

**Dr Cochav Elkayam Levy, from the Davis Institute for International Relations at Hebrew University of Jerusalem - speaking at a demonstration outside the UN in New York on December 4, 2023**

We are at crucial moment in human history. Since Oct 7th I found myself in a position, I NEVER ASKED FOR MYSELF - To BE A VOICE to those who have remained voiceless, who have been silenced by unimaginable acts of violence.

My name is Dr Cochav Elkayam-Levy, and on the 8th day after Hamas's brutal terrorist attack 71i81 that instigated this war.

I established the civil commission on the crimes committed against women and children as more and more evidence of the gruesome crimes emerged.

I understood that we are witnessing a chapter in the history of humanity and of our people that will be torched in our souls for generations to come, and that needs to be documented.

It needs to be amplified NOT JUST FOR THE SAKE OF WOMEN IN ISRAEL, but for ALL WOMEN around the WORLD so no woman will ever bear the pain of the weaponization of our bodies.

But to my deep surprise and sorrow, despite our pleas and the fact that this terrorist attack was broadcasted live to the world by Hamas, UN organizations and global institutes failed to recognize what happened. For weeks after, it was as if 7th of October disappeared from time itself. As if we live on another planet of agony and sorrow.

Israeli women are all subject of a collective international denial the same one inflicted on individual sexual violence victims - QUESTIONING and DE-LEGITIMIZING their experiences. setting the FEMINIST and HUMAN RIGHTS movements DECADES BACK!

SILENCE and INACTION from those who are SUPPOSED TO PROTECT WOMEN in war, Sets the tone for the rest of the world to be silent.

This is more than just indifference. It is being an ACTIVE CONTRIBUTOR to the growing tide of ANTI-SEMITISM sweeping across the globe.

When the institutions that are globally mandated to protect women Stay silent - not only international law loses meaning, humanity sacred values lose meaning The legitimacy of these global institutions should be doubted. Decades of work done to protect universal values, are compromised.

This deafening silence raises the haunting questions: Are Israeli women protected under international law? Are Israeli women even human?

I WILL NOT STAND BY to see the destruction of everything we as women, as human beings, as human right activists, have fought so hard for.

WE WILL NOT LET THEM take it away from us Women's rights exist beyond any law- no one can grant them or take them away from us. I even have to say this: The international system requires radical transformation.

I Believe all women. We believe all women.

Wherever they are and regardless of context and we will not stop until justice is served and victims voices are heard.

THEY DESERVE MORE HUMANITY DESERVES MORE!