Dear Martin,

Happy 2020, dear friend. May this year bring you and your family nothing but joy, health and success. I do hope we have the opportunity to catch up in person soon.

I am sure you heard about the recent statement by the chief prosecutor of the International Criminal Court suggesting that she has found a basis for investigating possible war crimes by Israel. I know that you know how baseless and hypocritical these claims are. And I know that you know that the IDF is among the most moral armies in the world, with leadership always taking humanitarian considerations into account during times of conflict.

Unfortunately, embroiled as we are in an information war, many leaders around the world do not share your knowledge. The ICC decision – as politically-motivated and baseless as it is - can still inflict significant damage on Israel’s international standing.

In the given context, I see particular value in the initiative currently being led by Israel’s Institute for National Security Studies to host a conference open to the public at large at The Hague. I thought you might be interested in hearing about it as well and might, perhaps, consider attending as a featured speaker.

In short, the purpose of the conference is to provide a forum for an honest discussion about war crimes and the principle of proportionality in international humanitarian law, from both academic and practical perspectives. The hope is that a forum of this nature will help set the record straight, and offer a glimpse of the real issues at hand to the benefit of political leaders and opinion-makers, in particular.

The conference, scheduled for XXX, will feature high profile speakers from academia, such as Prof. xx, and Prof. xxx. I am certain that your attendance as a keynote speaker would be offer a tremendous contribution to the success and overall impact of the conference, as well.

Would you consider it?

With your permission, I will ask the organizers to send further information and an official invitation to your office.

Warmest wishes,

Your partner by need, and friend by choice,