

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8236

To direct the Secretary of the Treasury to list the Council on American-Islamic Relations and its chapter affiliates as Specially Designated Global Terrorists, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 9, 2026

Mr. ROY (for himself, Mr. OGLES, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, and Mr. NORMAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Treasury to list the Council on American-Islamic Relations and its chapter affiliates as Specially Designated Global Terrorists, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Designating Hamas
5 Affiliates in America Act of 2026”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) The Council on American-Islamic Relations
4 (CAIR) was named as an unindicted co-conspirator
5 in the 2007 Holy Land Foundation terrorism financ-
6 ing trial. On appeal, U.S. District Court Judge
7 Jorge Solis upheld CAIR’s co-conspirator status and
8 ruled that the Department of Justice “produced
9 ample evidence” of CAIR’s association with Hamas.
10 Hamas is a U.S. designated terrorist organization
11 established with the stated goal to destroy Israel and
12 eradicate the Jewish people. On October 7, 2023,
13 Hamas terrorists invaded Israel and systematically
14 raped, tortured, and killed innocent civilians, leading
15 to a death toll of over 1,200 people, including Amer-
16 icans and other nationals, while taking over 240 hos-
17 tages.

18 (2) During the Holy Land Foundation trial, the
19 largest terror finance case in U.S. history, prosecu-
20 tors revealed that CAIR’s founders, Nihad Awad
21 and Omar Ahmad, were part of the Islamic Associa-
22 tion of Palestine, a Hamas propaganda front that
23 raised money for the Holy Land Foundation charity.
24 FBI wiretaps revealed that both men were present
25 at a 1993 meeting in Philadelphia, where Hamas
26 supporters discussed the need to establish a new

1 Hamas front that could disguise its links to ter-
2 rorism.

3 (3) CAIR was founded a year after the Phila-
4 delphia meeting with seed money from the Holy
5 Land Foundation charity and permission from
6 Egyptian Muslim Brotherhood officials.

7 (4) The U.S. Treasury Department listed the
8 Holy Land Foundation as a Specially Designated
9 Global Terrorist, and the charity's senior leaders
10 were found guilty of funneling more than \$12 mil-
11 lion to Hamas. Ghassan Elashi, a founding member
12 of CAIR's Texas chapter, was found guilty in 2009
13 of money laundering, tax fraud, and providing mate-
14 rial support to a designated foreign terrorist organi-
15 zation and sentenced to 65 years in prison.

16 (5) Ghassan Elashi is one of seven CAIR offi-
17 cials arrested, convicted, or deported for terrorism-
18 related crimes, including:

19 (A) Muthanna al-Hanooti, the founder and
20 director of CAIR-Michigan, was convicted in
21 2011 of violating U.S. sanctions against Iraq
22 when he secured the rights to 2 million barrels
23 of oil in exchange for assisting the Iraqi Gov-
24 ernment under Saddam Hussein.

1 (B) Nabil Sadoun, a former Dallas resi-
2 dent and CAIR board member, was deported to
3 Jordan in 2010 and denied re-entry after the
4 U.S. Government alleged that he lied on natu-
5 ralization documents when he denied member-
6 ship with Hamas and the Muslim Brotherhood.

7 (C) Randall Todd (Ismail) Royer, a CAIR
8 communications specialist and civil rights coor-
9 dinator who trained with Lashkar-e-Taiba, an
10 Al Qaeda-linked terrorist group, was indicted
11 on charges of assisting Al Qaeda in the
12 Taliban's jihadist war against American troops
13 in Afghanistan and sentenced to 20 years in
14 prison on April 9, 2004.

15 (D) Abdurahman Alamoudi, the director of
16 CAIR-Northern Virginia, was sentenced in
17 2004 to 23-years in prison on terrorism-related
18 financial and conspiracy charges, including his
19 role in a Libyan government plot to assassinate
20 the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia.

21 (E) Bassem Khafagi, CAIR's former com-
22 munity affairs director, who pleaded guilty in
23 September 2003 to three Federal counts of visa
24 and bank fraud and was deported to Egypt
25 after he funneled money to support terrorist ac-

1 tivities and published materials advocating for
2 suicide bombings.

3 (F) Rabih Haddad, a Michigan-based
4 CAIR fundraiser, was arrested on terrorism-re-
5 lated charges and deported in 2003 for his
6 work as the Executive Director of the Global
7 Relief Foundation, a charity that was shut
8 down and listed as a Specially Designated Glob-
9 al Terrorist in October 2002 for providing sup-
10 port to Osama Bin Laden, Al Qaeda, and other
11 terrorist groups.

12 (6) The Governors of Texas and Florida have
13 issued executive orders designating CAIR as a ter-
14 rorist organization under state law. Multiple State
15 Legislatures, including Arkansas, Florida, and Lou-
16 isiana, have passed resolutions urging state agencies
17 and law enforcement to suspend contact with CAIR
18 due to its alleged affiliations with terrorist groups.

19 (7) The United Arab Emirates, a close Middle
20 Eastern ally, designated CAIR as a terrorist entity
21 in 2014 over its alleged links to the Muslim Brother-
22 hood and Hamas.

23 (8) The Federal Bureau of Investigation has
24 suspended all non-investigative contacts with CAIR

1 due to evidence demonstrating a relationship be-
2 tween CAIR and Hamas.

3 (9) The Anti-Defamation League, a respected
4 Jewish rights group, maintains that “key CAIR
5 leaders often traffic in openly antisemitic and anti-
6 Zionist rhetoric.” In 2019, 61 Jewish and pro-Israel
7 organizations endorsed a report referring to CAIR
8 as “a leading voice” in the antisemitic boycott cam-
9 paign targeting Israel.

10 (10) Hospitality providers in several states, in-
11 cluding Arizona, Florida, Maryland, Pennsylvania,
12 and Virginia, have canceled hotel conferences hosted
13 by CAIR and its partners, citing public opposition
14 and reputational risks associated with CAIR and its
15 scheduled speakers. In February 2024, U.S. Rep-
16 resentative Summer Lee withdrew from a CAIR
17 fundraiser in Philadelphia after facing an intense
18 backlash related to other speakers’ antisemitic and
19 homophobic comments.

20 (11) The Biden Administration publicly dis-
21 avowed CAIR and ended its outreach with the non-
22 profit after Executive Director Nihad Awad told an
23 audience at a Palestine convention that he was
24 “happy to see” the October 7 terrorist attacks in
25 Israel.

1 (12) Zainab Chaudry, Executive Director of
2 CAIR-Maryland, was suspended from the state’s
3 Commission on Hate Crime Response and Preven-
4 tion for social media posts comparing Israel to Nazi
5 Germany and accusing Israelis of harvesting the
6 corpses of dead Palestinians. Chaudry’s replacement
7 on the hate crimes panel, Aymen Nasser—who was
8 also a member of CAIR’s Maryland chapter—was
9 forced to resign for antisemitic and homophobic so-
10 cial media posts. In response, the Maryland General
11 Assembly passed legislation banning private organi-
12 zations like CAIR from serving on the Commission.

13 (13) Zahra Billoo, the leader of CAIR’s San
14 Francisco Bay Area branch, publicly mourned the
15 death of Hamas commander Ismail Haniyeh fol-
16 lowing his July 31, 2024, assassination in the Ira-
17 nian capital of Tehran, declaring “his martyrdom is
18 not in vain.” During a 2021 speech to radical anti-
19 Israel activists, Billoo encouraged the audience to
20 “pay attention to the polite Zionists” and Jewish
21 community groups that seek to “break bread” with
22 their Muslim neighbors.

23 (14) Designating entities as Specially Des-
24 ignated Global Terrorists (SDGTs) under Executive
25 Order 13224 (September 23, 2001) allows the

1 United States to block assets and prohibit trans-
2 actions to disrupt terrorist financing and activities.

3 (15) Such designations are necessary to protect
4 national security interests by preventing support for
5 terrorism under the guise of civil rights advocacy.

6 **SEC. 3. DESIGNATION AS A SPECIALLY DESIGNATED GLOB-**
7 **AL TERRORIST.**

8 (a) DESIGNATION.—The Secretary of the Treasury,
9 in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Attor-
10 ney General, shall designate the Council on American-Is-
11 lamic Relations (hereinafter in this Act referred to as
12 “CAIR”), including all its chapters, affiliates, and succes-
13 sors, as a Specially Designated Global Terrorist pursuant
14 to section 1 of Executive Order 13224 (50 U.S.C. 1701
15 note; relating to blocking property and prohibiting trans-
16 actions with persons who commit, threaten to commit, or
17 support terrorism).

18 (b) ACTIONS REQUIRED.—Upon designation under
19 subsection (a)—

20 (1) all assets of CAIR within the jurisdiction of
21 the United States shall be blocked;

22 (2) no United States person (as defined in sec-
23 tion 594.315 of title 31, Code of Federal Regula-
24 tions (or any corresponding similar regulation or rul-
25 ing)) may engage in any transaction with CAIR; and

1 (3) CAIR shall be added to the Specially Des-
2 ignated Nationals and Blocked Persons List main-
3 tained by the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the
4 Department of the Treasury.

5 (c) REVOCATION OF TAX-EXEMPT STATUS.—Pursu-
6 ant to section 501(p) of the Internal Revenue Code of
7 1986 (26 U.S.C. 501(p)), the Secretary of the Treasury
8 shall suspend the tax-exempt status under section
9 501(c)(3) of such Code (26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3)) of CAIR,
10 including all its chapters and affiliates.

11 **SEC. 4. REPORT TO CONGRESS.**

12 (a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 30 days
13 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
14 of State and the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation
15 with the Attorney General, shall submit to the appropriate
16 committees of Congress—

17 (1) a detailed report of CAIR, including the cri-
18 teria met for designation as a Specially Designated
19 Global Terrorist set forth in U.S. Executive Order
20 13224; and

21 (2) If the Secretary determines that CAIR does
22 not meet the criteria set forth under such Specially
23 Designated Global Terrorist pursuant to Executive
24 Order 13224, a detailed justification as to which cri-
25 teria have not been met.

1 (b) FORM.—The report required by subsection (a)
2 shall—

3 (1) be submitted in unclassified form, but may
4 include a classified annex; and

5 (2) be made available only in electronic form
6 and shall not be printed, except if a printed copy is
7 requested by an office of the legislative branch.

8 (c) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DE-
9 FINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate commit-
10 tees of Congress” means—

11 (1) the Committee on Armed Services, the
12 Committee on Financial Services, the Committee on
13 Foreign Affairs, the Committee on the Judiciary, the
14 Committee on Homeland Security, and the Perma-
15 nent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House
16 of Representatives; and

17 (2) the Committee on Armed Services, the
18 Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Af-
19 fairs, the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Com-
20 mittee on the Judiciary, the Committee on Home-
21 land Security and Governmental Affairs, and the Se-
22 lect Committee on Intelligence of the Senate.

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