



PRESS RELEASE

The Mossawa Center condemns the attempts by Likud MKs and others to ban MK Hiba Yazbak of the Joint List from running in the elections.

Mossawa Center vehemently condemns the bigoted and hate filled appeal by Likud MK Ofir Katz to ban Joint List MK Hiba Yazbak from running in the upcoming elections over a Facebook post - a move supported by Blue and White, Yisrael Beiteinu, and certain members of Labor-Gesher-Meretz.

In its continued effort to win votes by inciting against Palestinian Arab citizens of Israel and further suppressing their democratic rights, the Likud is now also looking to ban Joint List members from running in the upcoming elections. However, more worryingly, the supposed "centrist" and "leftist" parties are all supporting this motion, albeit to varying extents. Yet the fact remains, the only truly left wing party still standing, which supports and pushes for equality and a two-state solution, is the Joint List.

Furthermore, Mossawa Center would like to point out the fact that there countless MKs from the Likud and Yisrael Beiteinu who have made a plethora of statements and social media posts, fueled by racism and bigotry, which have posed a danger to democratic values in the country. In fact, Facebook banned Netanyahu's own Facebook page for 24 hours over a Facebook post he made.

Mossawa Center, the largest and most prominent civil rights organization in Israel, will not stand for such clear and fragrant injustices against the Palestinian community, or any other minority for that fact, to go unchallenged. Mossawa Center's values are deeply rooted in justice and equality for all citizens of Israel, and will continuously work to ensure that any party or institution does not attack the democratic and civil rights of all citizens. We call on other organizations and politicians to push back against the actions taken by the Likud and its allies, and we encourage other parties who support the move to change their course.