

Il criminale di guerra ricercato Benjamin Netanyahu si rivolge al Congresso

M mondoweiss-net.translate.google.com/2024/07/wanted-war-criminal-benjamin-netanyahu-addresses-congress

Michael Arria

July 24, 2024

Mercoledì Benjamin Netanyahu è intervenuto in una riunione congiunta del Congresso nel tentativo di rafforzare il sostegno al brutale attacco del suo paese a Gaza, durato 10 mesi. La visita del primo ministro israeliano negli Stati Uniti avviene in un contesto di tumulto politico, poiché il candidato presidenziale repubblicano Donald Trump è sopravvissuto per un pelo a un tentativo di omicidio meno di due settimane fa e il presidente Joe Biden ha recentemente annunciato che si ritirerà dalla corsa al 2024.

Era la quarta volta che Netanyahu si rivolgeva al Congresso, il massimo per qualsiasi leader mondiale nella storia degli Stati Uniti. Netanyahu è stato invitato a parlare al Congresso dal presidente della Camera Mike Johnson (R-LA).

In un discorso infuocato e provocatorio Netanyahu ha difeso le azioni genocide di Israele a Gaza, ha messo in guardia da una presunta minaccia nucleare da parte dell'Iran e ha invitato i legislatori ad abbracciare la relazione speciale tra Stati Uniti e Israele.





"Ci incontriamo oggi ad un bivio della storia", ha detto ai partecipanti. "Il nostro mondo è in subbuglio. In Medio Oriente, l'asse del terrore iraniano si confronta con l'America, Israele e i nostri amici arabi. Questo non è uno scontro di civiltà. È uno scontro tra barbarie e civiltà. È uno scontro tra chi glorifica la morte e chi santifica la vita affinché le forze della civiltà trionfino. America e Israele devono restare uniti".

"America e Israele devono restare uniti. Quando stiamo insieme succede qualcosa di veramente semplice: noi vinciamo, loro perdono", ha aggiunto.

Il Primo Ministro ha anche presentato vaghi piani per il dopoguerra, sostenendo che "una nuova Gaza potrebbe emergere", dopo che Israele avrà sconfitto Hamas. Ha insistito sul fatto che il suo governo non ha intenzione di "reinsediare" Gaza, ma ha promesso di continuare ad attaccare Gaza fino a quando non sarà ottenuta una "vittoria totale".

Le decine di migliaia di persone che in tutto il mondo hanno protestato contro la guerra genocida di Israele sono state denigrate come "utili idioti dell'Iran" nel discorso. La linea è stata accolta da una delle tante standing ovation.

Un criminale di guerra responsabile di un genocidio condanna i cittadini americani che protestano contro di lui. Afferma di sostenere "l'impiccagione dei gay dalle gru" e di essere "utili idioti dell'Iran" pic.twitter.com/xDy5jUGju1

- The Serfs (@theserfstv) [24 luglio 2024](#)

Proteste

Migliaia di persone sono scese nelle strade di Washington per protestare contro il discorso.

The actions were kicked off Tuesday night when more than 300 people were arrested during a protest at the Cannon House Office Building, organized by Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP).

⚠️⚠️⚠️ 300+ ARRESTS HAPPENING NOW INSIDE CONGRESS: HUNDREDS OF JEWS AND ALLIES ARE GETTING ARRESTED FOR DEMANDING OUR GOVERNMENT STOP ARMING ISRAEL. CEASEFIRE NOW — END THE PALESTINIAN GENOCIDE. pic.twitter.com/PvthT4vfCu

— Jewish Voice for Peace (@jvplive) [July 23, 2024](#)

“It is utterly shameful that U.S. lawmakers would invite war criminal Netanyahu to address Congress. We are hundreds of American Jews calling on our elected leaders to stop funding and fueling this genocide,” said JVP Communications Director Sonya Meyerson-Knox.

"Shame on you! Shame! Baby killer!"

Netanyahu's motorcade greeted by protests this morning on its way to today's meetings in DC. Arrest this war criminal! pic.twitter.com/CVKCvKDbcw

— Medea Benjamin (@medeabenjamin) [July 24, 2024](#)

Netanyahu's motorcade was forced to reroute after protesters blocked streets around the Capitol by locking arms while holding a banner reading, "STOP ARMING ISRAEL."

!!RIGHT NOW: Protestors take over the intersections along the route where war criminal Benjamin Netanyahu is taking to the Capitol to address Congress!
[#ArrestNetanyahu](#) pic.twitter.com/bb2MaY3oOb

— ANSWER Coalition (@answercoalition) [July 24, 2024](#)

Calls for Netanyahu to be arrested were a consistent feature of the protests.

The International Criminal Court is currently seeking warrants for the Israeli Prime Minister, Defense Minister Yoav Gallant, Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh, Hamas leader Yihya Sinwar, and Hamas military leader Mohammed Deif over possible crimes against humanity.

Activists and politicians have also used the moment to highlight the need for a U.S. arms embargo. Palestine solidarity activists have been calling for an end to U.S. weapons shipments for years, and this week organizers with the Uncommitted Movement launched a 4-week push based around that specific demand.

The Not Another Bomb campaign hopes to pressure delegates to back the effort at the Democratic National Convention next month. They are circulating a petition that calls on Vice President and presumptive Democratic presidential nominee Kamala Harris to embrace the the embargo.

<https://t.co/bvBbbk4tVR>

— Uncommitted National Movement (@uncommittedmvmnt) July 24, 2024

“Adopting an arms embargo against Israel’s assault on Gaza is not only a moral imperative but also a strategic move to defeat Trump and MAGA extremism. It is difficult for the Democratic candidate to champion democracy while arming Netanyahu’s authoritarian regime,” it reads. “Supporting Israel’s war on Gaza undermines our fight against MAGA extremism and contradicts our core values of human rights and justice. By taking a strong stand against Netanyahu’s authoritarian policies, the Biden-Harris administration can unify the Democratic Party and regain the trust of key voter bases, including young people, Arabs, and Muslims.”

Harris skipped Netanyahu’s congressional address over a previous engagement in Indianapolis (a move that Israeli officials called “disappointing”), but is scheduled to attend meet with him on Thursday, as is President Biden.

Family members of Israeli prisoners were arrested outside the speech while wearing t-shirts that read, “SEAL THE DEAL NOW,” a call for the Netanyahu government to negotiate a hostage deal with Hamas.

בזמן נאום נתניהו בקונגרס: משטרת הקונגרס עצרה שלושה מבני משפחות החטופים שהגיעו עם Seal The Deal Now"@AmichaiStein1 pic.twitter.com/2RG43PVDb4" חולצה שנתב עליה

— כאן חדשות (@kann_news) July 24, 2024

Lawmakers Boycott Speech

About half of Congress skipped Netanyahu’s speech, including House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) and former House Majority Whip Jim Clyburn (D-SC).

Some, like Harris, cited scheduling conflicts while others said they were boycotting the address over Gaza.

“No, Netanyahu should not be welcomed into the U.S. Congress,” tweeted Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-VT). “On the contrary, his policies in Gaza and the West Bank and his refusal to support a two-state solution should be roundly condemned.”

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As I stated last month, I will not be attending his address. pic.twitter.com/sM8NKt1Bu2

— Bernie Sanders (@SenSanders) July 22, 2024

“By bestowing Prime Minister Netanyahu with a joint address, Congress is not only continuing to green-light genocide; it is actively celebrating the man at the forefront of that genocide,” said Rep. Cori Bush (D-MO). “Instead of platforming a war criminal, Congress should be imposing an arms embargo and using its leverage to force Netanyahu to end the bombing and bloodshed that has already killed over 39,000 Palestinians and failed to ensure the safe release of the vast majority of hostages, all while decimating schools, hospitals, homes, and humanitarian convoys.”

“Years from now this body will be ashamed of its actions,” declared Rep. Summer Lee (D-PA) in a speech on the House floor.

History will judge us poorly for welcoming Netanyahu to Congress with open arms as he commits war crimes in Gaza. pic.twitter.com/4ofVhIKyNy

— Rep. Summer Lee (@RepSummerLee) July 24, 2024

“Today Congress will undertake political theater on behalf of the State Department,” wrote Rep. Thomas Massie (R-KY). “The purpose of having Netanyahu address Congress is to bolster his political standing in Israel and to quell int’l opposition to his war. I don’t feel like being a prop so I won’t be attending.”

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— Thomas Massie (@RepThomasMassie) July 24, 2024

Rep. Rashida Tlaib (D-MI), the only Palestinian-American member of Congress, attended the speech but held up a sign while many of her colleagues applauded Netanyahu's comments. One of side of Tlaib sign read, "GUILTY OF GENOCIDE" and the other said, "WAR CRIMINAL."

Tlaib holding up a sign pic.twitter.com/MyNaF3lJm9

— Acyn (@Acyn) [July 24, 2024](#)

"Make no mistake: this event is a celebration of the ethnic cleansing of Palestinians. It is a sad day for our democracy when my colleagues will smile for a photo op with a man who is actively committing genocide," said Tlaib in a statement before the speech. "It is hypocritical to claim to be concerned about the massive death toll of innocent civilians, and then turn around and welcome the person responsible for these war crimes to our Capitol. Their silence is betrayal, and history will remember them accordingly. Our government must stop supporting and funding this genocide now."

Over 100 Congressional interns boycotted the speech in a coordinated sick-out.

"In an act of protest, many of us have pledged to call in sick today, the day of Netanyahu's address," reads a statement from boycott participants. "We stand in full solidarity with the victims of Netanyahu's actions. We call on all members of Congress to boycott the address and take a unified stand against what we believe is a 'universal evil.' We urge our representatives to respond to the collective will of the American people and reject any semblance of endorsement of Netanyahu's actions."

100+ congress interns are boycotting Netanyahu's address today, citing constituent demands.

"The overwhelming demand is clear: Prime Minister Netanyahu must be held accountable for his crimes against humanity. It is our moral obligation to ensure these voices are not silenced." pic.twitter.com/guVD9asBGK

— Prem Thakker (@prem_thakker) [24 luglio 2024](#)

"La cosa più importante che dovresti sapere: nel 2015, circa 50 democratici al Congresso hanno boicottato il discorso di Netanyahu al Congresso", ha sottolineato su Twitter lo stratega democratico Waleed Shahid. "Oggi c'erano 136 democratici. Netanyahu e l'AIPAC stanno perdendo il Partito Democratico".

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— Waleed Shahid (@_waleedshahid) 24 luglio 2024

La rivista medica britannica *The Lancet* stima che dallo scorso ottobre Israele abbia già ucciso più di 186.000 palestinesi.