

Israeli Interior Minister Statement on the Revocation of Human Rights Watch Work Permit

8 May 2018

Minister of Interior Aryeh Deri has decided not to approve the continued residence in Israel of Human Rights Watch activist Omar Shakir because of his anti-Israel activities. Shakir must therefore leave Israel within 14 days.

Minister Deri made the decision following a recommendation from the Ministry of Strategic Affairs, headed by Minister Gilad Erdan, which included information about Shakir's activities over the years, indicating he is a BDS activist who actively and consistently supports boycott, divestment and sanctions against Israel.

Minister Deri: "It is inconceivable for a boycott activist to get an Israeli visa so that he can do whatever he can to harm the country. I will take action to remove such individuals from the country with all the means at my disposal, and therefore, Omar Shakir will leave Israel".

Minister of Public Security and Strategic Affairs Gilad Erdan: "We are exposing the true face of boycott activists. When they falsely present themselves as 'human rights activists', we'll uncover the hypocrisy and twisted morals of their actions and make them pay for their actions against Israel".