

Treasury Targets Key Hamas Leaders and Financiers

Today, the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) is designating six senior Hamas officials, including the terrorist group's representatives abroad, a senior member of the Hamas military wing, the Izz Al-Din Al-Qassam Brigades, as well as individuals involved in supporting the terrorist group's fundraising efforts and weapons smuggling into Gaza.

"Hamas continues to rely on key officials who seemingly maintain legitimate, public-facing roles within the group, yet who facilitate their terrorist activities, represent their interests abroad, and coordinate the transfer of money and goods into Gaza," said Acting Under Secretary of the Treasury for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence Bradley T. Smith. "Treasury remains committed to disrupting Hamas's efforts to secure additional revenue and holding those who facilitate the group's terrorist activities to account."

HAMAS LEADERS AND FINANCIERS ACTIVE ABROAD

Abd al-Rahman Ismail abd al-Rahman Ghanimat (Ghanimat) is a longtime member of Hamas's military wing, the Izz Al-Din Al-Qassam Brigades. While he is now based in Türkiye, Ghanimat, who also founded a section of Hamas responsible for supporting Hamas interests in the West Bank, has been involved in multiple attempted and successful terrorist attacks, including the 1997 daytime bombing of a café in Tel Aviv.

Musa Daud Muhammad Akari (Akari) is a senior Hamas official based in Türkiye who facilitates the flow of funds from Türkiye into Gaza and the West Bank for Hamas. Akari was previously convicted of kidnapping and murdering an Israeli border police officer.

Salama Mari (Mari) is a Hamas official based in Türkiye involved in financial facilitation for the group. Mari was previously imprisoned for his role in a 1993 attack in the West Bank that killed an Israeli soldier.

Mohammad Nazzal (Nazzal) is a Hamas official who has provided support to the terrorist group for over 30 years. As a senior leader serving on Hamas's Council on International Relations, Nazzal represents Hamas's interests to a variety of international audiences.

Basem Naim (Naim) is a senior Hamas member based in Gaza, who has participated in Hamas's engagements with Russia and been a part of Hamas delegations to other countries. Naim also holds a leadership role on Hamas's Council on International Relations.

Ghazi Hamad (Hamad) is a long-time Gaza-based Hamas leader who served as the editor of Hamas propaganda outlets and is authorized to speak publicly on behalf of Hamas. In addition to these public facing and propaganda roles, Hamad previously served as a Hamas senior official overseeing border crossings at Gaza. While these border crossings were one of the primary ways Hamas smuggled weapons into Gaza, these crossings were also used to smuggle the construction equipment and materials Hamas needed to build an extensive tunnel network they intentionally interspersed among Palestinian civilians.

OFAC is designating Ghanimat, Akari, Mari, Nazzal, Naim, and Hamad pursuant to E.O. 13224, as amended, for having acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, Hamas, a person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to E.O. 13224.

SANCTIONS IMPLICATIONS

As a result of today's action, all property and interests in property of the designated persons described above, and of any entities that are owned directly or indirectly, 50 percent or more by them, individually, or with other blocked persons, that are in the United States or in the possession or control of U.S. persons are blocked and must be reported to OFAC. Unless authorized by a general or specific license issued by OFAC, or exempt, OFAC's regulations generally prohibit all transactions by U.S. persons or within (or transiting) the United States that involve any property or interests in property of designated or otherwise blocked persons.

Dated 19th November, 2024



ST. KITTS BRANCH