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[Israeli Ministry of Health logo]

12.10.2023

Ref: 2000-1100-2023-0003034

To

Presidents and Heads of Academic Institutions in Israel

Re: Handling cases of incitement to terrorism by students and employees in academic institutions

1. The State of Israel is experiencing one of the most difficult moments in its history. Last Saturday, the eve of Simchat Torah, the abhorrent terrorist organizations Hamas and Islamic Jihad launched a murderous attack on the residents of the State of Israel.
2. The heart aches and cannot find rest in light of the horrifying images from the Gaza Envelope. Babies, children, women and elderly, some of whom are Holocaust survivors, were tortured, burned alive, massacred and butchered by human animals. Many other soldiers and civilians were also massacred. Other residents, including women, children and the elderly, were kidnapped to the Gaza Strip.
3. It came to my attention, that unfortunately there are a small number of students in academic institutions who express support for these horrific acts of terrorism.
4. Hence, I found it necessary to address you and demand that severe measures be taken against the serious cases of incitement in the academic institutions. Many of the students and employees in institutions of higher education compromise a significant portion of the IDF's reserve system and these days are protecting our homeland - quite literally. Other students and employees volunteer and provide help in any way they can. Unfortunately, other students and employees or their family members were murdered or kidnapped.
5. Therefore, a situation where students incite and support barbaric acts of terrorism and murder cannot occur. Such extreme cases require clear and decisive measures by the institutions.
6. You must immediately suspend any student or employee who supports the barbaric acts of terrorism that the State of Israel is currently experiencing, or who supports a terrorist organization, an act of terrorism, an enemy or an enemy state. Also, I request that you conduct a hearing immediately and within 72 hours for those involved in incitement (either in writing or online) and in cases where incitement is confirmed, issue permanent expulsions or terminations.
7. Furthermore, during the suspension period, I request that you ensure that the suspension is not "lip service" and that the student or the employee will be denied access to the institutions' information systems and facilities, email, WhatsApp groups and communication channels under the control of the institution.

8. Additionally, I request that you report to the Council for Higher Education and to the Israel Police any such cases of incitement to terrorism as mentioned above, so that we can ensure that these severe cases are handled appropriately.

9. I am confident that together, through cooperation, we can create a proper and respectful academic atmosphere in the State of Israel and that this atmosphere will also radiate to all segments of the nation so that with in our unity we will win and destroy every abominable enemy that stands in our way.

Best regards,

Yoav Kish
Minister of Education