

"ADL has long advocated for the humane and viable solution to difficult challenge of African asylum seekers and migrants in Israel which has been at the center of a heated public debate in Israel. Our involvement on this issue is guided both by our unwavering commitment to the well-being and security of Israel, as well as by our Jewish values and our historic experience as refugees ourselves.

"We are therefore greatly troubled by the reported Israeli government plan to deport tens of thousands of African asylum seekers from Israel, either by coercion or through force. We urge that the safety and dignity of those seeing refuge be assured.

"There are reports that indicate that those asylum seekers who previously left Israel have been unable to return safely to their home countries, and many have encountered violence and inhumane living conditions in countries they have sought refuge in. Those forced to leave Israel under the current Israeli government plan will likely face similar conditions and challenges.

"We urge the Israeli government to refrain from implementing this plan, and instead focus on finding a more appropriate and humane solution to this issue."