

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC

July 21, 2026

The Honorable Marco Rubio
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Secretary Rubio,

We write with grave concern over the recent announcement by Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim that his government will track down and immediately deport any Israeli citizens found in Malaysia.¹

For millenia, Jews around the world have seen this playbook. The demonization and expulsion of Jews eventually leads to the worst case outcomes. It is necessary that the United States push back on this antisemitism.

Malaysia's refusal to recognize Israel is troubling enough. But, it is totally unacceptable that a head of government has publicly declared that his country will hunt down and expel citizens of our close ally based solely on their nationality. It should not be underwritten by the American taxpayer.

This is also a government that maintains open ties with Hamas. Hamas fighters have even trained on Malaysian soil.² The Malaysian government welcomes terrorists while targeting Jews.

Malaysia receives U.S. security assistance, including the International Military Education and Training (IMET) program, which pays for Malaysian military personnel to receive professional U.S. military training. They also benefit significantly from access to our technology and markets.

Given these points of diplomatic leverage, we believe the United States should make clear to Prime Minister Ibrahim and his government that, with our aid and support, comes an expectation that they won't target the nationals of one of our closest allies.

We, therefore, urge you to undertake a review of our security and economic relationship with Malaysia to ensure that it is serving the best interests of the United States.

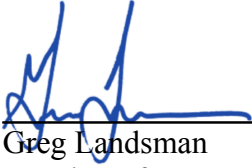
We respectfully request that the Department clarify what steps it is taking in response to Prime Minister Ibrahim's remarks. We strongly urge you to use every tool at your disposal to make

¹ <https://www.jpost.com/international/article-902826>

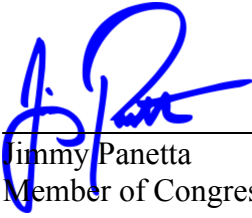
² https://ict.org.il/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Shay_Malaysia-and-the-war-in-Gaza_2023_12_11.pdf

clear that this conduct carries consequences. Should Malaysia refuse to reverse this discriminatory policy within 15 days, we urge you to suspend IMET funding.

Sincerely,



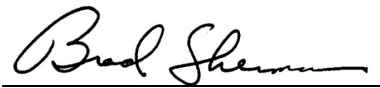
Greg Landsman
Member of Congress



Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress



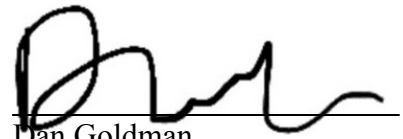
Debbie Wasserman Schultz
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