

Jeremy Liebler, President of Zionist Federation of Australia, told New York Sun: “It is deeply concerning that these attacks were orchestrated by the Iranian regime and Australia has responded appropriately. The Jewish community is understandably shocked not just at this news but at the explosion of antisemitism we have experienced in Australia since 7 October.”

Mr. Liebler added that the Jewish community is “strong and resilient and have confidence that the overwhelming majority of Australians will see this for what it is – an attack on Australian values as much as it is an attack on the Jewish community.”

Lynda Rae Ben-Menashe, President, National Council of Jewish Women Australia, told New York Sun that the Jewish community in Australia is “not at all surprised that the IRGC is behind these attacks. Their decades’ long war against Jewish people and Israel, first came to international attention with the bombing of the Jewish community centre in Buenos Aires in 1994, which murdered 85 people and injured over 300.”

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“If our government had stamped out the hate speech and incitement to violence against Jewish Australians when it first appeared at the Sydney Opera House on October 9 we might have avoided nearly two years of escalating violence,” she said, adding that the government’s move to expel Iranian diplomats “is hugely significant.”

“It sends a strong signal to all those who wish to import the Islamic Regime’s human rights violations into Australia, including its hatred and violence towards Jews, women and the LGBTQ+ community, that the Australian government is now serious about stopping them.”

Foreign Minister, Penny Wong, said it was the first time since World War II that Australia expelled foreign diplomats.

“I know many Australians have family connections in Iran, but I urge any Australian who may be considering travelling to Iran, please do not do so. If you’re an Australian in Iran, leave now if it is safe to do so,” she said.



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### **JOTAM CONFINO**

Mr. Confino is a Middle East correspondent based in Israel. where he’s been covering the