



For more information or interviews:
Danae Marx, Director of International Communications
+972-52-4334557 | danae@civilc.org

PRESS RELEASE

Ahead of the 1,000-Day Mark Since October 7, Civil Commission Highlights Landmark Reports Documenting Hamas' Crimes

Dr. Cochav Elkayam-Levy at the Herzliya Conference: "The question is no longer whether these crimes occurred. The question is whether the world will have the courage to act upon the truth."

[Civil Commission] As Israel marks **1,000 days since the October 7 Hamas attacks tomorrow**, the Civil Commission is highlighting two landmark reports that establish the most comprehensive factual, legal, and historical record to date of the atrocities committed during the attacks and against hostages held in Gaza.

Speaking at the Herzliya Conference, Dr. Cochav Elkayam-Levy, Chair of the Civil Commission and recipient of the Israel Prize, reflected on the Commission's work to preserve evidence, combat denial, and advance accountability through its two major reports: **Kinocide: The Weaponization of Families** and **Silenced No More: Sexual Terror Unveiled – The Untold Atrocities of October 7 and Against Hostages in Captivity**.

Together, the reports document Hamas' systematic attacks on civilians, including the deliberate targeting of families, widespread sexual violence and gender-based crimes, and other grave violations of international law. They establish an evidence-based foundation intended to support legal proceedings, policymaking, historical research, education, and international accountability efforts.

Speaking at the conference, Dr. Elkayam-Levy said: "Tomorrow marks 1,000 days since October 7. The people should know that the truth about Hamas' crimes cannot be erased. We have established an archive. We have preserved the evidence. We have published the findings. We have built a factual, legal, and historical foundation that will serve courts, researchers, museums, educators, and future generations. It will no longer be possible to say there was no evidence. It will no longer be possible to say that it didn't happen."

Dr. Elkayam-Levy also addressed the ongoing struggle of victims and survivors to receive legal recognition in Israel: "Alongside our demand that the world recognize the victims and their suffering, there is also a national responsibility. Families who were forced to watch their loved ones tortured and murdered through videos sent by terrorists, despite the unimaginable trauma they endured, are still forced to fight to be recognized as victims of hostilities and to receive the compensation they deserve."

We also continue to accompany survivors of captivity and the families of hostages in their fight for recognition. Just this week, we submitted an expert opinion to the Supreme Court in a

petition to ensure that those who were kidnapped, endured the horrors of captivity, and later escaped are formally recognized as hostages. Bureaucracy must not add pain to pain. The state must not require those who went through hell to prove, once again, what they have already endured."

Since October 2023, the Civil Commission has documented, investigated, and conducted legal analysis of Hamas' crimes against women, children, families, and hostages. The Commission's landmark reports have been presented to governments, the United Nations, international organizations, academic institutions, and legal experts around the world, contributing to ongoing efforts to advance accountability, preserve the historical record, and combat denial.

In her remarks to the international audience, delivered in English, Dr. Elkayam-Levy said:

" For more than two years, we carried the voices of those who could no longer speak for themselves.

We documented what many believed could never be documented.

We built an archive so that justice would one day have a foundation, history would have a memory, and denial would have no refuge.

The question before the international community is no longer whether these crimes occurred.

The question is whether the world will have the courage to act upon the truth.

October 7 is not only a chapter in Israel's history.

It is a defining moment in the history of human rights.

It reminded us that civilization is far more fragile than we would have liked to believe.

That the line between civilization and cruelty is far thinner than we ever imagined.

And that a single day can separate one from the other.

That the values we celebrate in times of peace are ultimately tested in moments of unimaginable darkness.

Our research shows that the victims of October 7 came from - more than fifty-two countries.

Their suffering crossed borders.

So does our responsibility.

Because the future of human rights will not be determined by the values we proclaim.

It will be determined by the truths we are willing to defend when defending them carries a cost.

That is the test of our generation.

And history has already begun recording our answer."

Link to the report *Sexual Terror Unveiled: The Untold Atrocities of October 7 and Against Hostages in Captivity*: <https://www.civilc.org/silenced-no-more>

Link to report on Kinocide: Uncovering the Weaponization of Families on October 7, 2023: <https://www.civilc.org/cco7-1-1>

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The Civil Commission was founded following Hamas's brutal October 7, 2023 attack on Israel, which left over 1,200 dead and more than 250 kidnapped. In response to the widespread murder, torture, rape, and abduction and ensuing denial, this independent non-profit was established to document, research, and raise global awareness of the war crimes and gender-based violence committed by Hamas and its collaborators. Led by human rights and international law expert **Dr. Cochav Elkayam-Levy**, the 2024 Israel Prize laureate, the

Commission works to amplify victims' voices and confront denial in the international arena.
Learn more: <https://www.civilc.org/>