

Nicholas Kristof of the New York Times, Middle East Expert and Moral Arbiter

by Hugh Fitzgerald



Just after the ceasefire in Gaza was declared, Nicholas Kristof, a New York Times columnist, who rivals his colleague Tom Friedman for the title of World's Greatest Authority, wrote an article blasting Israel for committing "war crimes" in its recent conflict with Hamas. Now the rebarbative Kristof has just written another piece on the Israel-Hamas war, a defense of what he wrote in that first article. Prof. Jerold Auerbach is not impressed. His response to Kristof is here: "New York Times Absurdities," [thus](#): **"The IDF is the most moral military force in the world."**

Kristof's column is titled "Were My Criticisms of Israel Fair?" The obvious answer is no. They fit comfortably within decades of Times hostility toward the idea, no less reality

[sic], of a thriving Jewish state in the Biblical homeland of the Jewish people.

Will Nicholas Kristof ever do the decent thing, study how very differently Hamas and the IDF treat the Palestinian civilians in Gaza, and dare to admit to his adoring audience that on the subject of Israel and its enemies he had been, and repeatedly, wrong?

Don't be silly.