

January 30, 2023

Kindly reply to: moatsa@pecc.org.il

Dear Prime Minister Sunak,

We, a group of Jewish medical scientists, physicians and researchers from several countries including Israel and the UK, would like to express our dismay at the decision to suspend Member of Parliament Mr. Andrew Bridgen as a Conservative MP due in part to what you claim was an “antisemitic” tweet that he made in relation to the covid-19 vaccine roll-out.

In the UK alone, since the roll-out of the BioNTech-Pfizer mRNA vaccine, there have been almost half a million Yellow Card reports of adverse events from the public. This is more than all the yellow card reports for all medications for the past 40 years combined. This adds to the growing incidence of reports of death and other side effects that are beyond mild, which have been reported in many countries across the world. The data for other covid-19 vaccines is equally concerning.

Mr. Bridgen tweeted that “one consultant cardiologist said to me this [the vaccine roll-out] is the biggest crime against humanity since the holocaust.”

Aside from the fact that Mr Bridgen was clearly reporting the words of someone else, the word “since” does not in any case imply equivalence to the events of the Holocaust; for that and other reasons the tweet is not antisemitic.

It seems that you and others have seized upon the opportunity to raise the issue of antisemitism in order to limit the free speech of those who raise legitimate concerns about the efficacy and safety of these Covid vaccines and, needless to say, their mandating or coercion, which breached many well-established ethical norms.

Weaponization of the important issue of antisemitism for these purposes is particularly objectionable and disrespectful towards its victims.

Limiting free speech, along with “othering” and scapegoating people who hold different perspectives, is indeed part of the text-book behavior of all the totalitarian governments, which have been responsible for the biggest crimes against humanity throughout history.

We respectfully request that you withdraw the accusations of antisemitism leveled at Mr Bridgen.

Sincerely,

Jewish Doctors and scientists.

Dr. Ifat Abadi-Korek

Prof. Eti Einhorn

Dr. Joseph Fraiman

Dr. Jonathan Engler

Dr. Raya Leibowitz

Dr. Yaakov Ophir

Prof. (Emeritus) Eyal Shahr

Prof. Eli Sloutskin

Dr. Moshe Yanovskiy

Prof. Shoshy Altuvia

Prof. Asher Elhayany

Dr. Zapler Naor Galit

Dr. Josh Guetzkow

Dr. Eshel A. Nir

Prof. Udi Qimron

Prof. Shmuel C. Shapira

Dr. Yehoshua Socol

Dr. Yoav Yehezkelli

Dr. Ron Babecoff

Prof. Norman Fenton

Dr. Rafael Gomez

Dr Simon Kuttner

Prof. Retsef Levi

Dr. Yaffa Shir-Raz

Dr. H. C. Tenenbaum

Shay Zakov

About the Signatories

Dr. Ifat Abadi-Korek, Expert in epidemiology and molecular biology. Director of Research and Academy at one of Israel's biggest private groups of hospitals. Former advisor to the Israeli Healthcare Public Committee.

Prof. Shoshy Altuvia, Specialist in RNA biology, Professor of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics in the Faculty of Medicine at the Hebrew University.

Dr. Ron Babecoff, Doctor of veterinary medicine and biotech entrepreneur.

Prof. Eti Einhorn, Full professor, and former head of the accounting department at Tel Aviv University. Expert in information economics and financial regulation.

Prof. Asher Elhayany, Professor of Medicine, Specialist in Family Medicine and Public Health. Administration. Former Director of Meir Hospital and former CEO of Meuhedet HMO. Former Chairman of the National Council for Community Health.

Dr. Jonathan Engler, UK, MB ChB LLB UK, qualified in medicine and law.

Prof. Norman Fenton, Professor Emeritus of Risk at Queen Mary University of London (retired as Full Professor in Dec. 2022), and a Director of Agena, a company that specializes in artificial intelligence and Bayesian probabilistic reasoning.

Dr. Joseph Fraiman, MD New Orleans, Louisiana, USA, Emergency Physician, Former Medical Manager of Louisiana Urban Search and Rescue Task Force 1, Clinical Scientist

Dr. Zapler Naor Galit, Specialist in Family Medicine, Former District Medical Director at the home care unit, Maccabbi health care, Israel.

Dr. Rafael Gomez, Full professor at the University of Toronto, Director of Centre for Industrial Relations Human Resources. PhD.

Dr. Josh Guetzkow, A senior lecturer at the Institute of Criminology and the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at the Hebrew University.

Dr. Eshel A. Nir, MD, MSc, DESA; Anaesthesia Attending, Paediatric Anaesthesiologist and Instructor (Anaesthesia), Department of Anesthesiology, Rambam Health Care Campus.

Dr. Simon Kuttner, Clinical psychologist in the public sector and private practice. Doctorate from University of Otago, New Zealand.

Dr. Raya Leibowitz, MD/PhD; Head, Oncology Institute, Shamir medical center, Zerifin, Israel; Faculty of medicine, Tel-Aviv university, Tel-Aviv, Israel.

Prof. Retsef Levi, MIT School of Management. Expert in analytics, risk management and public health systems.

Dr. Yaakov Ophir, PhD, Israel, a Clinical Psychologist.

Prof. Udi Qimron, Former Head of the Department of Clinical Immunology and Clinical Microbiology at Tel Aviv University, Specialist in T cells, mucosal vaccines, and genetic engineering of bacterial viruses.

Prof. (Emeritus) Eyal Shahar, Epidemiologist, University of Arizona.

Prof. Shmuel C. Shapira, MD MPH Director of IIBR (2013-2021). Physician Scientist Manager.

Dr. Yaffa Shir-Raz, Health and risk communication researcher, journalist and lecturer at the University of Haifa and Reichman University. MB ChB LLB Jonathan Engler, UK, qualified in medicine and law.

Prof. Eli Sloutskin, Israel. Experimental physicist in the field of soft condensed matter physics.

Dr. Yehoshua Socol, Jerusalem College of Technology. Since 2007 has been active in the biological effects of ionizing radiation, cancer epidemiology, managing nuclear/radiological emergencies, medical ethics and public health. MD/DSc, Nir Tsabar, Israel, North District Geriatrician at Clalit Health Services.

Dr. H. C. Tenenbaum, DDS, Dip. Perio., PhD, FRCD(C), Professor of Periodontology, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Toronto. Professor of Laboratory Medicine and Pathobiology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto. Canada. Professor of Periodontology, School of Dental Medicine, Tel Aviv University, Israel.

Dr. Moshe Yanovskiy, Israel, Policy Research leading research fellow at Shomron Center for Economic. Health Economics, Public Finance, and relevant issues from Institutional Economics, Law and Economics, and Economic History.

Dr. Yoav Yehezkelli, Specialist in Internal Medicine and Medical administration. Expert in Emergency and Disaster Management. Consultant to KI Institute for computational medicine. One of the founders of the Israeli epidemic task-force and preparedness programs for extreme biological incidents.

Shay Zakov, Computer Science PhD, working as Bioinformatics and Data Science consultant for the pharmaceutical industry.