Rights Commission

GPO Box 5218, Sydney NSW 2001

s22

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6-7 June 2024



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From: s47F s22 @humanrights.gov.au>

Sent: Saturday, May 4, 2024 12:37 PM

To: Darren Dick <darren.dick@humanrights.gov.au>; s47F s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>; Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>

Subject: RE: FOR REVIEW Herald Sun Media [SEC=OFFICIAL]

On reflection, s47C & s 47E(d)

. But that is for others to answer!

ie. s47C & s 47E(d)

s47F

Director, Strategic Communications

Australian Human Rights Commission

GPO Box 5218, Sydney NSW 2001

s22

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From: Darren Dick <darren.dick@humanrights.gov.au>

Sent: Saturday, May 4, 2024 12:29 PM

To: s47F s22 @humanrights.gov.au; s47F <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>; Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>

Cc: Julie O'Brien <julie.obrien@humanrights.gov.au>

Subject: Re: FOR REVIEW Herald Sun Media [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Dear s47F

As discussed - in the event that Ros and Leanne are unable to respond in time due to them being in transit, two suggestions:

s47C, s47F, s47E(d)

s47C, s47F, s47E(d)

Regards
Darren

From: s47F <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>
Sent: Saturday, 4 May 2024 10:29
To: s47F s22 @humanrights.gov.au; Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>; Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>; Darren Dick <darren.dick@humanrights.gov.au>
Cc: Julie O'Brien <julie.obrien@humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: RE: FOR REVIEW Herald Sun Media [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi s47F – sorry just one little addition in the second line:
s47C & s 47E(d)

Cheers, s47F
s47F
Director, Strategic Communications

Australian Human Rights Commission

GPO Box 5218, Sydney NSW 2001

s22 | [W humanrights.gov.au](http://www.humanrights.gov.au)



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From Document 17

[Large redacted area containing multiple lines of obscured text]

s22

From: Julie O'Brien
Sent: Saturday, 4 May 2024 1:16 PM
To: Leanne Smith; Rosalind Croucher; Miguel Artiles
Subject: RE: FOR REVIEW Herald Sun Media [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Security Classification: OFFICIAL

Will do.

From: Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>
Sent: Saturday, May 4, 2024 1:05 PM
To: Julie O'Brien <julie.obrien@humanrights.gov.au>; Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>; Miguel Artiles <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: Fwd: FOR REVIEW Fw: Herald Sun Media [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Dear Julie,

I haven't been able to s47F & s47E(d) from my phone. s47F, s47E(c), s47E(d)

Best,

Leanne
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From Document 17

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

s22

From: Leanne Smith
Sent: Saturday, 4 May 2024 1:50 PM
To: s47F; Darren Dick; s47F; Rosalind Croucher
Subject: Re: FOR REVIEW Herald Sun Media [SEC=OFFICIAL]

s47F has anyone given s47 a heads up on the inquiry and our proposed response?

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From: s47F <s22@humanrights.gov.au>
Sent: Saturday, May 4, 2024 7:16:52 AM
To: Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>; Darren Dick <darren.dick@humanrights.gov.au>; s47F
s47F <s22@humanrights.gov.au>; Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: Re: FOR REVIEW Herald Sun Media [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Yes, s47F, s47E(c), s47E(d)

Thanks again,

s47F

s47F

Media Advisor

Australian Human Rights Commission

GPO Box 5218, Sydney NSW 2001

s22

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From: Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>
Sent: Saturday, May 4, 2024 1:09 PM
To: Darren Dick <darren.dick@humanrights.gov.au>; s47F s22@humanrights.gov.au; s47F
s47F s22@humanrights.gov.au; Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: Re: FOR REVIEW Herald Sun Media [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Yes, that makes sense.

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From: Darren Dick <darren.dick@humanrights.gov.au>
Sent: Saturday, May 4, 2024 7:05:59 AM
To: Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>; s47F <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; s47F s47F <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: Re: FOR REVIEW Herald Sun Media [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi Leanne, I've only read what was sent by journo - s47F, s47E(c), s47E(d) [redacted] Given the posts in the journo request have now been raised with the commission, s47F, s47E(c), s47E(d) [redacted] Regards Darren

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From: Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>
Sent: Saturday, May 4, 2024 12:58:21 PM
To: s47F <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; s47F <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; Darren Dick <darren.dick@humanrights.gov.au>; Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: Re: FOR REVIEW Herald Sun Media [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thanks everybody, salaam from Dubai. Ros and I agree this response is appropriate.

s47F, s47E(c), s47E(d) [redacted]

Best,

Leanne

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From Document 18 [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

s22

From: Julie O'Brien
Sent: Saturday, 4 May 2024 1:51 PM
To: Darren Dick; s47F; s47F; Rosalind Croucher; Leanne Smith
Subject: RE: FOR REVIEW Herald Sun Media [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Security Classification: OFFICIAL

Thanks Darren,

I agree with your re-ordering of the paragraphs.

I don't think it is necessary to respond directly s47F & s47E(c)
We don't respond directly to the other questions.

I think the draft response looks good,

Kind regards
Julie

From Document 18

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

s22

From: The Intercept <membership@emails.theintercept.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 5 March 2024 7:47 AM
To: Leanne Smith
Subject: Follow the money. It leads straight to AIPAC.

You don't often get email from membership@emails.theintercept.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organisation. Verify the sender before you click links or open attachments. Email purporting to be from staff may be an impersonation attempt.



First, The Intercept reported on how the American Israel Public Affairs Committee delivered a series of donations worth \$95,000 to Republican House Speaker Mike Johnson in the days after he passed \$14 billion in military aid for Israel in November.

Meanwhile, AIPAC plans to spend upward of \$100 million to oust progressive Democratic members of Congress who have dared challenge Israel's brutal bombardment of Gaza.

It's all part of a yearslong effort to purge any Democrat who dares question Israeli policy from Congress, while elevating the most radical right-wing pro-Israel Republicans.

And with 30,000 Palestinians dead and Israel readying a brutal ground assault in Rafah, it's more important than ever for The Intercept to keep digging to expose AIPAC's lobbying activity and how the organization leverages its deep pockets to make sure the U.S. continues funding Israel's brutal war in Gaza.

[Will you make a donation to help continue our investigations into the influence of the pro-Israel lobby on Congress?](#)

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There's no way to fully understand why the U.S. keeps pouring guns and money into Israel's barbaric war on Gaza without closely scrutinizing the activities and spending of AIPAC. However, far too many mainstream news outlets ignore the group's influence — or worse, dismiss any criticism of pro-Israel groups as antisemitic.

AIPAC doesn't just regularly shower large donations on members of Congress who carry their water; it also funds congressional junkets to Israel through its sister organization the American Israel Education Foundation. These delegations have become well known on Capitol Hill as a kind of rite of passage for newly elected members.

And in recent years, the lobbying group has made it a top priority to defeat progressive pro-Palestinian members of Congress. During the 2022 midterms, an AIPAC-affiliated super PAC was the No. 1 outside spender in the entire Democratic primary process, and it successfully ousted Michigan Rep. Andy Levin. Now, AIPAC is pledging to spend \$100 million to defeat progressives including Jamaal Bowman and Summer Lee.

This is why the Biden administration continues to shovel bombs, guns, and other military aid to Israel, even as public opposition to Israel's war grows and Democratic political analysts warn that Biden's blank-check support for Israel could well cost him reelection.

The Intercept is committed to continue reporting on the ghastly atrocities unfolding in Gaza, as well as the powerful pro-Israel lobbying groups helping keep U.S. arms and money flowing to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government.

You simply won't see this kind of deep, investigative reporting into the pro-Israel lobby from the corporate media. So if you value hard-hitting independent reporting on the war in Gaza, please make a donation to The Intercept today.

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The Intercept team

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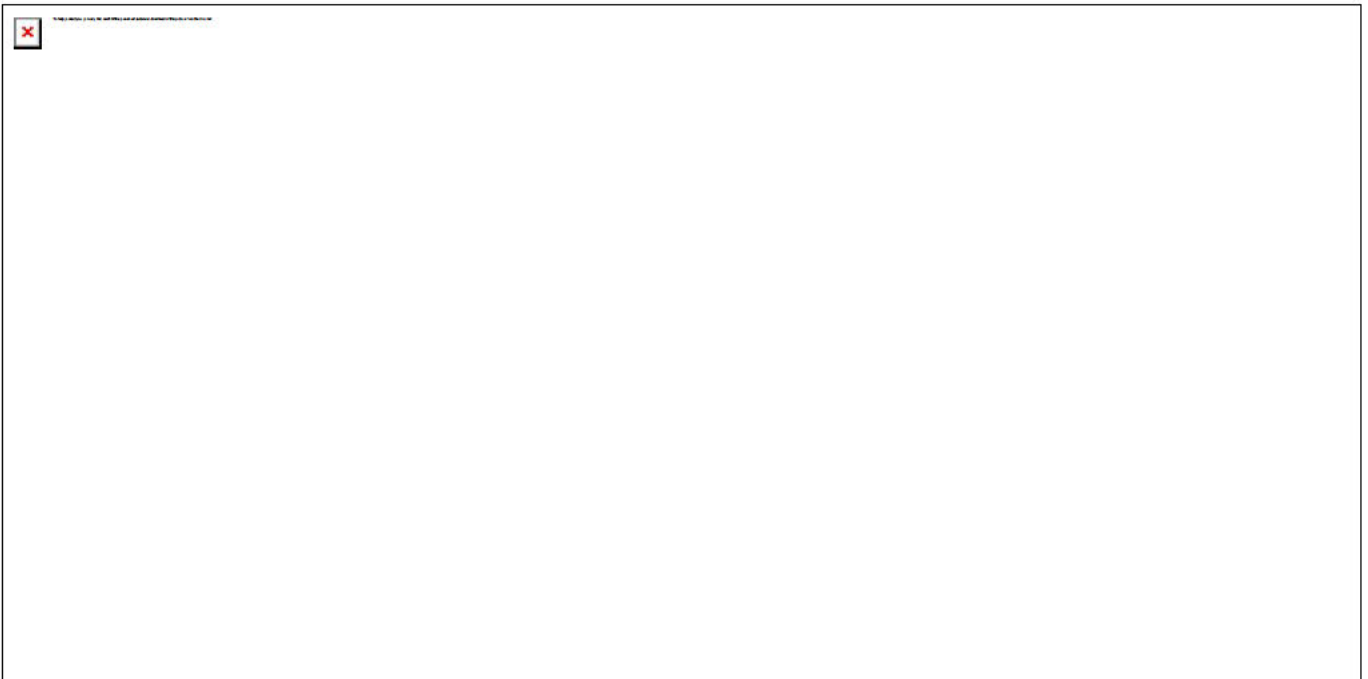
s22

From: The Intercept <membership@emails.theintercept.com>
Sent: Monday, 6 May 2024 9:24 AM
To: Leanne Smith
Subject: NYC Mayor Smeared a Grandmother as an "Outside Agitator" to Justify NYPD Assault on Columbia

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In No Labels Call, Josh Gottheimer, Mike Lawler, and University Trustees Agree: FBI Should Investigate Campus Protests

Prem Thakker, Akela Lacy

The bipartisan duo also praised schools that brought in police to violently quell protests and connected the demonstrations to the TikTok ban.

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NYC Mayor Smearred a Grandmother as an “Outside Agitator” to Justify NYPD Assault on Columbia

Jeremy Scahill

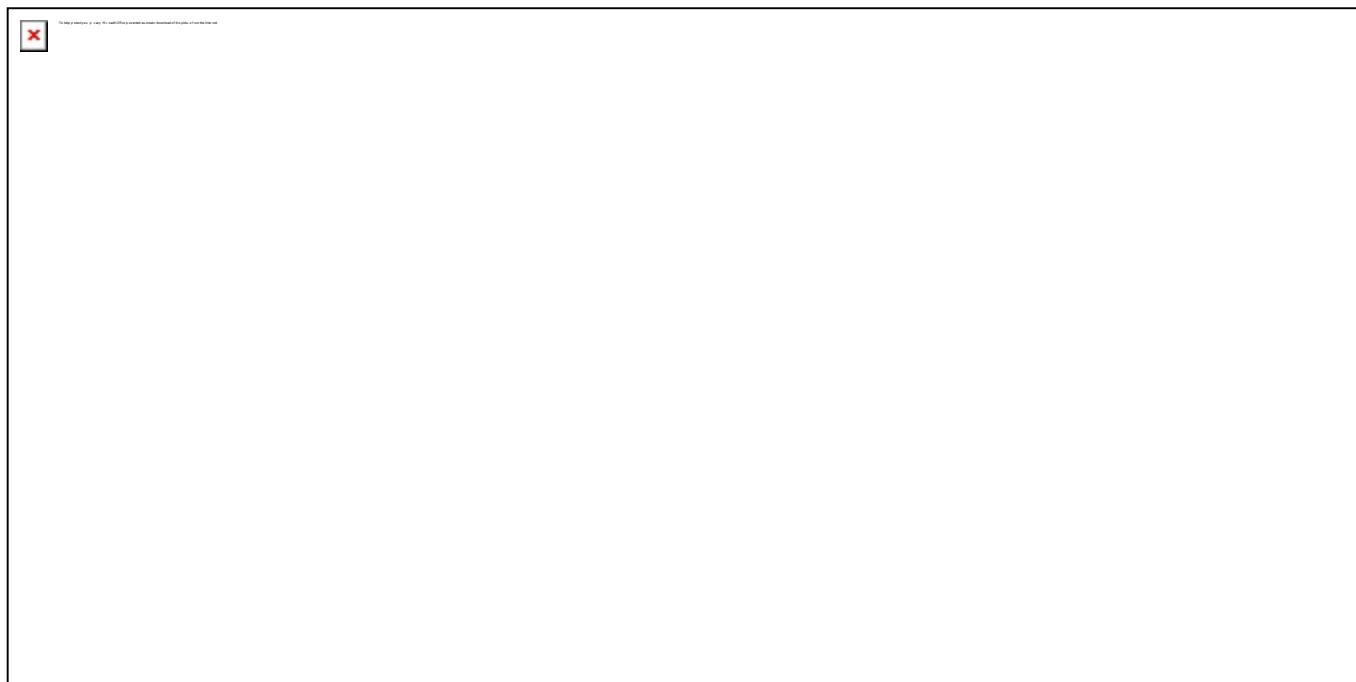
Nahla Al-Arian lost more than 200 relatives in Israel's attacks on Gaza. Then Eric Adams said she was the reason police raided Columbia.

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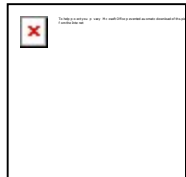


AIPAC Is Secretly Intervening in Portland's Congressional Race to Take Down Susheela Jayapal, Sources Say

Ryan Grim

The pro-Israel group is funneling money through a "pro-science" PAC, according to two members of Congress.

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From UCLA to Columbia, Professors Nationwide Defend Students as Politicians and Police Attack

Prem Thakker

University faculty have put their bodies and livelihoods on the line amid a brutal, violent response to student protests for Gaza.

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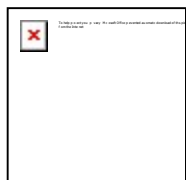
AIPAC's Next Top Target? Rep. Jamaal Bowman

Akela Lacy

The Israel lobby is expected to start a \$20 million ad blitz backing its handpicked candidate against the incumbent Squad member.

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Podcasts



Let's Check In on AIPAC's Assault on the Squad

Deconstructed

The Israel lobby failed to take down Rep. Summer Lee. They've now set their sights on Reps. Jamaal Bowman and Cori Bush.

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s22

From: The Intercept <membership@emails.theintercept.com>
Sent: Saturday, 18 May 2024 3:25 AM
To: Leanne Smith
Subject: AIPAC just won another congressional seat

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The American Israel Public Affairs Committee has become the No. 1 outside spender in Democratic Party primaries — and this week it won another seat after its affiliated super PAC spent \$4.1 million to help their candidate win the primary in Maryland’s heavily blue 3rd Congressional District.

Next on AIPAC’s hit list is Rep. Jamaal Bowman, a member of the Squad who has been among the few legislators to fight against letting Israel use U.S. weapons to target civilians.

AIPAC is expected to launch a \$20 million ad blitz against Bowman in the final weeks before his June primary, and a significant portion of the money that it’s spending is coming from MAGA billionaires who have backed far-right extremists like Lauren Boebert, Kari Lake, Ted Cruz, and Donald Trump.

AIPAC’s deep pockets are enabling the Netanyahu government’s ongoing slaughter of Palestinians. But most major news outlets give the Israel lobby a free ride.

The Intercept is committed to exposing how pro-Israel money is influencing the political process. With just weeks before this critical primary, will you donate to support our hard-hitting, independent reporting?

If you’ve saved your payment information with ActBlue Express, your donation will go through immediately:

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Until just a few years ago, AIPAC was studiously nonpartisan and avoided getting involved in elections. But starting in 2021, AIPAC began funneling money into super PACs and campaigns to strengthen its hammerlock on U.S. foreign policy.

Since then, AIPAC has become the biggest outside spender in Democratic Party primaries, bigger than any labor union, corporation, or other special interest.

That in large part explains why the U.S. continues to send millions of dollars' worth of bombs and planes to Israel, despite the fact that polls show that the American people support a permanent ceasefire in Gaza.

Let's be frank: Most major news outlets will never cover AIPAC the way they cover other big-money special interest groups. **The Intercept will, and it's your donations that provide the funding that powers our reporting and keeps us fully independent.**

The Intercept's hard-hitting investigative journalism relies on your support. Will you make a donation today?

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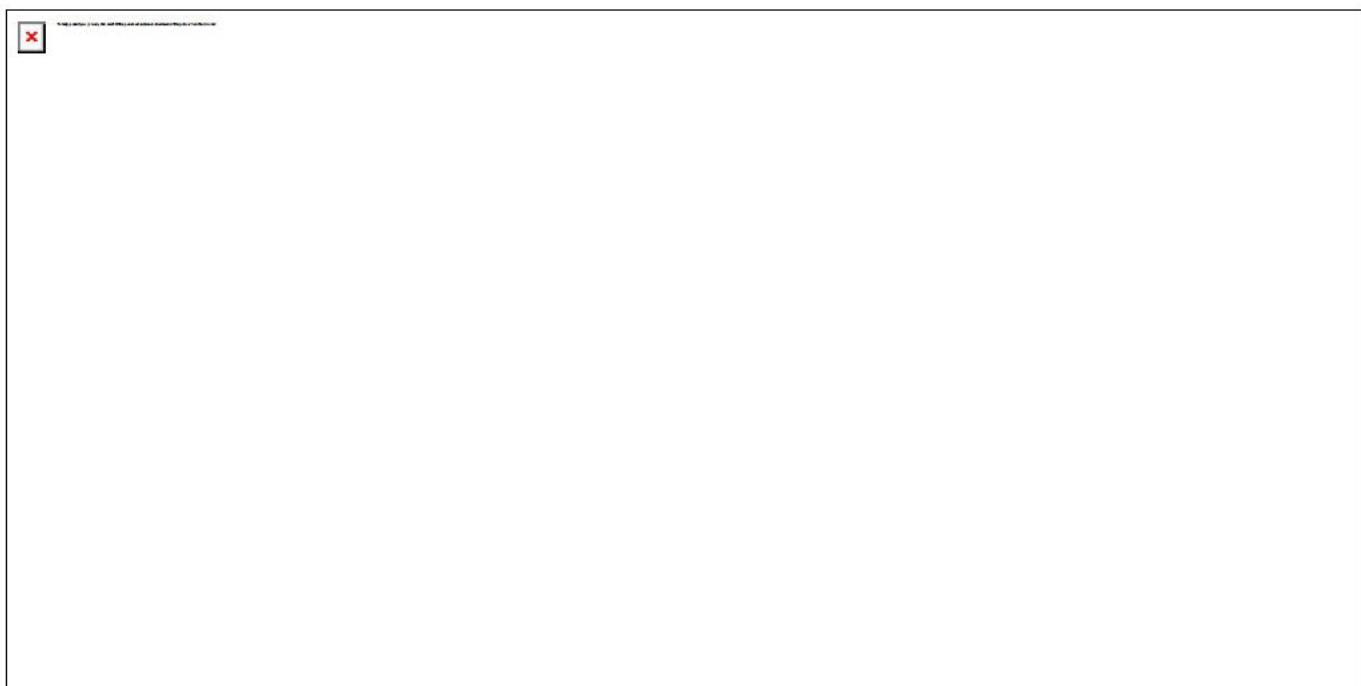
s22

From: The Intercept <membership@emails.theintercept.com>
Sent: Monday, 20 May 2024 9:22 AM
To: Leanne Smith
Subject: University Professors Are Losing Their Jobs Over “New McCarthyism” on Gaza

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University Professors Are Losing Their Jobs Over “New McCarthyism” on Gaza

Natasha Lennard

As brutal police repression sweeps campus encampments, schools have been cutting ties with pro-Palestine faculty members without tenure.

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The State Department Says Israel Isn't Blocking Aid. Videos Show the Opposite.

Prem Thakker

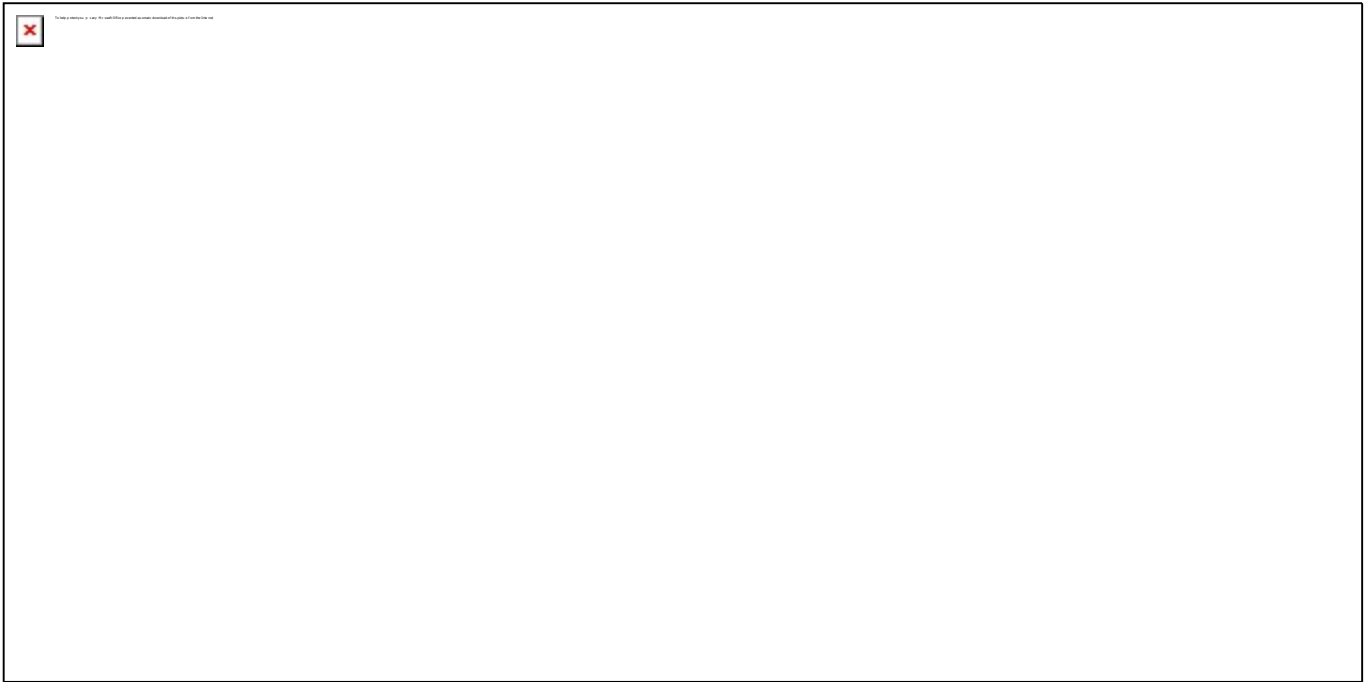
From targeting humanitarian vehicles to standing by as mobs attack trucks, Israel is blocking aid from reaching Gaza.

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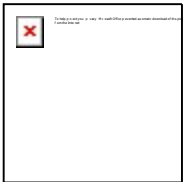


An Israeli Company Is Hawking Its Self-Launching Drone System to U.S. Police Departments

Delaney Nolan

A Louisiana sheriff's department has been testing the drone system, which is already used by the Israeli police and many settlements.

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Medical Workers Evacuated From Gaza, but 3 Americans Refuse to Leave

Ryan Grim, Jeremy Scahill

Remaining health care workers won't go until Israel stops blocking entry of new medical personnel.

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Republicans Can't Decide: Do They Hate Prosecutors Because of Bail Reform or Abortion?

Akela Lacy

Since Dobbs, state-level Republicans have sought to strip power from DAs elected in Democratic cities who won't prosecute abortion care.

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The Consumer Finance Protection Bureau Is Constitutional, After All

Shawn Musgrave

And for some reason Justice Samuel Alito can't stop talking about this witch trial judge.

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Outside Groups Spent \$285,000 Backing Jamaal Bowman. AIPAC Alone Just Dropped Nearly \$2 Million to Attack Him.

Akela Lacy

With Bowman's challenger handpicked by AIPAC, the Israel lobby is cementing its status as the biggest player in Democratic primary politics.

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s22

From: s47F, s47E(d) & s47G
Sent: Tuesday, 11 June 2024 11:52 AM
To: Leanne Smith; Anne Hollonds
Subject: Concern re comment during conference session s47F, s47E(d)

Some people who received this message don't often get email from s47F, [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear Anne and Leanne,

Thank you to you and your colleague for the great conference last week. The Commission is doing an excellent job leading the advocacy for a federal human rights act. I really enjoyed it and am sure you received positive feedback.

I attended the interesting session that s47F, s47E(d) & s47G

I was surprised to hear the comments by s47 about the "Jewish lobby" s47F, s47E(d) & s47G

My concern with s47F, use of this term in this context is that it perpetuates stereotypes of Jewish people or the "Jewish lobby" controlling public institutions which we know is an extremely dangerous and damaging narrative.

s47F, s47E(d) & s47G

However, if we replace "Jewish lobby" with any other interest group expressing concerns in a similar context, the inappropriateness of the comment is perhaps easier to see.

As the country's national human rights institution, I believe it is incumbent on you to call out these statements as they happen when it is at an event that you are hosting and moderating.

I am writing to build a shared understanding (and certainly not for publication). I'd be very happy to chat further about this at any point and look forward to working together on shared issues.

Best,

s47F,

s47F, s47E(d) & s47G

s22

From: Leanne Smith
Sent: Tuesday, 11 June 2024 12:34 PM
To: Rosalind Croucher; Darren Dick
Subject: FW: Concern re comment during conference session s47F, s47E(d)
[SEC=OFFICIAL]

Security Classification: OFFICIAL

Document 30

Document 30

[Redacted content]

s22

From: Leanne Smith
Sent: Tuesday, 11 June 2024 12:37 PM
To: s47F, [redacted]; Anne Hollonds
Subject: RE: Concern re comment during conference session s47F, s47E(d)
[SEC=OFFICIAL]

Security Classification:
OFFICIAL

Dear s47F,

I wasn't at that panel so won't comment. The Commission has made strenuous efforts to ensure we take a human rights-based approach to how we have engaged on all forms of racism since the Oct 7 attacks.

s47F, s47E(d) & s47G [redacted]

Best,

Leanne

Document 30 [redacted]

Document 30 [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

s22

From: Anne Hollonds
Sent: Tuesday, 11 June 2024 1:13 PM
To: s47F,
Cc: Leanne Smith
Subject: RE: Concern re comment during conference session s47F, s47E(d)
 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Security Classification:
 OFFICIAL

Dear s47F,

Thank you for coming to the session s47F, s47E(d), and for your feedback.

The comments you mention were clearly 'off-topic', as were some other comments from the audience. In each case I decided to make no response and to give no 'oxygen' to the comment, and to try to bring the conversation back to the focus of the session.

I acknowledge that you believe I should have challenged what was said. As you would appreciate, it's sometimes a difficult call to make in the moment s47F, s47E(d).

I take on board your feedback.

Many thanks for taking the time to write to me.

Anne

Anne Hollonds
National Children's Commissioner
Australian Human Rights Commission
 GPO Box 5218, Sydney NSW 2001
T [+61 2 9284 9669](tel:+61292849669) **M** [+61 411 382 692](tel:+61411382692)
W <https://humanrights.gov.au>



Human rights: everyone, everywhere, everyday

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Gadigal peoples of the Eora Nation, and pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and future.

Document 30

s22

From: s47F, s47E(d) & s47G
Sent: Wednesday, 12 June 2024 8:24 AM
To: Anne Hollonds
Cc: Leanne Smith
Subject: Re: Concern re comment during conference session s47F, s47E(d) [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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Dear Anne and Leanne,

Thank you both for the quick response.

Anne, I fully agree, it is very difficult to know what the best approach is in the moment. While, as I said, I did think it was important to call out the comment, while I was sitting there I tried to come up with a formulation of words that would have been an appropriate response. I admit, I found it very hard to think of the best wording that would strike a balance between being strong on human rights and not inflame.

It's not easy, I appreciate that, and I continue to learn each time I'm confronted with these issues s47F, s47F, s47E(d) & s47G I appreciate the opportunity to have had this email discussion with you.

Best,

s47F,

Document 33

[Redacted content]

s22

From: s47F
Sent: Wednesday, 17 July 2024 3:28 PM
To: Leanne Smith
Subject: RE: Mary Kostakidis racial hatred s47F & [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Attachments: 20240715_SMH_Kostakidis s47F & .pdf

Security Classification:
 OFFICIAL

Here's the PDF...

s47F

Director, Strategic Communications

Australian Human Rights Commission

GPO Box 5218, Sydney NSW 2001

s22

| [W humanrights.gov.au](http://www.humanrights.gov.au)

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia, and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and future.

From: Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2024 2:21 PM
To: s47F s22 @humanrights.gov.au
Subject: FW: Mary Kostakidis racial hatred s47F & [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi! I'm back.

I can't open this link- can you share text?

From: Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, July 15, 2024 9:09 AM
To: Rachel Holt <rachel.holt@humanrights.gov.au>; s47F s22 @humanrights.gov.au; Michael Badorrek s22 @humanrights.gov.au
Cc: Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>; Giridharan Sivaraman <giridharan.sivaraman@humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: Re: Mary Kostakidis racial hatred s47F & [SEC=OFFICIAL]

s47F & s47E(d)

Ros

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From: Rachel Holt <rachel.holt@humanrights.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, July 15, 2024 8:54:00 AM
To: s47F <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; Michael Badorrek <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>
Cc: Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>; Giridharan Sivaraman <giridharan.sivaraman@humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Mary Kostakidis racial hatred s47F & [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Dear all,

s47F & s47E(d)

Kind regards

Rachel Holt

Senior Executive, Investigation and Conciliation Service

Australian Human Rights Commission

GPO Box 5218, Sydney NSW 2001

D +61 2 9284 9655 or 1300 369 711

E Rachel.Holt@humanrights.gov.au **W** www.humanrights.gov.au

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of Country throughout Australia, and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to Elders, past, present and future.

From: s47F <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>
Sent: Sunday, July 14, 2024 3:51 PM
To: Rachel Holt <rachel.holt@humanrights.gov.au>; Michael Badorrek <s22 @humanrights.gov.au>; Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: Mary Kostakidis racial hatred s47F &

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<https://www.smh.com.au/national/broadcasting-doyenne-accused-of-anti-jewish-hate-speech-20240713-p5jtdo.html>

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Broadcasting doyenne accused of hate speech

By Chip Le Grand

The Sydney Morning Herald

Monday 15th July 2024

643 words

Page 16 | Section: News

320cm on the page



ANTISEMITISM CLAIM

Broadcasting doyenne accused of hate speech

Chip Le Grand

Mary Kostakidis, a respected former newsreader and public face of multicultural broadcaster SBS, has been accused of misusing her public standing and social media following to share “extreme and hateful speech” against Jews.

In a complaint to be filed with the Australian Human Rights Commission, Zionist Federation of Australia chief executive Alon Cassuto alleges that Kostakidis breached racial discrimination laws by promoting a speech by Hezbollah secretary-general Hassan Nasrallah, in which he said there was no place for Jews in Israel and the occupied territories.

Nasrallah said that if Jewish people wanted to feel secure, they should go to the United States or Britain. “Here, you don’t have a future. From the river to the sea, the land of Palestine is for the Palestinian people and the Palestinian people only.”

Kostakidis shared a link to the speech on X, formerly Twitter, on January 4, saying: “The Israeli govt getting some of its own medicine. Israel has started something it can’t finish with this genocide.”

The post is among more than 100 cited by the Zionist Federation that, it alleges, show a pattern of Kostakidis disseminating hateful material against Israelis and Jewish people. Material seen by the *Herald* includes comments about

the Zionist lobby exerting “toxic influence” over Australian medias.

Kostakidis compared the war in Gaza to the extermination of Jews at Auschwitz and likened Israel to Nazis. She promoted conspiracy theories about convicted paedophile Jeffrey Epstein being a secret Mossad agent and Israel deliberately allowing the October 7 attacks to go ahead to secure a pretext for war. She is sceptical there was evidence of systematic rape by Hamas on October 7.



Mary Kostakidis.

Cassuto said yesterday: “Since the October 7 Hamas attack on Israel, Mary Kostakidis has shared extreme propaganda with her 30,000 Twitter followers, including a Hamas pamphlet that sought to justify its sadistic massacre.”

“For the sake of the precious multicultural nation that we have, we must stand up against racial hatred, no matter who is being targeted and who is spreading it.”

Kostakidis defended her tweet about the Hezbollah leader, replying to queries with: “What are you saying, that we shouldn’t hear what the other side has to say? The point of that tweet was to say that Israel is inviting an escalation, it’s inviting retribution because it is conducting a genocide.”

Cassuto’s legal team is led by Arnold Bloch Leibler’s Raphael Leibler and Leon Zwier. The complaint against Kostakidis is the highest-profile case relating to the

war on Gaza to come before the Human Rights Commission and will test the strength of the existing Racial Discrimination Act, which Attorney-General Mark Dreyfus has promised to bolster.

For nearly 20 years, Kostakidis read SBS’s weekday bulletin. A dispute in 2007 with management and her newly appointed co-host, Stan Grant, culminated in her quitting and suing the broadcaster. A former chair of the Sydney Peace Foundation, she has served on multiple government advisory boards.

The complaint against Kostakidis is under Section 18C of the Racial Discrimination Act, which makes it unlawful to publicly offend, insult, humiliate or intimidate a person or group on the basis of race, colour or national or ethnic origin. This provision has been used previously by Jewish people and groups against Holocaust deniers.

A freedom of speech provision in the Act exempts artistic works, scientific debate and fair comment on matters of public interest. To use this defence, respondents must show they acted in good faith.

Zionist Federation president Jeremy Leibler said Nasrallah’s speech was not a rallying call for equality or peace between Arab and Jewish people but rather, a call to ethnically cleanse 7 million Jews who live between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea.

Section 18C complaints are civil proceedings that, if they proceed to court, can result in a fine.

s22

From: Rosalind Croucher
Sent: Monday, 22 July 2024 8:50 AM
To: Rosalind Croucher
Subject: Fwd: Commission President Daily Media Report - Monday 22 July 2024

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From: Australian Human Rights Commission via Stroom <noreply@stroom.com.au>
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2024 8:05 AM
To: Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: Commission President Daily Media Report - Monday 22 July 2024

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Commission President Daily Media Report

Monday 22nd July 2024

7 total items



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President + Chief Executive

0 items

No media coverage found within the selected timeframe for this section.

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AHRC

2 items



Zionist attempts to silence criticism running in top gear after ICJ ruling

John Menadue By Kellie Tranter
 Monday 22 July 2024, 5:10am AEST

The International Court of Justice's findings on Israel's conduct must be at the front of legislator's minds dealing with the Israel lobby.

Keywords: Australia (2), AHRC (1), Australian (1), human rights (2)

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'Sick' treatment of children

Townsville Bulletin By Peter Carruthers

Monday 22 July 2024, 12:00am AEST - Page 10

Keywords: Australian Human Rights Commission (1), human rights (1)

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SYNDICATIONS

[Cairns Post](#), [Townsville Bulletin](#)

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Human Rights Statutory

3 items



EVERYTHING IS HAMAS! The Zionist War On Free Speech In Australia

True News Weekly By Baz Malabar

Sunday 21 July 2024, 3:26pm AEST

Australia's freedom of speech is under siege by Zionist influence. New hate speech laws, the gagging of academics, journalists and activists, and pressures on medical professionals exemplify how Zionists are silencing dissent and compromising fundamental freedoms to protect a foreign...

Keywords: Australia (20), Australia's (5), bill (5), discrimination (2), legislation (1), Human Rights (1)

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Seven Spencer Gulf

Border Security - Australia's Front Line Once a week 2:00pm to 2:30pm

Sunday 21 July 2024, 2:04pm ACST

primary mission, as always, is to safely execute a section 251 migration act search warrant, with the aid of new south wales police, victorian compliance and south australian compliance.

Keywords: migration act (1)

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SYNDICATIONS

[Seven \(Adelaide\)](#), [Seven \(Broken Hill\)](#)



Living Treasures of Queensland: Bill Rutkin

Q News By Destiny Rogers

Sunday 21 July 2024, 11:46am AEST

QNews LGBTIQ+ News

Keywords: Bill (11), discrimination (1), Australia (1), Australia's (1)

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Human Rights CPR

2 items



It's the Voice of 'Rural Nullius' on a Jim Crow Country Hour

John Menadue By Brian Burkett

Monday 22 July 2024, 5:23am AEST

It is long past time that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people were represented by ABC Rural programs as a complex living culture.

Keywords: Australia (9), Australia's (2), freedom of speech (1)

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10 policies if Trump wins and stock implications: Jefferies

Investing.com

Sunday 21 July 2024, 8:54pm AEST

10 policies if Trump wins and stock implications: Jefferies

Keywords: freedom of speech (1), Australia (2)

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s22

From: The Intercept <membership@emails.theintercept.com>
Sent: Thursday, 8 August 2024 5:45 AM
To: Leanne Smith
Subject: Can you donate \$5 to expose how AIPAC just defeated Cori Bush?

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organisation. Verify the sender before you click links or open attachments. Email purporting to be from staff may be an impersonation attempt.



Last night, AIPAC defeated another one of the few Democrats in Congress with the courage to criticize Israel's war on Gaza.

The pro-Israel lobby group spent an unprecedented \$8 million on deceptive ads against Missouri Rep. Cori Bush, whose supporters were outspent 4-to-1 by outside groups.

Polls show that Democratic voters don't agree with AIPAC's extreme pro-Netanyahu agenda, so the lobby group flooded Bush's district with ads on unrelated issues under the banner of their confusingly named "United Democracy Project" super PAC.

Israel depends on lockstep congressional support to continue slaughtering Palestinians, a status quo that most media outlets ignore. **That's why it's so important to blow the whistle on AIPAC's deceptive and deep-pocketed strategy to silence dissenters like Bush — and why The Intercept needs your support to continue investigating.**

Can you chip in \$5 today and make sure that voters can learn the truth about the influence of pro-Israel campaign cash on our political process?

If you've saved your payment information with ActBlue Express, your donation will go through immediately:

DONATE \$15 →

DONATE \$25 →

DONATE \$50 →

[DONATE \\$100 →](#)

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