

October 23, 2015

UNESCO Passes Anti-Israel Resolution, Members of Congress Condemn

On Oct. 21, the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) passed a resolution blaming Israel for the recent surge in violence in the Jewish state and falsely accusing it of violating the status quo on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem. The final vote included 27 countries in favor, six opposed and 25 abstentions. The United States, United Kingdom, Germany, Netherlands, Czech Republic and Estonia voted in opposition. The resolution was submitted by Egypt, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, Kuwait, and the United Arab Emirates on behalf of the Palestinian Authority. It originally contained a clause asserting that the Western Wall, among other things, should be part of the al-Aqsa Mosque. The clause was condemned by many, including UNESCO Dir. Gen. Irina Bokova, and was removed in the final version of the resolution. The Jewish members of the U.S. House of Representatives issued a joint statement denouncing "the continued false allegations against Israel."