



**PRESS STATEMENT**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**SOUTH AFRICAN PARLIAMENT PASSES HISTORIC RESOLUTION TO DOWNGRADE EMBASSY IN ISRAEL**

07 March 2023

The National Freedom Party (NFP) is ecstatic that the draft resolution to downgrade South Africa's embassy in Israel has been passed by Parliament. This is a historic moment for our country and a demonstration of our unwavering commitment to justice, human rights, and freedom.

"This is a moment I should be proud of. I've always said our freedom is incomplete without the freedom of Palestinians. Today we took a big step towards the attainment of that freedom for Palestinians," stated NFP MP, Justice Shikha Simons, who introduced the resolution.

The NFP would like to thank all political parties that supported the resolution, including the African National Congress (ANC), United Democratic Movement (UDM), Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF), African Independent Congress (AIC), the PAC, and A Zuma. We are grateful for their commitment and willingness to stand up for human rights and justice.

"As the NFP - a Political Party with only two seats in parliament - we had to make sure that this resolution becomes Government policy. We can no longer stand by while Palestinian human rights are being trampled on," added Shikha Simons.

By passing this resolution, we are sending a powerful message to the world that South Africa remains a beacon of hope and a shining example of what is possible when we come together in pursuit of a more just and equitable world.

"This resolution demands accountability from Israel. It is a courageous move that demonstrates our commitment as a country to justice, human rights, and freedom. The state of Israel was built through the displacement, murder, and maiming of Palestinians. And to maintain their grip on power, they have established Apartheid to control and manage Palestinians. This institution of Apartheid by the State of Israel endangers international law and is a violation of the human rights of Palestinians. As South Africans we refuse to stand by while Apartheid is being perpetrated again," added Shikha Simons.

While many will argue that downgrading our embassy in Israel will impair our ability to act as a neutral mediator in the conflict, the NFP believes reality is not an option in the face of oppression and human rights violations. This statement was best articulated by our beloved Archbishop Desmond Tutu who said: "If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor."

The NFP would like to thank all South Africans who supported this resolution and demonstrated their commitment to human rights and justice. It is through the collective efforts of all of us that we can make a positive impact on the world and create a better future for all.

# Le Parlement sud-africain adopte une résolution historique pour déclasser son ambassade en Israël

## Description

Par Wafa, en mars 2023



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07 March 2023

The National Freedom Party (NFP) is ecstatic that the draft resolution to downgrade South Africa's embassy in Israel has been passed by Parliament. This is a historic moment for our country and a demonstration of our unwavering commitment to justice, human rights, and freedom.

"This is a moment Madiba would be proud of. He always said our freedom is incomplete without the freedom of Palestinians. Today we took a step closer to the attainment of that freedom for Palestinians," stated NFP MP, Ahmed Munzoor Shaik Emam, who introduced the resolution.

The NFP would like to thank all political parties that supported the resolution, including the African National Congress (ANC), United Democratic Movement (UDM), Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF), African Independent Congress (AIC), the PAC, and Al Jama'ah. We are grateful for their commitment and willingness to stand up for human rights and justice.

"As the NFP - a Political Party with only two seats in parliament - we had to make sure that this resolution becomes Government policy. We can no longer stand by while Palestinian human rights are being trampled on," added Shaik Emam.

By passing this resolution, we are sending a powerful message to the world that South Africa remains a beacon of hope and a shining example of what is possible when we come together in pursuit of a more just and equitable world.

"This resolution demands accountability from Israel. It is a courageous move that demonstrates our commitment as a country to justice, human rights, and freedom. The state of Israel was built through the displacement, murder, and maiming of Palestinians. And to maintain their grip on power, they have instituted Apartheid to control and manage Palestinians. This institution of Apartheid by the State of Israel contravenes international law and is a violation of the human rights of Palestinians. As South Africans we refuse to stand by while Apartheid is being perpetrated again," added Shaik Emam.

While many will argue that downgrading our embassy in Israel will impair our ability to act as a neutral mediator in the conflict. The NFP believes neutrality is not an option in the face of oppression and human rights violations. This sentiment was best articulated by our beloved Archbishop Desmond Tutu who said: "If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor".

The NFP would like to thank all South Africans who supported this resolution and demonstrated their commitment to human rights and justice. It is through the collective efforts of all of us that we can make a positive impact on the world and create a better future for all.

*Communiqué de presse du NFP (National Freedom Party) de l'Afrique du Sud  
7 mars 2023*

Le National Freedom Party (NFP) est ravi que le projet de résolution visant à déclasser l'ambassade d'Afrique du Sud en Israël ait été adopté par le Parlement.

« C'est un moment historique pour notre pays et une démonstration de notre engagement inébranlable en faveur de la justice, des droits de l'homme et de la liberté », ont-ils déclaré dans un communiqué.

« C'est un moment dont Madiba (*Madiba est le nom du clan tribal de Nelson Mandela*) serait fier. Il a toujours dit que notre liberté est incomplète sans la liberté des palestiniens. Aujourd'hui, nous avons fait un pas de plus vers la réalisation de cette liberté », a déclaré le député NFP, Ahmed Munzoor Shaik Emam, qui a présenté la résolution.

Le NFP a remercié tous les partis politiques qui ont soutenu la résolution, notamment le African National Congress (ANC), le United Democratic Movement (UDM), les Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF), le African Independent Congress (AIC), le Panafricanist Congress PAC et Al Jamaah. « Nous sommes reconnaissants de leur engagement et de leur volonté de défendre les droits de l'homme et la justice », a-t-il déclaré.

« En tant que NFP, un parti politique avec seulement deux sièges au parlement, nous devons tout faire pour que cette résolution devienne la politique du gouvernement. Nous ne pouvons plus rester les bras croisés pendant que les droits humains des palestiniens sont bafoués », a ajouté Shaik Emam.

« En adoptant cette résolution, nous envoyons un message puissant au monde que l'Afrique du Sud reste une lueur d'espoir et un formidable exemple de ce qui est possible lorsque nous nous unissons dans la poursuite d'un monde plus juste et équitable », a-t-il déclaré.

« Cette résolution exige des comptes d'Israël. C'est un geste courageux qui démontre notre engagement en tant que pays envers la justice, les droits de la personne et la liberté. L'État d'Israël a construit grâce au déplacement, meurtre et mutilation des palestiniens. Et pour maintenir leur emprise sur le pouvoir, ils ont institué l'apartheid pour contrôler et opprimer les palestiniens. Cette institution de l'apartheid par l'État d'Israël contrevient au droit international et constitue une violation des droits humains des palestiniens.

« En tant que sud-africains, nous refusons de rester les bras croisés devant un nouvel apartheid », a ajouté Shaik Emam.

Alors que l'on ne manquera pas de dire que le classement de l'ambassade d'Afrique du Sud en Israël compromettra sa capacité à faire le médiateur neutre dans le conflit, le NFP considère que la neutralité n'est point une option face à l'oppression et aux violations des droits de l'homme.

Comme a pu dire l'archevêque Desmond Tutu dans une formule devenue célèbre : « Si vous êtes neutre dans les situations d'injustice, vous avez choisi le côté de l'opresseur ».

Le NFP a également remercié tous les sud-africains qui ont soutenu cette résolution et démontré ainsi leur engagement en faveur des droits de l'homme et de la justice. « C'est grâce aux efforts collectifs de chacun d'entre nous que nous pouvons avoir un impact positif sur le monde et créer un avenir meilleur pour tous », a-t-il déclaré.

*M. K. pour l'Agence Média Palestine*

Source : [WAFA](#)

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