

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 25, 2025

The Norwegian Nobel Committee
Henrik Ibsens gate 51
0255 Oslo, Norway

Dear Members of the Nobel Committee:

Every year, the Nobel Peace Prize honors those whose actions illuminate the path toward justice and human dignity. This year, there is no group more deserving of this recognition than the Hostages and Missing Families Forum, which represents the families of the hostages kidnapped by Hamas on October 7, 2023.

Through unfathomable anguish and heartbreak, these families have become the conscience of the world, steadfastly reminding the world that their loved ones are not bargaining chips or statistics, but human beings—each with names, stories, and families waiting to embrace them. Undaunted by the horrors of their loved ones' captivity and the dashed hopes of promised rescue agreements always just over the horizon, the members of the Hostages and Missing Families Forum have not only shown extraordinary grace and humanity, they have helped the world see the humanity of all those suffering the devastation of war. As Jon Polin, the father of murdered hostage Hersh Goldberg Polin so eloquently said, “in a competition of pain, there are no winners.”

The world must forever remember October 7, 2023, when Hamas launched a surprise invasion into Israel, barbarically torturing, raping and mutilating innocent civilians—ultimately murdering more than 1,000 people and abducting more than 250 others, including children, the elderly, and entire families. The atrocities committed that day and the suffering endured since defy comprehension. The families of the hostages could have understandably succumbed to despair. Instead, they built a movement. Within 24 hours, the Hostages and Missing Families Forum emerged as a rallying cry for all humanity.

The Hostages and Missing Families Forum has heroically demanded action from governments, international organizations, and civil society, ensuring that the hostages are not forgotten amid the broader geopolitical calculus. They have organized rallies, briefed world leaders and driven a global effort that has kept the hostages' fate at the forefront of diplomatic negotiations. Through sheer will and perseverance, they have cast a hopeful light in a time of unbearable darkness.

The Hostages and Missing Families Forum's work goes beyond advocacy. They have provided essential psychological and medical support to families shattered by loss and uncertainty. They have fought to hold Hamas accountable in courts of law and public opinion. Their efforts to define these heinous crimes as violations of international law and to seek justice for the hostages are crucial for building international solidarity. In a world where terror thrives in the shadows, they have forced daylight upon it.

The Nobel Peace Prize has long honored those who elevate humanity's highest ideals in the face of oppression. In honoring the Hostages and Missing Families Forum, the Committee would reaffirm a fundamental truth: that every life is sacred, that no act of terror can erase our shared humanity, and that the pursuit of justice must never waver. Their nomination is not just about the hostages. It is about the essential principle that the world cannot look away.

We, the undersigned Members of the United States Congress, urge you to honor those who have refused to let the world forget. The families of the hostages did not choose this fight, but they have carried it with grace, determination, and an unwavering belief that justice must prevail. There can be no more fitting recipients of the Nobel Peace Prize.

Sincerely,



Bradley Scott Schneider
Member of Congress



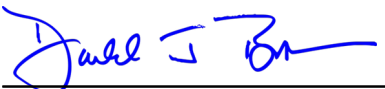
Max L. Miller
Member of Congress



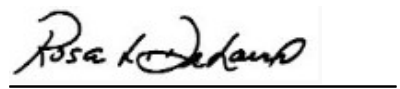
Dan Goldman
Member of Congress



Greg Landsman
Member of Congress



Don Bacon
Member of Congress



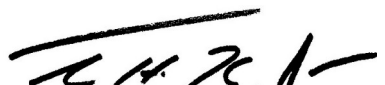
Rosa L. DeLauro
Member of Congress



Josh Gottheimer
Member of Congress



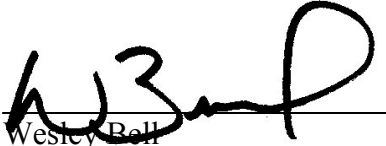
Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress



Thomas H. Kean, Jr.
Member of Congress



Greg Stanton
Member of Congress



Wesley Bell
Member of Congress



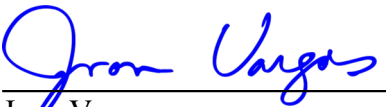
Brad Sherman
Member of Congress



Donald G. Davis
Member of Congress



Thomas R. Suozzi
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas
Member of Congress