

Press Statement

Issued by Zaher Birawi, Journalist and Palestinian activist

Chairman of the Europol Forum

A Legal victory achieved over WorldCheck, which is forced to pay damages and remove my name from its database's 'Terrorism list'

Following two and a half years of continuous efforts, my legal team, authorised to pursue this case on my behalf, succeeded in forcing WorldCheck, (owned by Refinitiv Ltd), to remove my name from its lists, where it wrongly and without justification or evidence, classified me on its Terrorism list. My legal team, consisting of Mr. Farooq Bajwa's firm and later Burlingtons of London, succeeded in restoring my rights and securing compensation for damages caused as a result of this unspeakable action by WorldCheck.

My legal team relied primarily on the fact that there has never been any legal sentence passed against me by any official authority in any state anywhere in the world, and that never have I been found to have been involved in any illegal acts which could be deemed within the scope of terrorism crimes. My legal team explained that WorldCheck mainly relied on this 'Terrorism' classification based on lists prepared by the State of Israel, as well as inaccurate news websites that were likely driven by political motives and agendas not based on objective evidence which caused hurt and damage to me. I have no doubt that everything that was published in these sources was due to my active role in defending the rights of my Palestinian people who live under occupation and because of my political activities to expose the racism of the Israeli occupation state.

As part of the agreement, WorldCheck provided me with an official letter addressed 'To Whom It May Concern' explaining that all information previously included in my profile did not, nor should infer in any way, that I have any connection to terrorism in any way, and that I have never been found to have committed any acts of terrorism neither in the United Kingdom, nor anywhere else.

I wish to thank my legal team who fought this legal battle on my behalf and secured this beneficial conclusion, and to affirm that all attempts to tarnish my reputation will never affect my determination to pursue my duties and political activities in Europe to defend a cause which I see as my national cause and the rights of my people who live under the racist Israeli occupation regime, nor will they stop or hinder my efforts towards exposing the racism and crimes of the occupation state.

As this outcome proves, no just cause shall be lost when continuously and determinedly pursued.

Praise and thanks to Almighty Allah

End.

Zaher Birawi

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