



Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Center
FOR HOLOCAUST STUDIES

NEWS RELEASE

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SAY "NO" TO POLITICAL FOOTBALL, SAYS FRIENDS OF SIMON WIESENTHAL CENTER

TORONTO, APRIL 27, 2006.....Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Center for Holocaust Studies today called on Canada's sports organizations to urge the German government to ban Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad from attending the World Cup games in Berlin this June.

Said Director of National Affairs, Leo Adler, "We understand that no German political party supports or approves the Iranian president's position that Israel should be 'wiped off the map of the earth'"

Adler added, "The Center believes that to allow the Iranian leader to be present at the World Cup would be reminiscent of the Nazi leaders attending the 1936 Olympics and would disgrace the memories of Holocaust victims the world over."

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ABOUT FRIENDS OF SIMON WIESENTHAL CENTER FOR HOLOCAUST STUDIES

Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Center for Holocaust Studies is a Canadian human rights organization dedicated to fostering tolerance and understanding through community involvement, educational outreach and social action. With over 40,000 members of all faiths, it confronts important contemporary issues including racism, anti-Semitism, terrorism and genocide. Friends is affiliated with the world-wide, Los Angeles-based Simon Wiesenthal Center, an accredited Non-Government Organization with status at international agencies, including the United Nations, UNESCO, OSCE and the Council of Europe, with offices in New York, Miami, Paris, Jerusalem, BuenosAires, and Toronto. Simon Wiesenthal died in 2005 after devoting his life to preserving the memories of the victims of the Holocaust, while simultaneously seeking justice for the war criminals.