

Medea Benjamin

Co-founder of CodePink and Global Exchange, political activist, and author

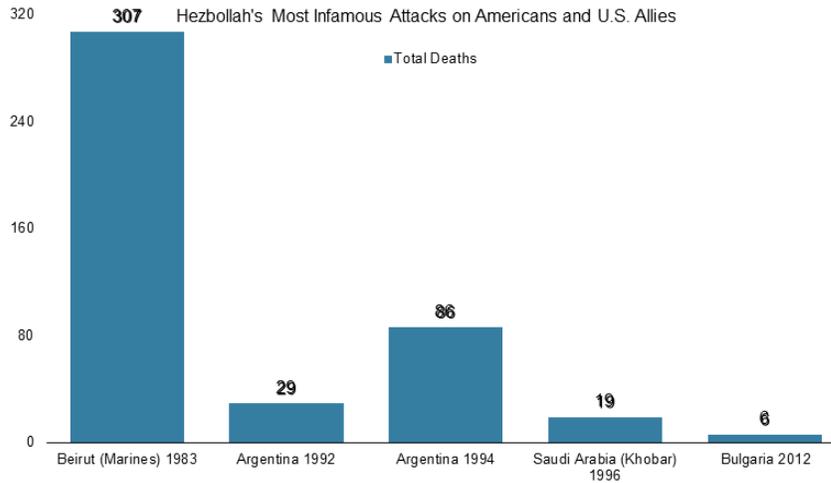
Medea Benjamin advocates for anti-Israel and anti-Palestinian policies while also demonizing the only Jewish state. She has collaborated on issues with Iran, the largest state sponsor of terrorism against the United States and its allies.

Benjamin supports policies that hurt both Israelis and Palestinian-Arabs, such as the BDS (Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions) movement.

- The BDS movement harms Palestinian-Arabs working in Israel by boycotting companies that employ them. **If BDS succeeds, roughly 100,000 Palestinian-Arabs will lose their jobs.**ⁱ
 - One example of this is with SodaStream, the Israeli company that moved its headquarters from Judea and Samaria (the “West Bank”) to the south of Israel. This BDS “victory” stripped hundreds of Palestinian-Arabs of their jobs.⁸
- In 2012, Palestinian-Arab exports to Israel comprised of 81 percent of total Palestinian-Arab exports. The Palestinian-Arab economy needs Israel, but BDS supporters want to destroy economic cooperation between the two sides.⁸
- Mahmoud Abbas, the leader of the Palestinian Authority, said in a 2013 interview that he did not support the boycott of Israel.ⁱⁱ
- Although Benjamin supports BDS, **her \$12 million charitable foundation has invested in Caterpillar**, one of the companies from which BDS calls to divest because of its enterprises in Israel.ⁱⁱⁱ

Benjamin participated in an anti-Semitic conference hosted by the Islamic Republic of Iran.

- In September of 2014, Benjamin attended a three-day conference in Iran, known as the New Horizon Conference, “to ‘discuss’ and ‘expose’ Zionist control of the film industry and the influence of the ‘Zionist lobby in America.’”⁴
- Others who attended the conference include:⁴
 - **French conspiracy theorist and Holocaust denier** Maria Poumier
 - **Anti-Semitic conspiracy theorist** Kevin Barrett
 - **9/11 conspiracy theorist** Art Olivier
 - **Italian Holocaust denier** Claudio Moffa
- The personal advisor to Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khamenei opened the conference by bragging that **the conference “is the biggest threat to Zionists,”** and that **‘American officials are puppets of the Zionist lobby who are taking advantage of American ignorance.’**^{iv}
- **Iran executes the most people per capita in the world.**^v
 - According to Amnesty International, Iran executed at least 743 people in 2014 alone.^{vi}
- **The U.S. State Department has classified Iran as the “most active state sponsor of terrorism.”**^{vii}
 - **Iran sponsors and supervises Hezbollah**, which has committed terrorist attacks against America and its allies for decades.
 - Hezbollah has committed some of the deadliest terrorist attacks in history. Below are just a few of Hezbollah’s terrorist actions against the U.S. and its allies:



- Hezbollah also fired thousands of rockets at Israeli Jewish and Arab civilians in 2006, killing 39 civilians, according to Human Rights Watch.^{viii} The UN considers firing rockets at civilians to be a war crime.
- The leader of Hezbollah, Hassan Nasrallah, said, **“If they [the Jews] all gather in Israel, it will save us the trouble of going after them worldwide.”**^{ix}

ⁱ *EU Survey: Palestinians working for Israelis are paid double those working for Palestinians in the West Bank and triple those in the Gaza Strip.* Itamar Marcus and Nan Jacques Zilberdik. Palestinian Media Watch. February 26, 2015.

ⁱⁱ *A Slap in the Face for Anti-Israel BDS Movement.* Khaled Abu Toameh. Gatestone Institute. December 17, 2013.

ⁱⁱⁱ *Major BDS Donor Owns Shares of Caterpillar While Campaigning to Divest the Stock to Punish Israel.* Joshua Levitt. The Algemeiner. April 11, 2014.

^{iv} *Iran New Horizon Conference Draws U.S. Anti-Semites, Holocaust Deniers.* Anti Defamation League. Oct. 1, 2014.

^v http://newhorizon.ir/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&id=34&Itemid=31

^v *US Execution Rate Pales in Comparison to Iran, China.* Daniel Tovrov. International Business Times. Sep. 21, 2011.

^{vi} *Death Sentences and Executions 2014.* Amnesty International. March 31, 2015.

^{vii} *Country Reports on Terrorism.* US Department of State. 2013.

^{viii} *Lebanon/ Israel: Hezbollah Rockets Targeted Civilians in 2006 War.* Human Rights Watch. August 29, 2007.

^{ix} *Nasrallah alleges 'Christian Zionist' Plot.* Badih Chayban. The Daily Star. October 23, 2002.