

February 5, 2024

The Honorable Mike Johnson  
Speaker  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries  
Minority Leader  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitchell McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Johnson, Leader McConnell, Leader Jeffries and Leader Schumer:

It is a moral imperative that the United States Congress affirmatively defund the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) and prohibit the Biden Administration from directly or indirectly providing any taxpayer funding or support to the openly antisemitic and now apparently terrorist organization.

The United States can no longer fund UNRWA with a clean conscience. For years, the American people were told a litany of lies aimed at creating a false understanding of UNRWA as simply a humanitarian organization that needed the hard-earned tax dollars of the American people to provide services for millions of Palestinians misleadingly characterized as “refugees.”

For years, many of us knew these claims were lies.

With the recent allegations of UNRWA employees actively participating in the October 7<sup>th</sup> attack and thousands of UNRWA employees celebrating the attack confirms the lie.<sup>12</sup> Congress can no longer pretend that UNRWA is simply a humanitarian organization.

UNRWA funding is the red line.

Not one cent of American taxpayer money should ever again be used to directly or indirectly support UNRWA. Congress must defund UNRWA in the next appropriations vehicle that becomes law.

Thank you,

Paul Teller  
Executive Director  
Advancing American Freedom

Ambassador David Friedman  
Former U.S. Ambassador to Israel

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/2024/01/28/world/middleeast/gaza-unrwa-hamas-israel.html>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.ajc.org/news/what-to-know-about-unrwa-the-allegations-that-some-of-its-employees-participated-in-the-107>

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