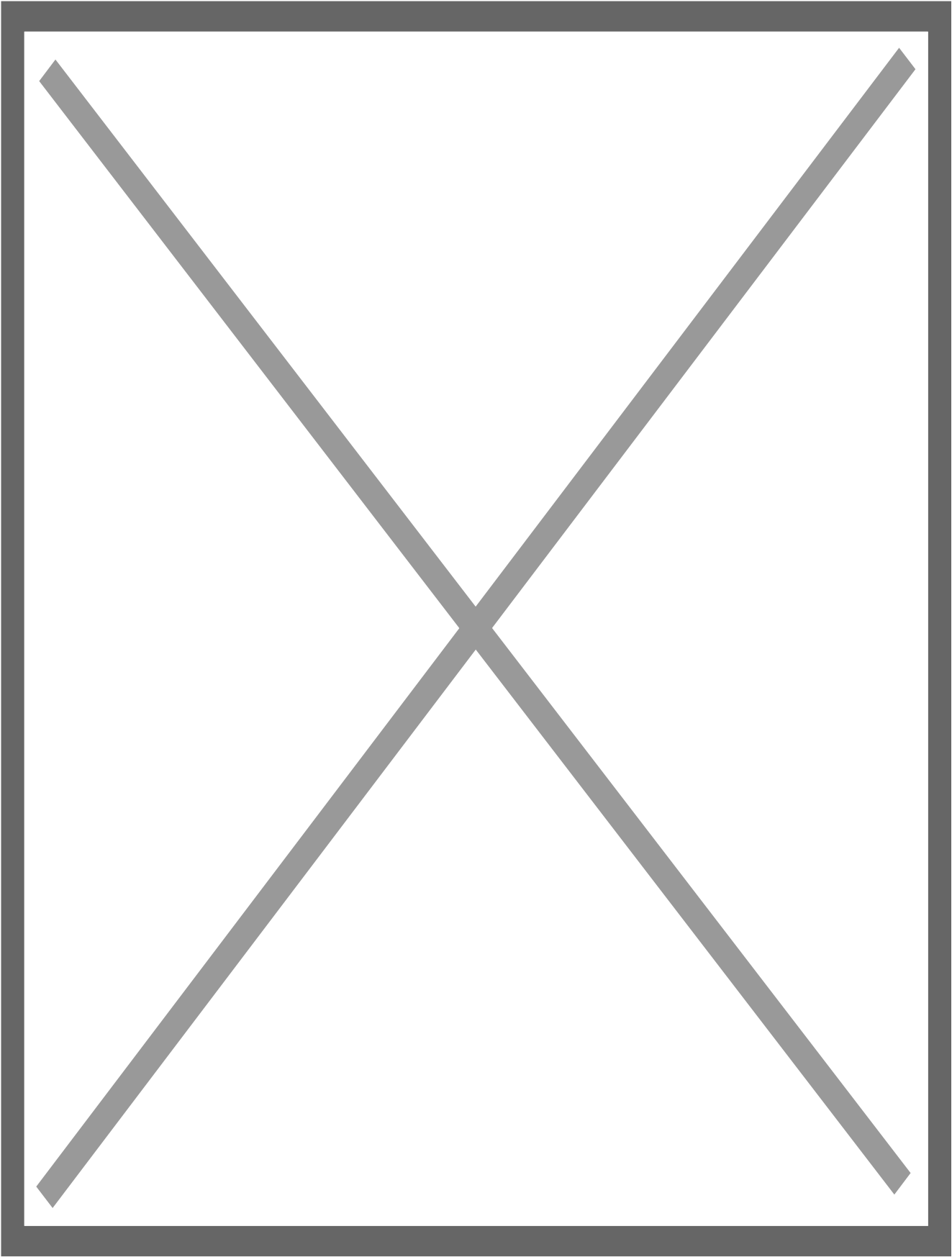


*UN special rapporteur slams U.S.
for disrespecting Palestinian lives*

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Geneva, August 20 (RHC)-- The UN's special rapporteur on the human rights situation in the occupied Palestinian territories strongly denounced a recent White House statement that focused on Israel's security as a reason to end the war on Gaza.

"40,000 ascertained casualties, yet the focus remains on Israel's security, whatever that implies," Francesca Albanese wrote on X, demanding an immediate ceasefire. "The disrespect for Palestinian life is disconcerting."

Rights advocates have condemned U.S. President Joe Biden and other senior officials for denying Palestinian suffering. During his ninth trip to the region, since the war began in October, U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken also said now is "probably the best, maybe the last opportunity" to secure a captives' release deal in Gaza. He made no mention of the Palestinian death toll.

Rights groups and social media frequenters have reacted to Biden's decision to cancel his re-election bid, saying the U.S. president will be remembered by how he facilitated the Israeli genocide in Gaza.

Biden has vowed to continue providing "ironclad" support for the Israeli regime as the latter presses on with its Washington-backed genocidal war against the Gaza Strip.

Since the onset of the regime aggression in October, Washington has provided Israel with thousands of tons of lethal military aid. It has also struck down several United Nations Security Council resolutions that have called for the implementation of an immediate ceasefire in the brutal military onslaught.

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