

September 26, 2019

Mrs. Mira Golomb, Academic Secretary

Re: Updates to National Security Council travel warnings - Tishrei holidays 2019

Greetings,

1. Enclosed is an update on the National Security Council's terrorism travel warnings for the Tishrei holidays: New Year, 29/9-1/10/19, Yom Kippur, 8-9 October, 2019, and Sukkoth, 13-20 October, 2019. These holidays may present an objective to terrorists carrying out attacks against Israeli and Jewish targets abroad.
2. The travel warnings are based on solid and reliable information, representing real threats, and are based on an intelligence overview for the said period.
3. **Main emphases of the overview:**
 - a. Terrorist activities around the world continue to pose a threat. Over the past year, hundreds of terrorist attacks took place around the world every month, with a focus on the Middle East, Africa and across Asia. Global Jihad activists (affiliated primarily with ISIS and with Al Qaeda) are still active around the world.
 - b. The potential risk to Israelis abroad is still real, and is the result of the activities of global Jihadist groups, Iranian and Hezbollah capabilities and infrastructures, and the effects of the Palestinian arena.
 - c. It should be emphasized that Israelis are forbidden to travel to enemy states - Syria, Iraq (including Kurdistan), Iran, Lebanon, Yemen and Saudi Arabia - by the Law on Prevention of Infiltration.
 - d. **The Islamic State (ISIS):** the organization is active simultaneously in several arenas across the world. These pose a terrorist threat and might promote local terrorist activities in a number of areas, particularly in Sinai, West Africa, and Central Asia.
 - e. **Al Qaeda:** The organization aspires to return to the forefront of world Jihad and promote terrorist attacks, including attacks on Israeli/Jewish targets, through its global branches:
 - i. The organization continues to dominate in the Horn of Africa (East Africa), the Sahara and North Africa, certain areas in central/south Asia (Afghanistan, Pakistan, India) and the Middle East. At the same time, the organization aspires to gain a better foothold in the West.
 - ii. Israel is fairly high on the organization's list of priorities and, given the opportunity, its agents will not hesitate to advance a concrete operation against Israeli/Jewish targets in the spaces where it operates.
 - f. **Western countries:** the potential for terrorism is relevant and present, with the motivation to carry out terrorist attacks still high. Several types of attacks are possible: stabbing, vehicular, shooting and suicide bombs. 'Lone wolf' attacks and local initiatives are the greatest threat in the West.
 - g. **Hezbollah and Iran:** they continue to prepare for "Command Day", building capabilities for execution of attacks around the world.

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- h. **Sinai:** the threat level in Sinai remains very high. In light of continued ISIS activity and Al Qaeda gaining ground, they may collaborate to attack Israelis in the peninsula. The Egyptian Army has crippled ISIS' ability to operate throughout the area, but the potential for the attacks is still high and real. In light of the above, the National Security Council recommends that people listen to the warnings and avoid travelling to Sinai.
- i. **Turkey:** a region with high risk potential for Israelis, in light of the infrastructure and intentions of terrorist organizations.

Additional countries where threat to Israelis is high are Jordan and Egypt.

4. This information is provided to you in order to keep you apprised of travel warnings. Prior to approving travel abroad, you are requested to inform the relevant elements.
5. With regards to the countries which the National Security Council advises to avoid visiting, **the University Security Department instructions are to refrain from travel to them.**
6. With regard to other countries, and any questions on this subject, please contact the Investigation and Information Security supervisor, Avi Kapel: cell: 052-8795830, office: 08-6472501/2, fax: 08-6471911, email: kapel@bgu.ac.il.

Wishing you Shana Tova,

Avi Kapel
Investigation and Information Security Supervisor

Cc:

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Recommendation of the Counter-Terrorism	The threat level	Country	No.
Avoid all visits and leave the country immediately	Very high concrete threat	Iraq	1
		Saudi Arabia	2
		Iran	3
		Yemen	4
		Syria	5
		Lebanon	6
		Somalia	7
		Sudan	8
		Afghanistan	9
		Libya	10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For countries marked in red - A travel ban under the Law to Prevent Infiltration 			
Avoid all visits and leave the country immediately	Very high concrete threat	Kashmir, North India	11
		The island of Mindanao, Southern Philippines	12
		Chechnya region, Russia	13
		Sinai Peninsula, Egypt	14
		Northern Nigeria (from 10 degrees latitude line north)	15
		Southern Thailand, south of the latitude between Krabi to Thammarat to the border of Malaysia	16
Avoid visiting and leave the country immediately	High concrete threat	Indonesia	17
		Burkina Faso	18
		Ivory Coast	19
		Togo	20
		Mali	21
		Malaysia	22
		Pakistan	23
		Algeria	24
		Djibouti	25
		République du Niger	26
		Tunisia	27
		Turkey	28
		Eastern Senegal	29
		République du Tchad (west)	30
		République du Cameroun (North)	31
		Mozambique Cabo Delgado Region	32
Kenya – Nairobi and the coast (100 km strip from the cities- Mombasa, Malindi, Lamu, Shimomi and Mangai)	33		
Avoid visiting	Basic concrete threat	Mauritania	34
		Kuwait	35
		UAE	36
		Qatar	37
		Bahrain	38
		*Egypt (Sinai separately)	39
		*Kenya (coastline separately)	40
		Jordan	41
Postpone nonessential travel	Ongoing potential threat	Morocco	42
		Oman	43
		*Nigeria (Northern Nigeria separately)	44
		Sri Lanka	45
		Azerbaijan	46