



בס"ד

יושב-ראש הכנסת

Speaker of the Knesset

Jerusalem, 15 March, 2016
5 Adar II, 5776

President Michael McRobbie
President's Office
Indiana University
Bryan Hall 200
107 S. Indiana Avenue
Bloomington, IN 47405-7000

Dear President McRobbie,

It has come to my attention that you are hosting a conference on "Anti-Zionism, Antisemitism, and the Dynamics of Delegitimization". I have heard this is not the first time that you have spoken out unambiguously in support of academic freedom and against antisemitism, including its anti - Israel varieties.

As the speaker of the Israeli Knesset, I write to you express my deep appreciation of your principled stand in these matters.

As we know from some lamentable examples in the past, without academic freedom universities lose their *raison d'être* and can rapidly turn into propaganda mills, readily manipulated by people of ill- will for their own political purposes.

The recent appearance on a number of American, British, and European campuses of boycott movements against Israeli universities is not only a blatant manifestation of such prejudices at work, but also the resurgence of old antisemitism under its newest form - anti-Zionism.

We here in Israel are very concerned with what we hear about the difficulties many Jewish students and faculty encounter on many campuses and we are well aware of the fact that this is not the case at your university.

Your resolute opposition to such nefarious practices and for the courageous position you take against the attempts to delegitimize the State of Israel, is noticed and highly appreciated. I hope that your noble example will be emulated by university presidents across the United States.



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I would also like to express my appreciation to Indiana University for nurturing one of the world's leading research institutes for the study of antisemitism. At a time when antisemitism and anti-Zionism are on the upsurge, the courses, conferences, and publications of Indiana's Institute for the Study of Contemporary Antisemitism make a uniquely important contribution to higher education. I honor the presence of this institute at your university and your own forthright voice in unconditionally condemning prejudices of all kind, including antisemitism. We, at the Knesset itself and in the country at large try to combat antisemitism, and It is very important for us to know that we are not alone in this battle.

I wish you and the participants in your university's conference on "Anti-Zionism, Antisemitism, and the Dynamics of Delegitimization" great success and hope the positive results of your deliberations will reach a wide audience.

Respectfully yours,

M.K. Yuli Yoel Edelstein
Speaker of the Knesset