

31 July 2018

sara2772

Mr. Makropoulos Georgios

Deputy President of FIDE

Re: Boycotting Israel in the International Youth Chess Championship.

I have been sadly notified that the Tunisian Chess Association plans on preventing the participation of the 7 year old Israeli chess player in the International Championship .

This rather outrageous plan to boycott an Israeli competitor is contrary to the standard principle underlying any sports international championship. It is needless to state that Sports international competitions are based on the values of equal opportunity to all.

I believe that Sports should bring people of different nationalities together. Sports should serve as a bridge over troubled waters. I am greatly appalled by the intention to boycott a 7 year old Israeli chess player in a competition designed for members of the future generation. This biased and discriminatory plan sets a rather bad example for our children and our youth.

Therefore, I ask you, our dear friend, to follow IJF president, Mr. Marius Vizer's justified and brave decision to cancel the Grand Prix and Grand Slam in Tunisia and Abu Dhabi, Arab states which do not abide by the customary Sports Charter. Mr. Vizer's decision should set an example to all international sports associations .



Minister of Culture & Sport

Israeli sports competitors should not be banned. They should be given equal opportunity .

I thus ask you to make sure that immediate actions will be taken to stop this planned boycott and prejudiced decision against our representative .

We should all respect the spirit of the brotherhood of Mankind, underlying the Sports Charter .

Sincerely,

**Miri Regev
Minister of Culture and Sport**