EiGHT

REPORT BRIEF

Insiders Speak

NGO Antisemitism, Failed Accountability, and Their Impact on Social Cohesion

Submitted to the Royal Commission on Antisemitism and Social Cohesion · July 2026

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Human rights and humanitarian NGOs shape policymakers, media, courts and public opinion — yet operate largely on voluntary, self-reported standards with no meaningful external scrutiny. This submission is the first independent, extensive account of how the sector has failed to uphold its own values, drawn from more than 70 professionals inside it.

Contributors span seniority and functions at Amnesty International, MSF, Greenpeace, Human Rights Watch, the ICRC, Mercy Corps, Plan International, Save the Children, UNICEF and others, most with a presence in Australia.

70+	9	13	5
NGO staff engaged since October 7, 2023	major international organizations named, most with Australian operations	NGO insiders discussed the report and their experiences with the Commission in a closed roundtable	UN Special Rapporteur mandates received EiGHT's submission, June 2026

KEY FINDINGS

Systemic failure, not isolated misconduct

Absent accountability
Documented complaints, policy violations and leadership misconduct produce no meaningful consequences.

Retaliation against those who speak up
Staff who raise concerns face marginalization, lost roles and sweeping confidentiality terms.

Hostility modeled by leaders
Senior figures publicly share dehumanizing content, setting the tone and chilling reporting.

Unequal regard for victims
Israeli and Jewish victims, including hostages, receive less attention, empathy and advocacy.

Antisemitism left unaddressed
Complaints trigger debates over definitions rather than investigations and go unresolved.

Hostile workplace cultures
Internal platforms and social media host content that breaches internal standards, unchecked.

Compromised methodology
Material is omitted, corrections are withheld, and conclusions appear to precede the evidence.

Wider social harm
Flawed outputs travel through media, academia, policy and law as "independent findings."

> "Jewish employees raised concerns openly at first. Then less often. Then not at all. In time, **they were all gone.**"
>
> — NGO staffer from international NGO

WHAT INSIDERS DOCUMENTED

Six patterns, in insiders' own words

01
Complaints go nowhere

A documented complaint drew only: **"I'm sorry this experience has been demoralizing for you."** No action followed.

HRW, 2022

02
Speaking up costs careers

A press officer who called for acknowledgment of October 7 sexual violence was dismissed. Her alleged harasser left with full benefits.

PLAN INTERNATIONAL

03
Silence is bought

A Jewish employee says compensation was offered only if she affirmed no breach occurred and kept it confidential, **even from family.**

GREENPEACE

04
Hostility goes unchecked

Staff posts dismissed October 7 rape accounts as "propaganda" and declared **"fascism=Nazism=Zionism."**

MSF INTERNAL PLATFORM

05
Leaders set the tone

Before becoming MSF international president in 2025, Dr Javid Abdelmoneim reposted a post calling Israelis **"child killers."**

MSF

06
Narrative over rigor

Its post blaming Israel for the Al-Ahli hospital blast stayed up because a correction **"could be seen to be pro-Israel."**

MSF

7 of 10

fundraising appeals

SPOTLIGHT · AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL AUSTRALIA

Since October 2023, according to a staff member, most of its appeals have focused wholly or partly on Israel-Palestine — Gaza described internally as a "particularly effective fundraising engine." Its October 7 anniversary statement opened not with the attacks, but with "76 years since the forced displacement of Palestinians."

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COMMISSION

The evidence supports concrete action

01 Establish independent reporting pathways

02 Create a standing, statutory oversight body

03 Publish findings and remedial steps

04 Tie public funding to enforceable standards

05 Investigate the misuse of NDAs

06 Survey Jewish NGO staff independently

07 Develop sector-wide standards and an index

08 Examine the wider public consequences

These accounts come from people who have dedicated their careers to human rights. **They cannot credibly be dismissed as uninformed or hostile to the rights agenda.**

Full report and sources: **www.eightrights.org**