

THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY

FROM:

Marco Rubio

Ma R. 3/15/2025

SUBJECT: (SBU) Determination of Deportability under Section 237(a)(4)(C) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA)

(SBU) I am writing to inform you that upon notification from the Department of Homeland Security's Homeland Security Investigations (DHS/ICE/HSI) on March 14, 2025, I have determined that Mohsen MAHDAWI (DOB: [REDACTED] 1990; POB: Israel), a U.S. Lawful Permanent Resident (LPR), is a deportable alien under INA section 237(a)(4)(C). I understand that ICE now intends to initiate removal charges against him, based on assurances from DHS/ICE/HSI.

(SBU) Under INA section 237(a)(4)(C)(i), an alien is deportable from the United States if the Secretary of State has reasonable ground to believe that the alien's presence or activities in the United States would have potentially serious adverse foreign policy consequences for the United States. Under INA section 237(a)(4)(C)(ii), for cases in which the basis for this determination is the alien's past, current, or expected beliefs, statements, or associations that are otherwise lawful, the Secretary of State must personally determine that the alien's presence or activities would compromise a compelling U.S. foreign policy interest.

(SBU) Pursuant to these authorities, I have determined that the activities and presence of this alien in the United States would have potentially serious adverse foreign policy consequences and would compromise a compelling U.S. foreign policy interest. These determinations are based on information provided by DHS/ICE/HSI that Mahdawi, through his leadership

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and involvement in disruptive protests at Columbia University, has engaged in anti-Semitic conduct through leading pro-Palestinian protests and calling for Israel's destruction. Mahdawi has been identified at those protests as having engaged in threatening rhetoric and intimidation of pro-Israeli bystanders. The activities and presence of Mahdawi in the United States undermines U.S. policy to combat anti-Semitism around the world and in the United States, in addition to efforts to protect Jewish students from harassment and violence in the United States. Under E.O. 14188, Additional Measures to Combat Anti-Semitism, it is the policy of the United States to combat antisemitism, using all available and appropriate legal tools to hold to account the perpetrators of unlawful anti-Semitic harassment and violence. Consistent with E.O. 14150, America First Policy Directive to the Secretary of State, the foreign policy of the United States champions core American interests and American citizens and condoning anti-Semitic conduct and disruptive protests in the United States would severely undermine that significant foreign policy objective. Moreover, protests of the type led by Mahdawi potentially undermine the peace process underway in the Middle East by reinforcing anti-Semitic sentiment in the regional and thereby threatening the U.S. foreign policy goal of peacefully resolving the Gaza conflict.

(SBU) The Department of State also requests the opportunity to consult with the Department of Homeland Security on any public statements regarding this determination.

(SBU) I hereby expressly authorize use of this notification by the Department of Homeland Security in immigration court.

Attachments

Tab 1 – DHS Letter on Mohsen Mahdawi

Tab 2 – HSI Subject Profile of Mohsen Mahdawi

Tab 3 – 8 USC 1227(a)(4)(C)

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