



26 July 2022

Ali Anwar
Islamic Centre Against Genocide and Extremism
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Reference: OIA-2021/22-1521

Dear Ali Anwar

Official Information Act request for the Prime Minister's beliefs regarding statements about Israel

Thank you for your request made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), received on 12 July 2022. You requested:

"It appears that you have decided to appoint the extreme anti-Palestinian activist Paul Spoonley to head the Centre for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism. Spoonley is notorious for his role in the so-called 'Antisemitism Survey of New Zealand 2021', which conflates opposition to the genocide of Palestinian human beings in their indigenous homeland with antisemitism.

Does the Prime Minister, as the Zionist extremist Spoonley does, believe it is antisemitic to state:

** "Israel is an apartheid state" (as have all major human rights organisations and multiple UN representatives)?*

** "Israel is committing mass murder" (as it has since its inception)?"*

I believe that the information you have requested is more closely connected to the functions of the Prime Minister, Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern. Accordingly, I have decided under section 14(b)(ii) of the Act to transfer your request to the Prime Minister.

The Prime Minister has the usual timeframes under the Act from receipt of this transfer to make a decision on your request.

Yours sincerely

Catherine Delore
**Acting Executive Director,
Strategy, Governance and Engagement**