



February 18, 2016
Tel Aviv

The Hon. Moshe "Bogie" Ya'alon
Minister of Defense
Government of Israel

Dear Minister Ya'alon,

Re: Unequivocal Support for Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Gadi Eizenkot, and his Remarks to Group of Youth that "The IDF does not operate on the basis of slogans such as 'he who comes to kill you, rise up and kill him first.' I do not want a soldier to pump a girl with scissors full of bullets."

On behalf of the members of Commanders for Israel's Security and in my own behalf, I wish to express support for you and for the Chief of Staff, Lieutenant General Eizekot.

The statement of the Chief of Staff was praiseworthy, as was the support you afforded him in the face of unbridled attacks by Knesset Member Smotrich, a person who does not share the Jewish values and principles we hold dear.

The words of the Chief of Staff were uniquely commendable in these difficult times. They reflect the best heritage of the IDF and the system of values that has guided us and which we instilled in generations of soldiers. In his remarks the Chief of Staff highlighted the need to distinguish between a proper understanding of the words of our sages and the extreme interpretation that has been adopted by MK Smotrich and his friends, an interpretation as baseless as it is dangerous, empty of Jewish content and values.

In the name of hundreds of members of our movement, all former senior officers in Israel's security services – Brigadier Generals and Major Generals in the IDF, Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners in the Police Force, Directors of and Department Heads in the Mossad and the General Security Service – I support you and the Chief of Staff. I assure you that retired officers from all of Israel's security services, as well as the general public, support you in your untiring efforts to preserve – to the highest degree possible – the values of the IDF and Israeli society.

Be Strong and Courageous,

Amnon Reshef
Major General (Ret.)
Founder & Chairman
Commanders for Israel's Security