

PALESTINE: TOWARDS THE END OF OCCUPATION, AN ESTABLISHMENT OF PEACE

ADOPTED AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF FEDERATION OF YOUNG EUROPEAN GREENS 1

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For almost three generations, Palestinians have lived in occupied territories where each day, more and more land and resources have been confiscated by settlers, and where the Palestinian inhabitants have endured constant humiliation and violation of their human rights. As the Israeli government continues to mistreat Palestinians and their culture and history, it is not an option to remain silent. At the very end of 2016, United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 was passed, demanding the end of Israeli settlement activity on Palestinian territory. Nevertheless, the Israeli government legalised 4000 houses of settlers in Palestine in February 2017. This FYEG resolution is not aimed to put an end to internal discussions on the Israeli-Palestinian peace process. Rather, we call for an increased effort to fight for equal treatment, security and freedom in the region. As long as the power dynamics are unequal, sustainable peace cannot be established. To create this equal playing field the steps that are presented in this resolution are needed. It is beyond the scope of this resolution to describe the full extent of all the steps that have to be taken to solve the conflict. We condemn all war crimes from both sides.

Daily, Israel infringes international treaties, including human rights law. Therefore, Israel should not be treated as a priority partner by the European Union. Association with the EU is not just based upon economic cooperation, but also upon the acceptance and adoption of common values. In particular, it is unacceptable for the EU to economically support a system of illegal military oppression and segregation. Many European states provide the Israeli regime with resources used against civilians and peaceful demonstrators, predominantly in the occupied West Bank.

As long as Israel does not comply with international law, the Federation of Young European Greens calls upon the EU, the governments of EU member states and other European states to:

- » end the EU-Israel association agreement;
- » prohibit the import into the EU of all Israeli goods and services coming from the occupied territories;
- » end all military cooperation with Israel as long as this does not threaten the security of its citizens. Among others: establish an arms embargo by prohibiting the exportation of weapon(system)s and all military equipment, police equipment and any other form of security related equipment to Israel;
- » promote divestment from public bodies so that companies that are participating in or supporting human rights abuses or war crimes are not being funded by public funds;
- » recognize the right of Palestinians to self determination

Furthermore, to offer a perspective of just peace and mutual prosperity for all peoples in both Palestine and Israel, we call upon the Israeli government and the international community to:

- » support the Palestinian desire for full UN membership;
- » lift the sea and land blockade on Gaza immediately. The inhabitants of Gaza have been deprived of their freedom of movement for more than ten years, and are unable to fulfil basic human needs and rights. Access to water, food, healthcare, education and housing is heavily restricted. As long as this blockade is in place, the population of the Gaza strip will never be able to recover from the heavy bombings of 2008-2009, 2012 and 2014. It will be hard to create goodwill among the 1.8 million people living in Gaza, of whom half are under 18, when the recent wars result in the usual water and food shortage. We are convinced that if peace is really the ultimate goal, this siege must be ended;
- » recognise the illegal situation resulting from the construction of the separation wall. Furthermore, we ask for the destruction of the wall actually built on Palestinian land. Israel is also under an obligation to repair all damage caused by the construction of the wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem;
- » dismantle the settlements and return the land to their rightful Palestinian owners, including those in East-Jerusalem, in accordance with UN resolutions 242, 252 and 446;
- » guarantee full human, civil and political rights for all, regardless of religion or ethnicity in both states;
- » abide by international treaties promoting peace and security, including, but not limited to, the Geneva Convention, the bans on nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, the ban on cluster munitions, and the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol:
- » negotiate a just and fair solution for the Palestinian refugees rightfully calling for their Right to Return, based upon international humanitarian law. Those who do not return will be compensated in a different way;
- » carry out multilateral negotiations to find a fair solution that enables a sustainable water policy for Syria, Lebanon, Israel, Palestine and Jordan;
- » respect the freedom of opinion and expression of parliamentarians, journalists, artists and all other civilians and to make sure that people are freely able to exercise these rights in a safe and respectful environment;
- » demand the release of all Palestinian political prisoners and Israeli (refuzniks) prisoners of conscience;
- » demand the release of all prisoners held under administrative detention, and urge the Israeli government to stop the use of this measure immediately. The right to fair trial is a fundamental right;
- » demand the release of all Palestinian children whose detention is contrary to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989);
- » condemn any violations of the status quo on Al Haram al Sharif (Arabic name), also known as Temple Mount (Jewish name), as enshrined by UNESCO (resolution 200 EX/ PX/DR.25.2 Rev.), and ensure that this is respected;.
- » call on the Israeli government to allow freedom of movement to all Israeli and Palestinian people's and to remove checkpoints preventing this freedom of movement.

