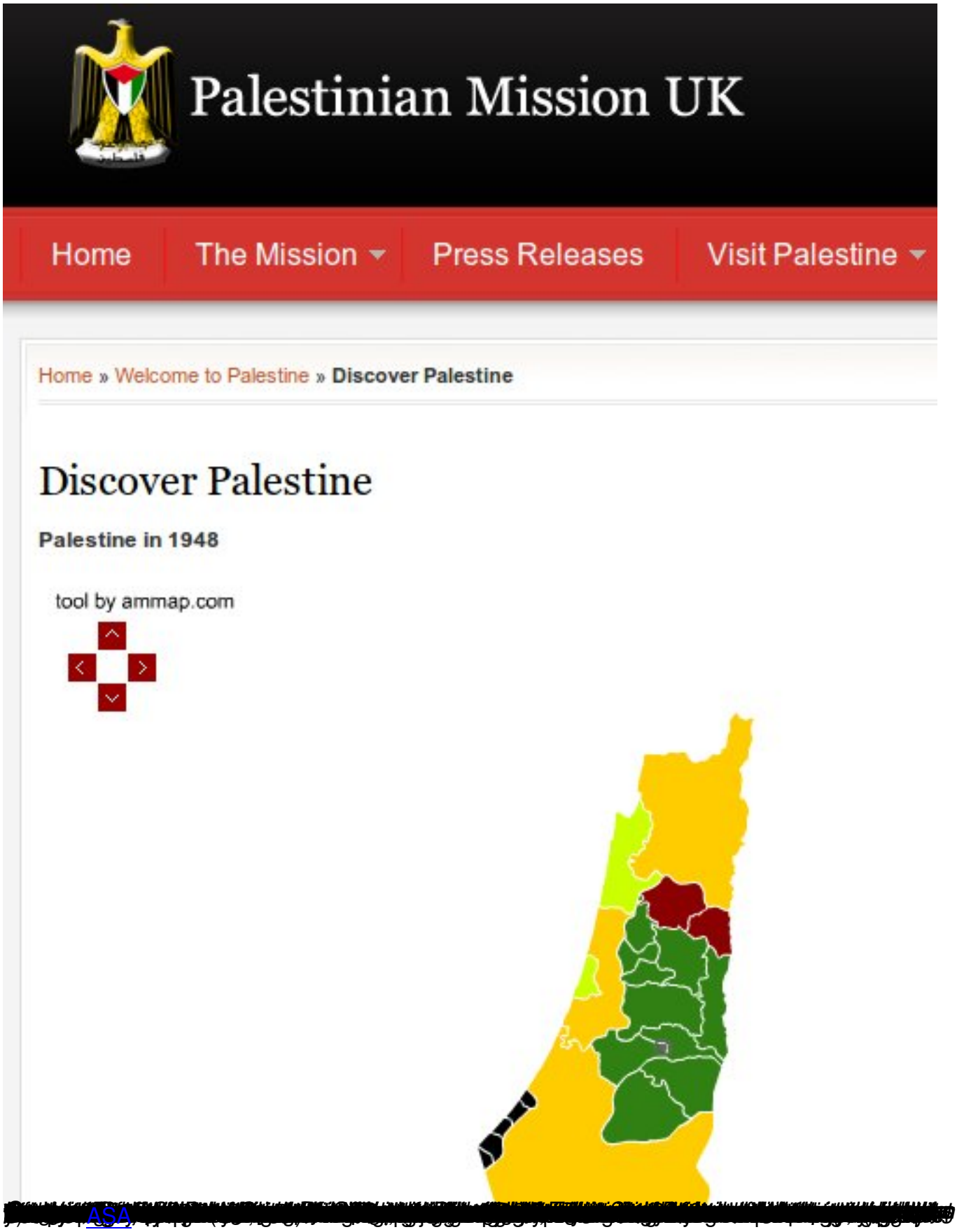
Well, nearly... Some of you may remember the crisis at the United Nations last year, when the Palestinian Authority formally submitted its request to be recognized as a fully fledged member of the UN General Assembly.

A string of South American countries had already formally recognized the state of 'Palestine' within the 1967 armistice lines, and European countries were lining up to enhance the status of their Palestinian delegations to that of 'diplomatic mission'. Even before they were afforded General Delegation status by the British government, the Palestinian delegation to the UK had already set up a website called ' Palestinian Embassy UK '. The front page of their website advocated the establishment of *"a peaceful Palestinian state with secure and internationally recognised borders encompassing the West Bank and Gaza with East Jerusalem as the Capital of Palestine"* . *A noble aspiration, as I noted at the time, but no mention of Israel's existence. And on another page of their website you could find a map of the state of 'Palestine', encompassing all of Israel, Judea, Samaria, Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip. The Jewish state was nowhere to be seen. Towns such as Jaffa and Haifa were described as 'Palestinian cities' that were militarily occupied by Israel in 1948. The entire region was coloured in black, red and green, the colours of the Palestinian Authority flag, as if to reinforce the idea that Israel has no claim to the land whatsoever.*

I sent an email to the British Foreign Office to complain about it at the time, as did I am sure many others also, but I didn't receive any response. No surprise there. But today I discovered that we have actually gained a minor victory. The Advertising Standards Authority , which was recently granted powers by the government to regulate advertisements on the internet, has ruled against the Palestinian delegation regarding the information that was presented on their website. The site has been renamed, 'Palestinian Mission UK', in keeping with their actual status in the United Kingdom. The black, red and green colours no longer obscure the entire area of Israel. Jaffa and Haifa are no longer described as being Palestinian cities militarily occupied by Israel in 1948.



[redacted] ASA [redacted]