

decided to end the bombardment of its cities, the Human Rights Council endorsed a resolution that demonized Israel and its army in the eyes of the international community.

The resolution supported by Russia undermines the interests of those moderate forces in the Palestinian autonomy which would be willing to establish peace with Israel. Goldstone's one-sided report strengthens Hamas's position and sharply weakens the position of the Palestinian government led by Mahmud Abbas. As a result of the Human Rights Council's resolution, the "Hezbollah-Syria-Iran" Axis, has gained support, legitimacy and international approval.

Additionally, Goldstone's report has strengthened Israel's belief that all of their attempts to negotiate a peace with the Palestinian Arabs, including voluntary withdrawal from Gaza and other territorial concessions, will always be ignored by the international community. At the same time, reciprocal steps against terrorists will lead to condemnation by the United Nations.

Lastly, approval of Goldstone's report will lead to new problems in the struggle against terrorism. In Gaza, Hamas and Jihad widely applied the tactic of using civilians as a "human shield". Thus, the resolution of the Human Rights Council has actually proven this is a successful form of terrorist activity. This resolution will complicate the struggle of civilized countries against terrorist activity. It is surprising that Russia, whose citizens constantly suffer from actions of terrorism, has voted for the resolution, thereby justifying these "human shield" tactics.

Russian-speaking Americans have a number of close relatives and friends in Israel. But there is another reason for our anxiety about the unilateral position of the UN Human Rights Council. Israel is a deeply peaceful country, the only democracy in the Middle East, surrounded by autocratic regimes. In Israel, more than 80 human rights organizations freely operate, a free press exists, and the judicial system often rules against other branches of its government. There are many political parties, democratic elections, liberal journalists, a politically active and creative scientific community, and independent courts. This is the country accused of deliberate attacks against civilians and crimes against humanity?

In the last few years Israel has undertaken many steps for rapprochement with Russia, including the canceling of visa requirements for Russian tourists. I was born and raised in Moscow, and still hope that Russia will become a strategic partner of Israel and will not always automatically vote in the United Nations, as the USSR did, for anti-Israel resolutions. We in America hope that the Russian government aspires to achieve peace in the Middle East, instead of creating new problems and conflicts. A country of such great culture and greater human achievements cannot be on a par with rogue countries such as Iran, Venezuela, North Korea, and Syria.

I thank you for your attention to this matter, and I hope to receive a concrete and constructive answer to this letter.

Respectfully,

ALEC BROOK-KRASNY,
Member of the Assembly, 46th District.

THE ASSEMBLY, STATE OF NEW YORK,
Albany, NY, October 23, 2009.

H.E. PETRO POROSHENKO,
*Minister of Foreign Affairs,
Kyiv, Ukraine.*

YOUR EXCELLENCY: I am writing to express my deep appreciation to your Government and to you personally, for voting against the one-sided resolution adopted by the Human Rights Council in Geneva early this month. I express this appreciation also on behalf of

my constituency, which is comprised of thousands of immigrants from Ukraine to the U.S. who now live in the district that I represent at the New York State Assembly. I am especially satisfied by the principled stance of your government, as I know that the most respected American Jewish organization, AJC, urged your predecessor to take this position at their meeting with the Ukrainian delegation in New York last month.

Regrettably, this harmful resolution was endorsed by the majority of 47 members of the Council, but the vote taken by Ukrainian Government, and other democratic nations, underscores the moral bankruptcy of that resolution. As you know, the resolution endorses the recommendations contained in the Goldstone report, which seeks to set the international community in a comprehensive political campaign against Israel. I trust that Ukrainian Government will continue to oppose attempts to single out and censure Israel in the international arena.

By voting against the endorsement of Goldstone report your government decided to be in the minority rather than forsake its values. We salute your government for adhering to this noble principle.

Respectfully,

ALEC BROOK-KRASNY,
Member of the Assembly, 46th District.

GLOBAL CHILD SURVIVAL ACT

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I wish to speak in support of the Global Child Survival Act of 2009, which I introduced earlier this week along with Senators CORKER and DURBIN.

I do so in the hopes that the United States will take these important steps towards living up to its obligation as the world's wealthiest nation.

Ours is a moral obligation, of course; reducing mortality rates for children in developing areas of the world is within our grasp. We—we in this very body—have the power to save millions of innocent and vulnerable lives.

Ours is also a literal obligation. As part of the Millennium Development Goals, the United States has made an explicit commitment—along with 188 other nations—to doing its part to reach this goal.

To date, we have made significant progress and improved the lives of tens of thousands of individuals. But unless we bring to bear the full force of our knowledge, our creativity, our compassion, and our commitment to implementing effective strategies, we will ultimately fail to keep our promise to millions around the world who need us.

I can't accept that.

Not when nearly 9 million children under the age of five die every year—more than 24,000 every day. That is a number equal to the population of South Windsor, CT, dying every day—mostly from preventable and treatable causes like pneumonia, diarrhea, malaria, and sepsis.

Not when nearly 4 million newborns every year die in the first 4 weeks of life.

Not when 2.5 million children die each year from diseases for which vaccines are readily available.

Not when it is clear that simply by living up to the commitments we have

already made, to say nothing of furthering our commitments, we could save so many lives so easily.

This is a moral imperative. But it is also a strategic imperative. The state of a country's public health is inextricably linked to its security. Poor health systems around the world represent a danger to America. Last year, the Director of National Intelligence reported as follows:

Chronic, non-communicable diseases; neglected tropical diseases; maternal and child mortality; malnutrition; sanitation and access to clean water; and availability of basic health-care also affect the US national interest through their impacts on the economies, governments, and militaries of key countries and regions.

Countries with high child and maternal mortality are inherently less stable and more prone to violence. The consequences of failing to live up to our commitments under the Millennium Development Goals will be felt around the world.

These goals are not beyond our reach. Already, the increased distribution of simply technologies like mosquito nets and basic vaccinations has reduced child mortality to its lowest level since we began keeping track of the statistics in 1960.

Simple efforts like distributing bed nets and micronutrients are saving 10,000 children a day.

But our success to date is not an excuse for complacency going forward. There is more we can do.

We could save 1.4 million newborns by encouraging exclusive breast feeding for the first 6 months of life.

We could cut in half newborn mortality and reduce maternal mortality simply by providing basic childbirth assistance—things like clean equipment and trained attendants.

If we make simple remedies like oral rehydration therapy for diarrhea and antibiotics for respiratory infections available in accordance with the Millennium Development Goals, we could cut the child mortality rate by two-thirds, saving nearly 6 million lives a year.

The legislation requires the administration to develop and implement a strategy to improve the health of, and reduce mortality rates among, newborns and children in developing countries.

It supports effective, life-saving programs to provide children and mothers with basic minerals and vitamins that we daily take for granted, and it takes on the scourge of easily treatable and preventable diseases such as pneumonia and cholera.

It empowers young girls by helping them get good educations, and protects them from abusive practices such as female genital cutting.

It establishes a task force to monitor and evaluate the progress of government agencies responsible for ensuring that we meet our commitment to the Millennium Development Goals.

It puts Congress on record as supporting innovative intervention strategies—from community based health centers to ready-to-use food therapies.

It authorizes the President to put our money where our intentions are.

Finally, this bill makes an important statement at a pivotal time. We are close to reaching a key milestone on the road to achieving our Millennium Development Goals in 2015. This legislation will put the Senate on record supporting robust child survival health programs as the international community redoubles its efforts to achieve these goals and prepares for the 2010 G8 and G20 summit in Canada, where child survival and maternal health will be a major priority for the assembled nations.

It doesn't cost a lot to save a life. Children in developing countries die of diarrhea every day—but the oral rehydration therapy needed to treat it costs just 54 cents. Children die of respiratory infections—but the treatment is just 71 cents.

The United States does a lot to combat child mortality. We have devoted more than \$6 billion to child survival programs over the past 20 years. It has worked. But we can do more. We have committed to do more. We must do more.

I urge my colleagues to join me in this effort, which has already garnered bipartisan support. Millions of lives hang in the balance.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:16 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that it agreed to the concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 45) encouraging the Government of Iran to allow Joshua Fattal, Shane Bauer, and Sarah Shourd to reunite with their families in the United States as soon as possible, without amendment.

ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, October 30, 2009, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bills:

S. 832. An act to amend title 36, United States Code, to grant a Federal charter to the Military Officers Association of America, and for other purposes.

S. 1694. An act to allow the funding for the interoperable emergency communications grants program established under the Digital Television Transition and Public Safety Act of 2005 to remain available until expended through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-3518. A communication from the Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the transfer of detainees (OSS Control No. 2009-1778); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3519. A communication from the Senior Import Policy Analyst, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Changes in Procedures for Florence Agreement Program" (RIN0625-AA75) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 29, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3520. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the report of a proposed rule entitled "Lead; Amendment to the Opt-out and Record Keeping Provisions in the Renovation, Repair, and Painting Program" (FRL No. 8795-9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 29, 2009; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3521. A communication from the Acting Administrator, General Services Administration, Department of Defense and National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to additional lease prospectuses that support the U.S. General Services Administration's Fiscal Year 2010 Capital Investment and Leasing Program; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3522. A communication from the Deputy Director of the Office of Labor-Management Standards, Employment Standards Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Labor Organization Annual Financial Reports" (RIN1215-AB62) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 28, 2009; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3523. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 18-216, "Personal Mobility Device for Persons with Disabilities Temporary Amendment Act of 2009"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3524. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 18-217, "Reinstated Nonprofit Corporation Contract Ratification Temporary Amendment Act of 2009"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3525. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 18-218, "University of the District of Columbia Board of Trustees Quorum Temporary Amendment Act of 2009"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3526. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 18-219, "University of the District of Columbia Procurement Authority Temporary Amendment Act of 2009"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3527. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 18-220, "Private Fire Hydrant Responsibility Temporary Act of 2009"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3528. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Colum-

bia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 18-221, "Public Assistance Amendment Act of 2009"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3529. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 18-222, "Unemployment Compensation Extended Benefits Amendment Act of 2009"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3530. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 18-223, "Studio Theatre Housing Property Tax Exemption and Equitable Tax Relief Act of 2009"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3531. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 18-224, "Kelsey Gardens Redevelopment Project Real Property Limited Tax Abatement Assistance Act of 2009"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3532. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 18-225, "Chemotherapy Pill Coverage Act of 2009"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1194. A bill to reauthorize the Coast Guard for fiscal years 2010 and 2011, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 111-95).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. KERRY (for himself and Mr. KIRK):

S. 2521. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on audio interface units for sound mixing, recording, and editing capable of full interface control by separate automatic data processing system using proprietary software protocol; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. HAGAN:

S. 2522. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on RSD 1235; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CORKER (for himself and Mr. ALEXANDER):

S. 2523. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on certain electric cooktops; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. CANTWELL:

S. 2524. A bill to extend and modify the temporary suspension of duty on certain women's footwear, valued over \$23/pair, with a coated or laminated textile fabric; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. CANTWELL:

S. 2525. A bill to extend and modify the temporary suspension of duty on certain men's footwear, valued over \$23/pair, with a coated or laminated textile fabric; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. CANTWELL:

S. 2526. A bill to extend and modify the temporary suspension of duty on certain