



## **It's time to end UNRWA: Casey Babb for Inside Policy**

According to an Israeli intelligence dossier 10 percent of UNRWA employees are either members of or have strong links to Islamic terrorist organizations

By Casey Babb / February 7, 2024

In late January, 2024, it came to light that a dozen staff working with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine (UNRWA) were directly involved with the barbaric Hamas-led terrorist attacks in Israel on October 7, 2023. Reports suggest the UNRWA employees participated in kidnappings, the distribution of ammunition, and murder – including the massacre at kibbutz Be’eri which left nearly 100 people dead.

Dispelling any suggestions that UNRWA had been infiltrated by a “few bad apples,” Israeli officials compiled an intelligence dossier indicating that roughly 10 percent of UNRWA employees – approximately 1,200 of the roughly 12,000 total – are either members of or have strong links to Islamic terrorist organizations. Further, Israel determined that 50 percent of all UNRWA employees have relatives with official ties to Hamas and other jihadi groups.

For many – and understandably so – this news has come as a shock. After all, UNRWA is a United Nations humanitarian agency charged with supporting Palestinian refugees. On the surface, especially for the vast majority of people who have no particular interest in UNRWA or the Middle East, it makes little sense why the agency would be so tangled up with terrorist organizations. Yet, for others, this news only validates what has been known all along: UNRWA has become a front organization for much of the Arab world with one underlying purpose – the undoing of the Jewish state. As renowned scholar of Israeli and Jewish affairs Dr. Einat Wilf recently remarked, “That [UNRWA] produces terrorists is a feature – not a bug.”

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