

Colleagues:

I want to bring to your attention that the Atlantic has just published a piece that deeply criticizes Amnesty International for being anti-Israel. We knew this piece was coming as I spoke to the journalist some time back but we didn't know all the details or timing. It's a difficult read where Amnesty features centrally although a few other NGOs are also featured in it.

I won't go into an analysis of the piece (text below), but I want to say that in all of our human rights work, it is critical that we are constantly checking ourselves, learning from our mistakes, and adhering to the highest of standards. I do want to recognize the deep care and thought with which so many on our staff have approached the IOPT work and I am grateful and proud for all of those efforts and we have had tremendous impact as a result. I know it has been challenging, and I know this piece can make that work (and some of our other work) even more challenging.

We are working very closely with the International Secretariat and other sections to ensure we show up as one Amnesty in any public reactions to the piece, and are finalizing LORs, which we will have on hand in case there are any questions that come up from those you are engaging with. I ask that you please refrain from engaging on social media around this and suggest that you don't share this article further to reduce amplification.

If you receive any inquiries from donors, members, partners, or others you are engaging with, please reach out to [redacted] and we'll try to get you what you need. Should you receive any media inquiries please immediately reach out [redacted], [redacted] ) and [redacted] a.

Finally colleagues, please be particularly considerate to those on staff who may feel impacted by this piece in different ways. It's hard to be doing human rights work in these times as it is, and it's even harder when you have to be on the receiving end of this kind of story. I know that can impact your work and you personally as well.

Paul