

Emergency Motion No 4: Sabotage of Irish Ship to Gaza

Conference condemns the covert and illegal acts of sabotage on the Irish ship to Gaza, MV Saoirse and other ships in Flotilla II as they prepared to breach the illegal Israeli blockade and to bring humanitarian aid to the people of Gaza living under conditions of siege and occupation.

Conference is appalled that the act of sabotage to MV Saoirse could have led to the loss of life of all those on board and comes just one year after the Israeli slaughter of nine human rights activists on board the Mavi Marmara.

Conference notes that under the UN Convention of the Sea any attempt to board the ship of another flag-state is considered a breach of that state's sovereignty. Consequently, we call on the Irish Government to act to address this breach of Ireland's sovereignty and the threat to Irish lives.

Conference notes the comments of Tánaiste and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Eamon Gilmore, when he told the Israeli Ambassador that "Israel must show all possible restraint and avoid any use of military force if attempting to uphold the naval blockade" Conference reminds the Irish Government that this Israeli blockade of Gaza is itself a breach of international law.

We now call on the Irish Government to:

- challenge this dangerous interference at the highest possible level in international fora, with the United Nations and the European Union and with Israel itself starting with the Israeli Ambassador to the Republic of Ireland,
- call for the expulsion of Israel from the OECD, and
- end the preferential EU trading agreements

TEEU

Unite

UNISON

NIPSA

Mandate

Impact

SIPTU