

Statement from U.S. Congressman Gary Peters (September 24, 2009)

I am outraged that Iranian president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad is proud of the controversy he has sparked by denying the Holocaust and I am deeply concerned that he used the U.N. General Assembly as his platform this week. How can the United Nations, the body that gave birth to Israel nearly 62 years ago, now give voice to a tyrant who has stated his ambition is to wipe Israel off the map?

I am proud to tell my colleagues in Congress that my district is home to the first freestanding Holocaust museum in the United States. It stands as testimony to the destruction and murder executed by baseless hatred, it reminds us to never forget, and it refutes the lies of those like Ahmadinejad who would deny the Holocaust.

With the threat from Iran growing every day, it is clear that Israel needs the support of the United States today more than ever. The U.S. needs to take swift action to reduce the Iranian threat and that is why I have cosponsored multiple approaches to increase sanctions on Iran and they should be passed as soon as possible.