December 01, 2019

For:

Fox International Fellowship

Yale University

Re: **Letter of Recommendation for a** **Postdoctoral Associate position with the Fox International Fellowship**

Dear Committee Members,

It is with great esteem and enthusiasm that I write to recommend Liram for a position with the Fox International Fellowship Program. I have known Liram for many years, and have had the pleasure of working with her as her Ph.D. dissertation advisor. Liram’s thoughtful and well-argued dissertation explores the inherent tension confronted by liberal democracies between the need to protect their citizens from terror and guerilla attacks and their obligation to preserve the fundamental freedom, civil rights and laws underpinning the democratic edifice.

Liram’s dissertation is interdisciplinary, drawing from the academic fields of security, morality, military history, military strategy, and international law. It contributes to the debate about the shift from now outmoded conventional warfare to the new type of combat confronting the world: asymmetrical warfare. Liram’s work compares the strategies used by three democracies to defeat the threat posed by terror and guerilla organizations. She then incorporates the key elements of these strategies into a comprehensive analytical framework that sheds fresh light on the political, moral, and legal dilemmas arising from asymmetric confrontations. The significant contribution of her work is its development of a universal moral and ethical code for democratic states fighting these terror and guerilla organizations. This original code functions as an operative instrument for defining realistic requirements that can help states maintain their military effectiveness while increasing the legitimacy of their actions in the eyes of the international community, both during and after combat.

Liram was awarded a prize for her unique research and contribution to the field of terrorism on behalf of the Inbar Fund and the IDF’s Intelligence Heritage and Commemoration Center.

In my opinion, the research Liram now intends to engage in, focusing on the moral and ethics dilemmas arising from different aspects of artificial intelligence is original and meaningful. The use of artificial intelligent systems, such as autonomous robots, in modern warfare raises numerous unsolved legal and ethical issues. There is still no universally agreed upon ethical set of rules or moral grounding that can be embedded in a "killer" robot and enable it to make moral decisions. Liram's drive to search for a basis for developing the necessary elements of such a code can make a real and important contribution to the field.

While she was previously a Fox Fellow, I witnessed her rapid progress, as well as her ever-increasing levels of quality and productivity. Clearly, her stay at Yale had a significantly advanced her ability to focus on her research on the conceptual and the operational levels, as well as her ability to access, study and analyze the available research material and to conduct meaningful interviews on the subject. Returning to Yale, this time as a Postdoctoral Associate, would prove immensely valuable to her research and would enable her to make further important contributions to the field. In addition, I am encouraging her wish to participate in the Technology and Ethics study group of Yale’s Interdisciplinary Center for Bioethics, as working within this group could prove very beneficial to her research.

I have followed Liram's growth, work and contribution to the IDC’s International Institute of Counter-Terrorism (ICT), and have had the pleasure of watching how she lectures in front of diverse audiences, as well as the pleasant and supportive way she guides BA and MA students. She has excellent analytical skills, an agreeable nature and open-minded acceptance of new ideas. All these make her a most worthy Postdoctoral Associate.

I have no doubt whatsoever that the Fox International Fellowship will benefit greatly from her research agenda and her outstanding personal qualities. She will undoubtedly serve the Fox Academic Director and the Program fellows well.

In 2018, I was appointed by the Prime Minister of Israel to lead a National Task Force to formulate Israel national artificial intelligence policy. In addition to this position, I also serve as the head of the Security Studies Program at Tel Aviv University, head of the Blavatnik Interdisciplinary Cyber Studies Centre and head of the Yuval Ne’eman Workshop for Science, Technology and Security. I would be happy to help you with any questions or requests for further information.

Sincerely,