

HONORING THE TUNISIAN PEOPLE FOR THEIR DEMOCRATIC
TRANSITION; AND EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER ANTI-ISRAEL
AND ANTI-SEMITIC INCITEMENT WITHIN THE
PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY

MARKUP
BEFORE THE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA
OF THE
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

ON

H. Res. 277 and H. Res. 293

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**HONORING THE TUNISIAN PEOPLE FOR THEIR
DEMOCRATIC TRANSITION; AND EXPRESSING CONCERN
OVER ANTI-ISRAEL AND ANTI-SEMITIC INCITEMENT
WITHIN THE PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY**

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2015

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC.

The subcommittee met, pursuant to notice, at 1:55 p.m., in room 2172, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. The subcommittee will come to order. We meet pursuant to notice to mark up two bipartisan resolutions. As your offices were previously notified, it is the intent of the Chair to consider the following items en bloc which members have before them: House Resolution 277, honoring the Tunisian people for their democratic transition; the Ros-Lehtinen amendment in the nature of a substitute to House Resolution 277, which was provided to your offices yesterday; House Resolution 293, expressing concern over anti-Israel and anti-Semitic incitement within the Palestinian Authority; and a Ros-Lehtinen amendment in the nature of a substitute to H. Res. 293, which was also provided to your offices yesterday. Without objection, these items are considered as read, and will be considered en bloc.

[The information referred to follows:]

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 277

Honoring the Tunisian People for their democratic transition.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 19, 2015

Mr. SCHWEIKERT (for himself and Mr. HASTINGS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Honoring the Tunisian People for their democratic transition.

Whereas the bilateral relationship between the United States and Tunisia dates back to 1795;

Whereas the United States was the first major power to recognize Tunisian sovereignty following Tunisia's independence from France in 1956;

Whereas the United States and Tunisia share many core values, including respect for human rights and the rule of law;

Whereas on December 17, 2010, a popular revolution began in the Tunisian city of Sidi Bouzid that would inspire the "Arab Spring";

Whereas the people of Tunisia and their freely elected representatives work diligently to secure Tunisia as a beacon

for those dedicated to the rule of law and democracy in a region fraught with forces that oppose such goals;

Whereas Tunisia is the only Arab nation to have successfully transitioned from authoritarian rule to democracy;

Whereas, on January 26, 2014, Tunisia's National Constituent Assembly adopted a new constitution; and

Whereas, on December 31, 2014, Beji Caid Esssebsi was sworn into office as Tunisia's first freely elected President: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) commends the people of Tunisia for their
3 commitment to democracy, the rule of law, and free
4 and fair elections;

5 (2) commends the Government of Tunisia for
6 holding successful legislative elections on October
7 26, 2014;

8 (3) commends the Government of Tunisia for
9 holding the successful first round of their Presidential
10 election on November 23, 2014, and for the
11 peaceful and fair completion of the Presidential elec-
12 tion on December 21, 2014;

13 (4) encourages all political parties in Tunisia to
14 continue to work together as they endeavor to realize
15 the standards of transparency, inclusiveness, and
16 equality established in the Tunisian Constitution;

17 (5) recognizes Tunisia's legislative and Presi-
18 dential elections as an example of a peaceful, demo-

1 eratic transition of power for other nations through-
2 out the region to follow;

3 (6) affirms the United States commitment to
4 strengthening our bilateral relationship with Tunisia;
5 and

6 (7) calls on the President of the United States
7 to advance the United States–Tunisia relationship,
8 through our shared values and interests, by engag-
9 ing in a Strategic Partnership.

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H. RES. 277
OFFERED BY MS. ROS-LEHTINEN OF FLORIDA**

Strike the preamble and insert the following:

Whereas the bilateral relationship between the United States and Tunisia dates back to 1795;

Whereas the United States was the first major power to recognize Tunisian sovereignty following Tunisia's independence from France in 1956;

Whereas the United States and Tunisia share many core values, including a respect for human rights and the rule of law, and equality for women and minorities;

Whereas on December 17, 2010, a popular revolution began in the Tunisian city of Sidi Bouzid that would inspire the "Arab Spring";

Whereas the people of Tunisia and their freely elected representatives work diligently to secure Tunisia as a beacon for those dedicated to the rule of law and democracy in a region fraught with forces that oppose such goals;

Whereas Tunisia successfully transitioned from authoritarian rule and is on the path toward a democracy;

Whereas, on January 26, 2014, Tunisia's National Constituent Assembly adopted a new constitution;

Whereas, on October 26, 2014, Tunisia held the country's first democratic parliamentary elections for the Assembly of the Representatives of the People;

Whereas, on December 31, 2014, Beji Caid Essebsi was sworn into office as Tunisia's first freely elected President and the country's first peaceful democratic executive transition;

Whereas Tunisia has faced severe terrorism threats, most recently manifested by returned foreign fighters from the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) and ISIL sympathizers conducting attacks against Tunisians and foreign terrorists in Sousse and at the Bardo Museum; and

Whereas, on July 10, 2015, Tunisia became the 16th major non-NATO ally of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Strike all after the resolving clause and insert the following:

1 That the House of Representatives—
2 (1) commends the people of Tunisia for
3 their commitment to democracy, the rule of law,
4 and free and fair elections;
5 (2) commends the Government of Tunisia
6 for holding successful legislative elections on
7 October 26, 2014;
8 (3) commends the Government of Tunisia
9 for holding the successful first round of their
10 Presidential election on November 23, 2014,
11 and for the peaceful and fair completion of the
12 Presidential election on December 21, 2014;

1 (4) encourages all political parties in Tuni-
2 sia to continue to work together as they endeavor
3 to realize the standards of transparency, in-
4 clusiveness, and equality established in the Tu-
5 nisian Constitution;

6 (5) recognizes Tunisia's legislative and
7 Presidential elections as an example of a peace-
8 ful, democratic transition of power for other na-
9 tions throughout the region to follow;

10 (6) calls on the Secretary of State to con-
11 tinue to assist Tunisia in counterterrorism op-
12 erations and in security sector reform so that
13 Tunisia may achieve a balance between com-
14 bating terrorism and protecting its transition to
15 a democracy;

16 (7) affirms the United States commitment
17 to strengthening our bilateral relationship with
18 Tunisia; and

19 (8) calls on the President of the United
20 States to advance the United States-Tunisia re-
21 lationship, through our shared values and inter-
22 ests, by engaging in a Strategic Partnership.



114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 293

Expressing concern over anti-Israel and anti-Semitic incitement within the
Palestinian Authority.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 3, 2015

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN (for herself and Mr. DEUTCH) submitted the following
resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Expressing concern over anti-Israel and anti-Semitic
incitement within the Palestinian Authority.

Whereas the 1995 Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, commonly referred to as Oslo II, specifically details that Israel and the Palestinian Authority shall “abstain from incitement, including hostile propaganda, against each other and, without derogating from the principle of freedom of expression, shall take legal measures to prevent such incitement by any organizations, groups or individuals within their jurisdiction”;

Whereas in spite of the Oslo II agreement, the President of the Palestinian Authority, Mahmoud Abbas repeatedly describes released Palestinian terrorists as “heroes” and Fatah’s military wing publicly threatens to kidnap sol-

diers and launch missiles at Israel on the Fatah Facebook page and website;

Whereas the Palestinian Authority pays monthly “salaries” to families of Palestinian terrorists incarcerated in Israel;

Whereas in June 2013, Abbas referenced Israeli acts which “indicate an evil and dangerous plot to destroy Al-Aqsa and build the alleged temple”;

Whereas in a November 2014 address commemorating the 10th anniversary of Yasser Arafat’s death, Abbas said that as Israel has no claim to Jerusalem, he will not allow the Temple Mount to be “contaminated by Jews”, and threatened that Jewish prayer at the site would cause a “devastating religious war”;

Whereas in November 2014, jailed terrorist and Fatah leader Marwan Barghouti called for “comprehensive resistance and the rifle” against Israel;

Whereas Palestinian Authority Deputy Minister of Information Al-Mutawakkil Taha told official Palestinian Authority daily newspaper Al Hayat Al Jadida in early 2012 that, “Israel has gone beyond all forms of oppression practiced by fascism throughout history” and that it “does more than racist discrimination and ethnic cleansing”;

Whereas official Palestinian websites and Facebook pages, including those of Abbas’ Presidential Guards and Palestinian Authority schools, recurrently show maps of the land without reference to Israel and in November 2012, the Palestinian Authority erected a statue in central Bethlehem square that displayed a map of the “state of Palestine” covering all of Israel;

Whereas the Oslo II agreement further dictates that Israel and the Palestinian Authority “will ensure that their re-

spective educational systems contribute to the peace between the Israeli and Palestinian peoples and to peace in the entire region”;

Whereas Zayzafuna, a monthly educational magazine for children sponsored by the Palestinian National Committee for Education, Culture and Sciences, regularly presents Adolf Hitler as a role model and in January 2012, Facebook pages of several Palestinian Authority high schools posted images of Hitler with his quotation, “I could have killed all the Jews in the world, but I left a few so that you would know why I killed them”;

Whereas a teacher in a summer camp near Nablus in July 2013 can be seen in video footage leading children in a call and response saying, “Palestine is an Arab land from the river to the sea. We want Haifa, we want Acre”;

Whereas in July 2013, Palestinian official television aired a video of two girls reciting a poem that calls Jews “barbaric monkeys, wretched pigs” and asserts that Jerusalem is not for Jews, because Jerusalem “vomits” out the Jews who are said to be “filth” and “impure”;

Whereas section 7040 (c) of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015, requires the Secretary of State, if the President waives section 7040 (a) of that same Act, to “certify and report to the Committees on Appropriations prior to the obligation of funds that . . . the Palestinian Authority is acting to counter incitement of violence against Israelis and is supporting activities aimed at promoting peace, coexistence, and security cooperation with Israel”;

Whereas the Palestinian Authority has not fully lived up to its prior agreements with Israel to end incitement and

should do more to prepare the Palestinian people for peace with Israel: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) expresses support and admiration for indi-
3 viduals and organizations working to encourage co-
4 operation between Israelis and Palestinians, includ-
5 ing—

6 (A) Professor Mohammed Dajani Daoudi,
7 who took students from al-Quds University in
8 Jerusalem to visit Auschwitz in March 2014
9 only to return to death threats by fellow Pal-
10 estinians and expulsion from his teacher's
11 union;

12 (B) the Israel Palestine Center for Re-
13 search and Information, the only joint Israeli-
14 Palestinian public policy think-tank;

15 (C) United Hatzalah, a nonprofit, fully vol-
16 unteer Emergency Medical Services organiza-
17 tion that, mobilizing volunteers who are reli-
18 gious or secular Jews, Arabs, Muslims, and
19 Christians, provides EMS services to all people
20 in Israel regardless of race, religion, or national
21 origin; and

22 (D) Breaking the Impasse, an apolitical
23 initiative of Palestinian and Israeli business and
24 civil society leaders who advocate for a two-

1 state solution and an urgent diplomatic solution
2 to the conflict;

3 (2) reiterates strong condemnation of anti-
4 Israel and anti-Semitic incitement in the Palestinian
5 Authority as antithetical to the cause of peace;

6 (3) urges President Abbas and Palestinian Au-
7 thority officials to discontinue all official incitement
8 and exert influence to discourage anti-Israel and
9 anti-Semitic incitement in Palestinian civil society;
10 and

11 (4) directs the United States Department of
12 State to regularly monitor and publish information
13 on all official incitement by the Palestinian Author-
14 ity against Jews and the State of Israel.

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H. RES. 293
OFFERED BY MS. ROS-LEHTINEN OF FLORIDA**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

Whereas the 1995 Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, commonly referred to as the Oslo II agreement, specifically details that Israel and the Palestinian Authority shall “abstain from incitement, including hostile propaganda, against each other and, without derogating from the principle of freedom of expression, shall take legal measures to prevent such incitement by any organizations, groups or individuals within their jurisdiction”;

Whereas in spite of the Oslo II agreement, the President of the Palestinian Authority, Mahmoud Abbas, repeatedly describes released Palestinian terrorists as “heroes” and Fatah’s military wing publicly threatens to kidnap soldiers and launch missiles at Israel on the Fatah Facebook page and Web site;

Whereas the Palestinian Authority pays monthly “salaries” to families of Palestinian terrorists incarcerated in Israel;

Whereas Palestinian Authority Deputy Minister of Information Al-Mutawakkil Taha told the official Palestinian Authority daily newspaper Al Hayat Al Jadida in early 2012 that, “Israel has gone beyond all forms of oppression practiced by fascism throughout history” and that it

“does more than racist discrimination and ethnic cleansing”;

Whereas official Palestinian Web sites and Facebook pages, including those of Abbas’ Presidential Guards and Palestinian Authority schools, recurrently show maps of the land between the Mediterranean and the Jordan River without reference to Israel and in November 2012, the Palestinian Authority erected a statue in central Bethlehem square that displayed a map of the “state of Palestine” covering all of Israel;

Whereas the Oslo II agreement further dictates that Israel and the Palestinian Authority “will ensure that their respective educational systems contribute to the peace between the Israeli and Palestinian peoples and to peace in the entire region”;

Whereas Zayzafuna, a monthly educational magazine for children sponsored by the Palestinian National Committee for Education, Culture and Sciences, regularly presents Adolf Hitler as a role model and in January 2012, Facebook pages of several Palestinian Authority high schools posted images of Hitler with his quotation, “I could have killed all the Jews in the world, but I left a few so that you would know why I killed them”;

Whereas in June 2013, Abbas referenced Israeli acts which Abbas depicted to “indicate an evil and dangerous plot to destroy Al-Aqsa and build the alleged temple”;

Whereas in July 2013, Palestinian official television aired a video of two girls reciting a poem that calls Jews “barbaric monkeys, wretched pigs” and asserts that Jerusalem is not for Jews, because Jerusalem “vomits” out the Jews who are said to be “filth” and “impure”;

Whereas in a November 2014 address commemorating the 10th anniversary of Yasser Arafat's death, Abbas said that as Israel has no claim to Jerusalem, he will not allow the Temple Mount to be "contaminated by Jews", and threatened that Jewish prayer at the site would cause a "devastating religious war";

Whereas on January 29, 2015, two days after a bombing in northern Israel by United States-designated foreign terror organization Hezbollah left two Israeli soldiers dead, the official daily newspaper of the Palestinian National Authority, Al-Hayat al-Jadida, published a column by Palestine Liberation Organization Ambassador to India, Adli Sadeq, encouraging Palestinians to capture more Israeli soldiers and exchange them for Palestinian prisoners, stating, "The Palestinians followed the developments of yesterday's event together, full of hope that the resistance fighters would capture Israeli soldiers and would hold them in order to exchange them", and that Palestinians "do not deny [their] joy" at the fact that Hezbollah killed two Israeli soldiers;

Whereas on July 17, 2015, the Palestinian Authority dedicated a city square in Nablus after Palestinian terrorist Naif Abu Sharakh, who was Nablus' commander of Fatah's military wing, the al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades, and who played a role in several terror attacks against Israelis, including the January 5, 2003, double suicide bombing in Tel Aviv that left 23 people murdered and dozens more wounded;

Whereas section 7038 of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015 states that "none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to provide equipment, technical

support, consulting services, or any other form of assistance to the Palestinian Broadcasting Corporation”;

Whereas section 7040(e) of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015 requires the Secretary of State, if the President waives section 7040(a) of that Act, to “certify and report to the Committees on Appropriations prior to the obligation of funds that . . . the Palestinian Authority is acting to counter incitement of violence against Israelis and is supporting activities aimed at promoting peace, coexistence, and security cooperation with Israel”; and

Whereas the Palestinian Authority has not fully lived up to its prior agreements with Israel to end incitement and should do more to prepare the Palestinian people for peace with Israel: Now, therefore, be it

Strike all after the resolving clause and insert the following:

- 1 That the House of Representatives—
- 2 (1) expresses support and admiration for
- 3 individuals and organizations working to en-
- 4 courage cooperation between Israelis and Pal-
- 5 estinians;
- 6 (2) reiterates the strong condemnation of
- 7 anti-Israel and anti-Semitic incitement to vio-
- 8 lence in the Palestinian Authority as antithet-
- 9 ical to the cause of peace;

1 (3) calls on the Palestinian Authority to
2 immediately discontinue incitement to violence
3 in all state-controlled media outlets, and offi-
4 cially and publicly repudiate purveyors of anti-
5 Israel incitement to violence;

6 (4) directs the United States Department
7 of State to regularly monitor and publish infor-
8 mation on all official incitement by the Pales-
9 tinian Authority against Jews and the State of
10 Israel; and

11 (5) calls on the Administration to continue
12 publicly repudiating and raising the issue of
13 Palestinian anti-Israel incitement to violence in
14 all appropriate bilateral and international fo-
15 rums.



Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. After the ranking member and I speak on these measures, I will be glad to recognize any other members seeking recognition. Without objection, all members may have 5 days to submit statements for the record on today's business.

Nearly 5 years ago, the Tunisian people sparked a wave across the Middle East and North Africa called the Arab Spring, that the world hoped would be the catalyst to end authoritarian rule in the region and usher in a new era of democracy. Today, the people of Tunisia are firmly going down the path toward democracy, as we have seen them reach multiple milestones. We know that elections alone do not make a democracy, and that establishing a new democracy is a long road. But today, I am even more optimistic for Tunisia's democratic prospects.

The people of Tunisia have adopted a new Constitution, one that makes place for religious and ethnic minorities and women to be equal and to help build the new Tunisia. For the first time ever, the Tunisian people democratically elected a new legislature and a President. Now, the Tunisian Government is moving to consolidate its gains and build on its democratic institutions, ensure the respect for human rights and the rule of law, and implement additional democratic reforms. Of course, there are still so many hurdles to overcome, but it is our hope that with the continued assistance of the United States, we can assure that Tunisia remains on course and becomes the region's first full-fledged democracy and a shining example for the rest of the region to emulate.

That is why I am pleased to support this resolution honoring the people of Tunisia for their continued success on their democratic transition. And I urge all of my colleagues to do the same, and send a message to the people of Tunisia that we appreciate and support their efforts. I would also urge my colleagues to support a resolution I have introduced alongside my good friend and ranking member, Mr. Ted Deutch of Florida, expressing concern over the anti-Israel and anti-Semitic sentiment within the Palestinian Authority with all that is going on now with the clashes in Jerusalem at the Temple Mount between Palestinians throwing rocks at Jews and Israeli security forces while tensions are, as we know, on the rise.

And one of the major reasons why these tensions are on the rise is because rather than being a responsible partner for stability and peace, Abu Mazen and the Palestinian Authority have stoked the anger with government-sponsored incitement. For years, the Palestinian Authority has served to exacerbate the problem through indoctrination in schools, including anti-Semitic language in textbooks and lesson plans, or by paying salaries to the families of terrorists and naming public schools and public squares after these terrorists.

We always hear that actions speak louder than words, but the actions and the words from the PA and Abu Mazen both indicate that there is no interest in the current government for peace with Israel. We must do more to hold the PA accountable for its anti-Israel incitement. We must do more to encourage the PA to discontinue its incitement to violence against Israel. And we must work to do more to support and encourage those individuals and organizations working to promote cooperation between Israelis and Palestinians. There will never be peace until and unless there is

some trust and respect. But it can't happen until the Palestinian leadership no longer moves to incite hatred and violence against Israel.

And now I am pleased to yield to the ranking member, Mr. Deutch, for his remarks.

Mr. DEUTCH. Thank you, Madam Chairman. I will be brief in my comments as I have got to run back and forth to another committee hearing. I want to thank the chairman for working together to ensure bipartisan support for these two resolutions. Chairman Ros-Lehtinen and I introduced House Resolution 293 to highlight the ongoing incitement by officials within the Palestinian Authority in official textbooks and on state television. President Abbas came to power on a platform of nonviolence. He speaks of his desire for peace. But using inflammatory language and failing to speak out against anti-Semitism and incitement simply gives the appearance of condoning it. Violence cannot be condoned. And those truly seeking peace must speak out. Indeed, when there is violence against innocent Palestinians we must speak out. And I am pleased to see Prime Minister Netanyahu doing so.

We know that peace will only come from an agreement between the Israelis and the Palestinians themselves. But conditions on the ground will dictate whether the Palestinian people are prepared for what a Palestinian State living side by side with the Jewish State of Israel ultimately looks like. Textbooks and maps must show Israel's existence. Town squares should never be named after suicide bombers or attackers that glorify terrorism against innocent civilians. This resolution also applauds those Israeli and Palestinian organizations that are working together to promote peace between the two peoples, whether it is through the provision of medical services, or peer-to-peer interaction, or a Palestinian professor who dares to teach his students of the horrors of the Holocaust. I hope my colleagues will join us in supporting this resolution.

Second, I urge members to support House Resolution 277, which recognizes the democratic transition in Tunisia and the importance of the U.S.-Tunisia relationship. It was the self-immolation of a Tunisian fruit vendor that gave way to the Arab Spring. And since 2011, Tunisia has fought to ensure its transition to democracy would be peaceful. And thus far, it has been a model for other nations still struggling for democratic ideals.

Tunisia has successfully completed its first free Presidential elections and transition to a new government. The new Constitution includes unprecedented rights for women and minorities and respect for rule of law. Yet Tunisia faces a precarious security threat. Tunisians have gone to train with ISIS in staggering numbers. Its border with Libya is difficult to control. And Libya's lawlessness has made it a magnet for terror training and transit.

In a span of mere months, Tunisia suffered a horrific terror attack at the Bardo Museum and another at the popular tourist destination of Sousse. The United States is committed to assisting Tunisia with stabilizing its security, its economy, and its democracy. This resolution is a reminder of the importance of a successful and thriving Tunisia. I urge my colleagues to support it.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Thank you so very much, Mr. Deutch. I would like to recognize other members for any opening statements they would like to make. Mr. Chabot of Ohio is recognized.

Mr. CHABOT. Thank you very much, Madam Chair. I want to commend you for bringing this legislation before the subcommittee today. As we know, Israel is one of the United States' closest allies. And over the years, it has withstood anti-Semitic rhetoric from far too many of its neighbors, often propagated by state institutions and government officials from neighboring states. And unfortunately, one of the offenders is right next door, the Palestinian Authority. A monthly educational magazine for children, one that is sponsored by the Palestinian National Committee for Education, depicts Hitler as a role model. This does nothing for the promotion of peace in the region. To the contrary, it encourages hate and violence, when acceptance of differences and loving your neighbors should be the key principles of a young person's education.

And this perpetuated hatred by the Palestinian Authority and their allies has a direct impact within Israel's own borders. Just this week, a Jewish man was killed by Palestinian stone throwers after the Secretary General of the Palestinian Liberation Organization accused Israel of turning Jerusalem into an exclusively Jewish city. Tell me how is this rhetoric productive in finding a middle ground?

Israel and the Palestinian Authority will never be able to negotiate peace if one party is constantly under attack by one that institutionally encourages anti-Israeli and anti-Semitic beliefs. If we ever hope to see cooperation in the region, we will have to see a change in attitudes first. This measure recognizes those realities and reasserts our support for an Israel that is treated with the dignity and respect that it deserves. It is a timely measure. I urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 293. And I yield back, Madam Chair.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Thank you very much, Mr. Chabot. Mr. Cicilline.

Mr. CICILLINE. Thank you, Chairwoman Ros-Lehtinen and Ranking Member Deutch, for bringing up these two bills for markup today. I am proud to be a cosponsor of both. I would like to just say a few words about House Res. 293, which condemns anti-Semitic sentiment within the Palestinian Authority. Both the Palestinian Authority and the Israeli Government have agreed on numerous accords to refrain "from incitement, including hostile propaganda." But it is incredibly concerning that the PA has not eradicated such anti-Semitic and anti-Israel language from their public statements, official materials, and their educational system.

As the Middle East faces incredible turmoil and chaos, the perpetuation of anti-Semitism by the Palestinian Authority is more dangerous than ever. Both the Palestinian Authority and Israel are threatened by the current regional destabilization, and fueling the fire with anti-Semitism is outrageous and extremely risky for Jews, for Israel, and ultimately for the entire region.

This all happening in the context of dangerously increasing anti-Semitism throughout Europe. To be sure, there are organizations with individuals on both sides working to foster cooperation, mutual understanding, and cultural exchanges between Israelis and Palestinians. And there are Palestinians who reject the hateful and

racist language being used by the Palestinian Authority and its supporters. I hope that the United States will continue to support those that are working to bring peace and understanding to the region, and will continue to condemn the Palestinian Authority's actions and statements meant to incite hatred against Jews and against the State of Israel. And I thank you, Madam Chair, and yield back.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Thank you, Mr. Cicilline. Seeing no other requests for time, are there any amendments? The Chair moves to report the en bloc items favorably to the full committee. All those in favor say aye. All opposed, no. In the opinion of the Chair, the ayes have it. The motion is approved, and the measures, as amended, are reported favorably to the full committee. With thanks to my colleagues for their input and cooperation, that concludes today's markup, and the subcommittee stands adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 2:07 p.m., the subcommittee was adjourned.]

APPENDIX

MATERIAL SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD

**SUBCOMMITTEE MARKUP NOTICE
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6128**

**Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa
Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL), Chairman**

September 10, 2015

TO: MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

You are respectfully requested to attend an OPEN meeting of the Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa, to be held in Room 2172 of the Rayburn House Office Building (and available live on the Committee website at <http://www.ForeignAffairs.house.gov>):

DATE: Thursday, September 17, 2015

TIME: 1:45 p.m.

MARKUP OF: H.Res. 277, Honoring the Tunisian People for their democratic transition.

H.Res. 293, Expressing concern over anti-Israel and anti-Semitic incitement within the Palestinian Authority.

By Direction of the Chairman

The Committee on Foreign Affairs seeks to make its facilities accessible to persons with disabilities. If you are in need of special accommodations, please call 202/225-5021 at least four business days in advance of the event, whenever practicable. Questions with regard to special accommodations in general (including availability of Committee materials in alternative formats and assistive listening devices) may be directed to the Committee.



COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS
MINUTES OF SUBCOMMITTEE MARKUP

MINUTES OF SUBCOMMITTEE ON the Middle East and North Africa MARKUP

Day Thursday Date 9/17/15 Room 2172

Starting Time 1:55 p.m. Ending Time 2:07 p.m.

Recesses 0 (to) (to) (to) (to) (to) (to)

Presiding Member(s)

Chairman Ros-Lehtinen

Check all of the following that apply:

Open Session

Electronically Recorded (taped)

Executive (closed) Session

Stenographic Record

Televised

BILLS FOR MARKUP: (Include bill number(s) and title(s) of legislation.)

H. Res. 277 Honoring the Tunisian People for their democratic transition.

H. Res. 293 Expressing concern over anti-Israel and anti-Semitic incitement within the Palestinian Authority

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Reps. Ros-Lehtinen, Chabot, Deutch, Clawson, Cicilline, Grayson, Frankel and Boyle.

NON-COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

None

STATEMENTS FOR THE RECORD: (List any statements submitted for the record.)

ACTIONS TAKEN DURING THE MARKUP: (Attach copies of legislation and amendments.)

Refer H. Res. 277 and H. Res. 293 to the full Committee.

RECORDED VOTES TAKEN (FOR MARKUP): (Attach final vote tally sheet listing each member.)

Subject	Yeas	Nays	Present	Not Voting
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TIME SCHEDULED TO RECONVENE _____

or

TIME ADJOURNED 2:07 p.m.


Subcommittee Staff Director

**9/17/15 Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa
Markup Summary**

The Chair obtained unanimous consent to consider the following items (previously provided to Members) *en bloc*:

1. H. Res. 277 (Schweikert), “Honoring the Tunisian People for their democratic transition”
 - a. Ros-Lehtinen, an amendment in the nature of a substitute to H. Res. 277;
2. H. Res. 293 (Ros-Lehtinen), “Expressing concern over anti-Israel and anti-Semitic incitement within the Palestinian authority”
 - a. Ros-Lehtinen, an amendment in the nature of a substitute to H. Res. 293

The items considered en bloc were agreed to by voice vote, and the measures, as amended, were ordered favorably reported to the Full Committee by unanimous consent.

The Subcommittee adjourned.