

Merrick Garland  
Attorney General  
US Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Christopher Wray  
Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
935 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20535

Deborah Lipstadt  
Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism  
US Department of State  
2201 C St., NW  
Washington, DC 20520

December 13, 2022

Dear Attorney General Garland, Director Wray and U.S. Special Envoy Lipstadt:

We are 28 civil rights and educational organizations/groups representing many thousands of members and supporters.

We write to request that the Boycott Divest and Sanctions Movement (“BDS”) be monitored, investigated, and, where appropriate, prosecuted as a collection of hate groups that affiliate with terrorist organizations and promote violence against Jews.

BDS promotes propaganda based upon false narratives and tropes drawn from [The Protocols of The Elders of Zion and Mein Kampf](#).

In recent years, there has been a marked increase in violence against Jews, including mass murders in Jersey City, Monsey, Pittsburgh, and Poway. David Anderson, the main perpetrator of the Jersey City murders, [posted online BDS talking points](#). He accused Jews of responsibility for police violence against African Americans, and he spread the lie that Jews are imposters descended from a Turkish tribe known as Khazars.

[Pogrom-like street violence](#) across the United States in Spring/Summer of 2021 was incited by [violent BDS protests](#) in New York City in May 2021. In 2019 at a [BDS rally in New York](#), leaders urged the crowd to “globalize the intifada,” a clarion call to assault Jews, which has now become a chant led by Students for Justice in Palestine (“SJP”) on multiple college campuses.

The BDS movement in the United States has been found to have [financial ties to terrorist organizations](#), including the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and Hamas.

Zachor Legal Institute has previously requested that the Department of Justice investigate terror-affiliated BDS groups, including the NGO Samidoun, an alter ego of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (“PFLP”).

Recent expansion and intensification of BDS activity underscores the need for the Justice Department to undertake an investigation of BDS organizations and their ties to terrorist organizations. In June 2022, [BDS Boston identified, mapped, and targeted](#) numerous local Jewish institutions. The application of technology served to amplify and broaden the scope of the incitement to violence that BDS groups have broadcast for years on university campuses. This ominous form of Doxxing on an industrial scale is intended to stoke yet more [antisemitic violence](#).

The BDS group Within Our Lifetime is working on [similar mapping activity in New York](#). According to their Chairperson Nerdeen Kiswani, “The most notorious Zionists in this country, they’re right here in our city. ...We let them know we know where they’re at. We know where they work...And we’re gonna go after them.”

Evidence is beginning to surface that the [Iranian government is behind the Boston Mapping Project](#). The BDS National Committee has professed opposition to the Boston project. Nevertheless, PFLP supports the project through its [affiliate](#), Samidoun. [PFLP](#) - along with terrorist organizations Hamas and Islamic Jihad - is a member of the Council of National and Islamic Forces in Palestine, which tops the list of BDS organizations on [the BDS website](#).

We are happy to learn that the FBI, and the Justice Department are investigating and [monitoring the Boston BDS mapping incident](#). We urge you, however, to do more. We call on the FBI, the Justice Department, and the

State Department to investigate and monitor BDS and its affiliated groups in their entirety, beyond the incident of the mapping project. The mapping project is but one example of the actions of a cluster of affiliated hate groups with violent intent.

Sincerely,

Action Against Anti-Semitism  
Aggies for Israel  
American Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists  
Americans Fighting Antisemitism  
Anti-BDS Movement  
ARISE Foundation  
Average Muhammad  
B'nai B'rith International  
Combat Anti-Semitism Movement  
Endowment for Middle East Truth  
Facts and Logic About the Middle East  
Fuente Latina  
Grandchildren of Holocaust Survivors  
Institute for Black Solidarity with Israel  
Iranian Americans for Liberty  
Israeli-American Civic Action Network  
Israeli-American Civic Education Institute  
Jews Indigenous to the Middle East and North Africa  
Middle East Forum  
Proclaiming Justice to the Nations  
Rhode Island Coalition for Israel  
Russian Jewish Community Foundation  
StandWithUs  
StandWithUs Center for Combating Antisemitism  
StandWithUs Saidoff Legal Department  
Stop Antisemitism  
Students Supporting Israel National  
Zachor Legal Institute