

**President & CEO**

16 February 2017

Dear Mr. Lascaris,

Thank you for contacting the National NewsMedia Council.

We have carefully read and considered your letter and the 15 articles provided. We find that the articles relate to the Green Party’s handling of the BDS resolution, rather than to reporting on Canada’s point of view on Palestinian rights.

  By citing numerous article your complaint is about a trend in reporting, which is not an acceptable basis for a complaint. The NNC considers complaints about specific news articles or opinion columns.

 We note you point to no errors of fact, though you allege lack of balance on the issue of Palestine-Israel conflict. Our view is that the articles are about the news at hand, created by the Green Party resolution controversy.

 A different series of articles could well give voice to or incorporate Palestinian views and Israeli transgression. However, it appears that the articles cited are focused on the Green Party’s struggle over a controversial resolution, leadership and other motions at the convention and workshop – all of which is legitimate news coverage delivered in adherence to generally accepted journalistic standards.

 In terms of your requested remedy, the NNC’s business is not to order apologies or serve as a punitive agent, but rather as a means for resolving issues while educating about best practices in news gathering and news reporting.

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On occasion, we have supported the use of a guest column to allow a complainant to express a point of view, but the NNC does not exercise editorial control over its members and cannot order publication of an op-ed.

Yours very truly,

John Fraser

JOHN FRASER C.M., M.A., D.Litt., F.R.S.A.,

President & CEO