

# Congress Conference on Palestine Israel

The Way forward for  
Trade Union Solidarity



STRONGER TOGETHER

**CONGRESS**

Irish Congress of Trade Unions



## Background to Congress Policy

In 2005, the Biennial Delegate Conference of the ICTU passed a resolution mandating Congress to campaign in solidarity with the Palestinian people. Subsequently, Trade Union Friends of Palestine (TUFPP) was established in Northern Ireland in October 2006. It was subsequently organised in the Republic of Ireland and there is now a nationally coordinated TUFPP which promotes trade union solidarity.

In July 2007 the Biennial Delegate Conference of the Irish Congress of Trade Unions carried two resolutions

on the ongoing occupation of Palestine which reaffirmed Congress support for the Palestinian people and committed Congress to a series of actions and high level political interventions. These actions included visiting Israel and Palestine to assess the situation for workers and their trade unions, to build solidarity links with the labour movement in Israel and Palestine, to lobby the Irish Government and the EU Council of Ministers, and to endorse the trans-national economic boycott and divestment campaign.

At the July 2009 Biennial Delegate Conference, Congress endorsed the report of the November 2007 ICTU delegation visit to Palestine and Israel. In addition, we condemned Israel's military assault on the citizens, infrastructure, and places of refuge of Gaza between 27th December 2008 and 18th January 2009. Conference also registered its concern that to date the European Community, the Governments of the European Union and the EU Commission have failed to take effective action to sanction Israel for its actions. Finally we affirmed that 60 years of United Nations resolutions have not resulted in the necessary progress for Palestinians in the occupied territories in Gaza and the West Bank and that among the most effective action we can take in support of the Palestinian people is to assist in the mobilization of civil society behind the campaign for boycott, divestment and sanctions.



Patricia McKeown and Brendan Mackin lay a wreath at tomb of Yasser Arafat.

## Reasons for our support of BDS:

### (i) Settlement Policy:

Israel's continuing policy of building settlements in Palestinian territory is a violation of international law. In 2004, the International Court of Justice stated: *"Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, are illegal and an obstacle to peace and to economic and social development and have been established in breach of international law"*. These settlements are rightly classified by the United Nations as areas of military occupation. 20,000 Palestinian homes have been destroyed by Israel since 1967 and a segregated road system is used in the West Bank to carve it into Bantustans limiting free movement, free association and economic activity. Most recently, the Israeli Government announced the construction of 1,600 new Jewish homes in Occupied East Jerusalem during US Vice President Biden's visit in March 2010. This has provoked outrage from many quarters, including both Palestinian and Israeli human rights observers. Also, the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) has condemned (March 2010) the Israeli government's decision to build new settlement homes on Palestinian land just two days after the Palestinian Authority had announced its willingness to hold "proximity" talks with Israel using US mediation.

"This latest announcement by the government of Israel is a major setback for the prospects of renewed dialogue between Palestine and Israel, all the more so since it came immediately after an important move from the Palestinian side which we still hope can help kick-start the peace process," said ITUC General Secretary Guy Ryder.

### (II) The "Security Fence"

In June 2002, the government of Israel approved the first stage of a physical barrier designed to separate the West Bank and Israel, on the premise of halting suicide bombings against Israeli society. The eighteen foot concrete and barbed wire barrier "security

fence" has been described as the "apartheid wall". In 2004 the International Court of Justice (ICJ), the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, found that *"the construction of the wall being built by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and its associated régime, are contrary to international law"*. The wall is based on the expropriation of Palestinian land and the physical separation of communities. The ICJ condemned the building of the security wall on Palestinian territory, considered that *"it could well become permanent"* and was *"tantamount to de facto annexation"* and as such it severely impeded *"the exercise by the Palestinian people of its right to self determination"*. The Court called for its immediate demolition.

### (iii) Denial of livelihoods

Separate from incidences of land confiscation, official state policies deny full residency, farming, and transportation rights to Palestinians. The lack of access to domestic water and irrigation, compounded by a discriminatory planning permission regime, also make it impossible for Palestinians to forge a sustainable livelihood along the Wall and near to settlement areas where settler violence and a military presence is high. Other policies discriminate against Palestinians including restricted travel permits which make education and good employment opportunities difficult.

### (iii) Operation Cast Lead

The 2008/2009 assault on Gaza, forced the entire population of Gaza, already imprisoned by the illegal Israeli imposed siege, to endure intensive bombings of densely populated civilian areas as well as the bombing of ambulances, hospitals, schools, and UN compounds being used for refuge. At least 1400 Palestinians, including 400 children, were killed and 5000 wounded. 13 Israeli soldiers were killed. The UN Fact-Finding Mission, led by Justice Richard Goldstone, concluded that there is evidence indicating that serious violations of international human rights and humanitarian law were committed by Israel during the Gaza conflict, and that

Israel committed actions amounting to war crimes, and possibly crimes against humanity.

More damning evidence comes from Breaking the Silence, an organisation of veteran Israeli soldiers that collects testimonies of soldiers who served in the Occupied Territories. According to them, "Soldiers who serve in the Territories are witness to, and participate in military actions which change them immensely. Cases of abuse towards Palestinians, looting, and destruction of property have been the norm for years, but are still excused as military necessities, or explained as extreme and unique cases". Their testimonies detail a picture of questionable orders in many areas regarding Palestinian civilians including, the needless destruction of houses; firing phosphorous in populated areas and an atmosphere that encouraged shooting anywhere during Operation Cast Lead.

Physical damage to the social and economic infrastructure of Gaza during Operation Cast Lead has had far-reaching consequences for workers. The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs recorded the partial/full destruction of 700 private sector establishments, most of the damage being in the industry and trade sectors. However, Gaza's private sector has suffered more from the strict limitations on imports and near total banning of exports since June 2007. The Palestine Trade Centre (under the supervision of The World Bank) says "this has contributed to the closure of an estimated 95% of industrial establishments" and "approximately 94% of the private sector workforce has been laid off, a total of 120,000 workers". An estimated 85 %t of the population is now dependent on aid.

#### (iv) Working Conditions

Dangerous working conditions and breaches of health and safety have been documented in settlement industrial zones. These include cases where:

- Pesticide is sprayed without protective clothing;
- Faulty machinery and lack of training causes accidents;
- Sick pay is rarely given.

According to the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza Strip who work in Israel have the right to organise their own unions in Israel or to join Israeli trade unions. However, the Palestinian members of Histadrut may not elect, or be elected to, its leadership bodies. The Israeli government has issued an additional 5000 permits for Palestinian workers, of which 2000 are for the construction sector, but at the same time it brought in a special tax for Israeli construction firms who employ Palestinians. The declared purpose is to guarantee that the cost of employing Palestinian workers does not fall short of the cost of employing migrant workers. According to the ITUC, it is likely that these taxes will be taken out of the Palestinian workers' wages.

Palestinian workers are entitled to protection under Israeli collective bargaining agreements negotiated by the General Federation of Labour in Israel, Histadrut, in exchange for paying 0.80% of their wages to Histadrut (half of which the federation remits to the bank account of the Palestinian General Federation of Trade Unions (PGFTU)).

## The BDS Campaign

In July 2005, Palestinian civil society issued a call to the world to apply boycott, divestment and sanctions against Israel until it upheld international law. Signed by over 170 Palestinian coalitions, trade unions, refugee groups, human rights and social justice groups, in the occupied territories, within Israel, and in exile, this call is truly representative of the support that the Palestinian people believe they must have to vindicate their human rights.

Their call has also been taken up by a number of trade unions around the world. In this action, we note that we are joining among others the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), the Scottish Trade Union Congress (STUC), Central Única dos Trabalhadores (CUT) Brazil, the Belgium Trade Union FGTB Centrale Générale/ ABBV Algemene Centrale, the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), the Canadian Union of Postal



Members of 2007 Congress Delegation

Workers (CUPW), the Norwegian Electrical and IT Workers Union, the Metal and Electrical Workers Union of South Africa, the National Union of Journalists (NUJ) UK, the British Academic Union (UCU), UNISON UK, the Northern Ireland Public Services Alliance (NIPSA), and the Transport and General Workers Union (TGWU) in the UK. The TUC (UK) have also recently launched a boycott campaign against goods from illegal Israeli settlements.

In March 2009, a group of international civil society delegates meeting in Cairo during the Gaza Freedom March reaffirmed their commitment to the United Palestinian call of 2005 for Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) to compel Israel to comply with international law – the Cairo Declaration.

The Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions campaign against Israel is also supported by some Jewish organisations, including the International Jewish Anti Zionist network (IJAN) which encourages and supports participation of its members in local, national and international BDS campaigns.

## Parallels with the anti-apartheid movement

Apartheid in South Africa was weakened by a similar international movement for boycott, divestment and sanctions and it contributed to the fall of the apartheid regime. Despite the obvious differences between the two forms of oppression, the boycott movement against South Africa in the 1980s provides an inspiring model.

The parallel with Apartheid has been noted by Nelson Mandela, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, ex-President Jimmy Carter and a number of UN special rapporteurs. We also note the call of the former President of the UN General Assembly, Fr. Miguel d'Escoto Brockman, for a global response to the oppression of Palestinians along the lines of the non violent campaign of boycott, divestment and sanctions, which helped bring apartheid to an end.

**Archbishop Desmond Tutu after visiting the Holy Land declared that: “It reminded me so much of what happened to us black people in South Africa” and that he saw “the humiliation of the Palestinians at checkpoints and roadblocks, suffering like us when young white police officers prevented us from moving about”.**

## Are such actions anti-Semitic?

Some people argue that a Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions campaign against Israel is an expression of anti-Semitism. Nothing could be further from the truth. Congress utterly condemns anti-Semitism. Throughout our history there is a clear policy to actively work against racism, sectarianism and all kinds of oppression.

The 2009 Goldstone report concluded that there is some evidence that Palestinian armed groups also committed some war crimes in their repeated launching of rockets and mortars into Southern Israel. Congress condemns this violence, as well as some groups' previous use of suicide bombers. The 2007 Congress delegation report recognised that Israeli citizens have also suffered during the present conflict. They are also entitled to security and the right to life. We agree however with the numerous Israeli human rights groups, whose moral leadership and whose courage we greatly admire, that the violent response of the Israeli authorities – the control of movement, the destruction of homes and lands, the arrests and killings and the blockade of Gaza - amounts to a collective punishment of the entire Palestinian people and is therefore morally, politically and legally unjustifiable. Perhaps the greatest tragedy

of all is that those who have suffered so much seem to have become blinded to the suffering they have inflicted and continue to inflict upon another people.

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## Congress' BDS-campaign

It is our conclusion that 60 years of United Nations resolutions have not resulted in any progress for Palestinians in the occupied territories in Gaza and the West Bank. Only continued international pressure can make Israel cease its violations of international law and human rights. The Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions campaign seeks to apply such pressure.

Following this conference, we will produce popular materials for distribution among trade unionists and general public. These will include leaflets, briefing documents, campaign cards and posters. We will also train BDS-campaigners and facilitate local launches of the campaign. We will lobby enterprises, companies and the government and provide tools and information for consumers who wish to support us.

This campaign will enable people in Ireland to express their opposition to Israeli policy in the Occupied Territories against the Palestinians in their purchasing and political decisions. The campaign will also develop and encourage a greater awareness of organisations' investments and interests in companies which are supporting the occupation. Congress is particularly encouraging campaigns of disinvestment in companies associated with the occupation.

This campaign provides an excellent way of stimulating public debate, offers a focus for leafleting and discussion, as well as exerting moral and economic pressure on Israel to comply with international legislation and principles of justice. You can follow our work at: <http://www.ictu.ie/globalsolidarity/palestine/>

### Read more:

Appendix One – Congress Motions;  
Appendix Two: Call for BDS

## 79. Rights of Palestinian People (2005)

This Conference expresses its support for:

- the right to self-determination of the Palestinian people through the creation of a viable independent Palestinian state;
- the right of return for the Palestinian refugees under Article 13 (2) of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the territories occupied in 1967 based on United Nations Resolutions 242 and 338;
- the immediate cessation of the building of illegal settlements and the dismantling of settlements in the Occupied Territories as expressed in Resolution 465;
- the immediate dismantling of the wall currently under construction;
- the rights of all Palestinian workers including those working inside the state of Israel.
- an end to all random attacks, including suicide bombings inside Israel which are counter productive, killing and maiming innocent Israeli citizens including Palestinians living in Israel;
- a lasting solution for the people of the region, Arab, Jew and Christian with the removal of all ruling elites and the establishment of a socialist Israel along side a socialist and genuinely independent Palestinian State with mutually agreed borders and with all resources of the region shared on an equal basis.

This Conference believes that the achievement of these objectives will be the only way to ensure the establishment of peace in the area for all the peoples, including specifically the Palestinian people and the people of Israel. This Conference condemns the continuing use by the Israeli government of F16s, Apache helicopter gunships, Merkava Tanks, heavy artillery, roadblocks, checkpoints, collective punishments, assassinations and extra judicial detentions. We condemn the policies of the Israeli government whose Prime Minister Ariel Sharon continues to pursue a policy of ethnic cleansing against the Palestinian people. We note the inhuman impact on Palestinian daily life of Israeli Government actions

resulting in mass unemployment and underemployment; the destruction of the social and economic infrastructure; the destruction of farmlands including olive groves; the disruption of education and denial of access to health care facilities; the control of water; the emergence of malnutrition and the traumatising of the Palestinian people. We express our commitment to campaign in solidarity with the Palestinian people to achieve their legitimate demand for a viable independent Palestinian state. We believe that this objective can be achieved through a negotiated settlement conducted by a leadership of the Palestinian people decided upon by the Palestinian people.

Conference recognises that any settlement which allows for the continued occupation of land inside the so-called 1967 'green line' by the Israeli Defence Forces will result in the creation of a series of 'bantustans' equivalent to those created in South Africa during the apartheid era. Conference therefore endorses the call, made by Trade Union Friends of Palestine and the Palestine Solidarity Campaign in Britain, that political and economic sanctions be imposed on Israel until all IDF forces and illegal settlements are removed from the occupied territories.

### **Belfast & District Trades Union Council as amended by Northern Ireland Public Service Alliance**

## 70. Palestinian Solidarity (2007)

This ICTU BDC is outraged at the continued human rights abuses being suffered by the Palestinian people. In response to the destructive impact of the Israeli Governments actions on the daily life of Palestinians, and in pursuance of the existing ICTU policy to campaign in solidarity with the Palestinian people, this BDC calls on the ICTU to:

- a) Make direct representations to the European Council of Ministers to:

Challenge the withholding of EU funding for the Palestinian Authority.

Raise the EU's failure to meet its obligations under international law to oppose the illegal actions of the Israeli Government.

Call for the ending of the preferential trading status afforded to Israel under the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement.

- b) Seek meetings with the Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Irish EU Commissioner to raise our concerns around the issues raised in point A) above and to ask for their support.
- c) Make representations to the European TUC to organise a campaign around the issues raised in point a.
- d) To support and promote a boycott campaign of Israeli goods and services similar to the boycott of South African goods during the Apartheid regime. ICTU should work with affiliates, human rights and humanitarian relief organisations to promote such a campaign through a programme of educational activities and media campaigns.
- e) To support and promote a policy of divestment from Israeli companies as a means of encouraging the Israeli Government to comply with international law and to end the human rights violations of the Palestinians people. As part of this ICTU should encourage affiliates to apply and to campaign for a policy of ethical investment against Israeli companies and other companies who directly support the Israeli Government's occupation and destruction of Palestinian land and infrastructure.
- f) To strengthen solidarity links between the Irish, Palestinian and Israeli labour movements through exchange visits. ICTU should initially facilitate a trade union delegation to the Palestinian territories to encourage greater awareness of the situation. The BDC welcomes the establishment of the Trade Union Friends of Palestine in Northern Ireland and calls on ICTU to encourage the formation of a similar group in the Republic of Ireland. To facilitate this, the BDC also calls on ICTU to host a seminar to further develop trade union solidarity action.

#### **Belfast and District Trades Union Council**

## **71. Implementing ICTU Policy (2007) on Palestine**

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This ICTU Biennial Conference is outraged at the continued human rights abuses being suffered by the Palestinian people. We particularly note the following:

- the continued occupation and destruction of Palestinian lands and Palestinian homes in breach of the Geneva Convention and numerous United Nations resolutions;
- the continuation of mass arrests of torture and of extra-judicial killings;
- the horrific assaults on the population of Gaza – the frequent killings of civilians including on a mass scale as at Beit Hanun, or the family of Houda Galia wiped out as they sat on the beach, the enclosure of the people of Gaza with razor wire and electrified fences, where they are subjected to frequent invasion and constant surveillance – including the sinister unmanned drones targeting for bombing raids, or the over-flights of ear-shattering jet fighters;
- the deliberate and illegal destruction of civilian infrastructure including electricity and water supplies;
- the imposition of collective punishment, banned under international law, including the bulldozing of houses, the uprooting of ancient olive groves and destruction of industrial units;
- the policy of ethnic cleansing designed to make life unbearable for all Palestinians under both Israeli and Palestinian authority – the ongoing in-depth surveillance and control of the population including the forced division of families, and restrictions on free movement to deny them access to work, to education and to health-care, even in emergency situations such as childbirth;
- the enforced bankruptcy of the Palestinian Authority and the impoverishment of the Palestinian People by the withholding of tax revenues, the impositions on the free movement of finance; the blocking of Palestinian exports and the blocking of international support and grant aid;
- the continued building of the Apartheid Wall in defiance of the ruling of the International Court

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of Justice in the Hague, creating a series of 'Bantustans' in the West Bank, fracturing families and communities, depriving Palestinians of their most productive land and water supplies and effectively annexing East Jerusalem into

- Israeli territory;
- the continued building of illegal Israeli settlements in the West Bank, with the associated oppressive policing of the local population, the demolishing of Palestinian homes, the theft of land and water and the disruption of Palestinian infrastructure.

Conference also notes that the British and Irish Governments and the European Union have failed in their obligations under International Law – in terms of the Geneva Convention, the UN and the International Court – to challenge the activities of the Israeli Government. A reasonable response would be the imposition of political and economic sanctions. Instead it is the Palestinians who have been punished

by the withholding of grant aid, whilst the criminal actions of the Israeli State are further appeased by continuing to grant them preferential trading rights under Article 2 of the Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreement. Conference notes that the European Union is formally obligated under the human rights clause in Article 2 to suspend the trading privileges enjoyed by Israel as it is in breach of human rights. The litany of human rights abuses, atrocities and war crimes should long ago have led to the ending of the agreement – indeed the European Parliament has already on two separate occasions called on the Council of Ministers to take this action.

In pursuance of ICTU policy to campaign in solidarity with the Palestinian people, and in recognition of the depths of oppression being suffered by them, Conference authorises the Executive of ICTU to undertake the following:



Presentation from Congress Delegation to the PGFTU

- a) that the ICTU make direct representations to the European Council of Ministers to challenge the withholding of EU funding, and addressing the fact that the EU has failed in its obligations under international law to oppose the actions of Israel. ICTU also demands the ending of the preferential trading status enjoyed by Israel under the Euro-Med Agreement;
- b) that the ICTU could seek a meeting with the Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Irish EU Commissioner to express our grave concerns about these issues, specifically to address the illegality of the Israeli actions, and to call for an appropriate and effective response;
- c) that the representatives of ICTU raise these issues at the European TUC, and call upon concerted EU-wide trade union solidarity action to protest at the indifference of EU Governments, at the failure of the strategy of 'constructive engagement' with the State of Israel, and at what is effectively the appeasement of the Israeli aggression and territorial expansionism;
- d) to actively and vigorously promote a policy of divestment from Israeli companies recognising that it is one of the most effective ways to ensure that the Israeli Government is made aware of the extent of opposition to its crime against humanity. ICTU will encourage affiliates to apply a policy of ethical investment in terms of pension fund holdings, and seek to ensure that investments are therefore withdrawn from Israeli companies as well as companies such as Caterpillar and Irish Cement Holdings that directly support the Israeli occupation and destruction of Palestinian land. Affiliates will also be encouraged to use whatever influence they can bring to bear on employers in both the private and state sector to apply such a policy of ethical investment;
- e) to actively and vigorously promote a boycott of Israeli goods and services similar to the boycott of south African goods during the era of apartheid. ICTU will proactively support such a boycott policy by working with affiliates on a programme of educational activities, by a media campaign and by working alongside human rights and humanitarian relief organisations.;
- f) that the solidarity links between the Irish, Palestinian and Israeli labour movements be strengthened by a delegation of senior trade union leaders to the occupied areas. ICTU will also invite Palestinian trade union representatives to visit Ireland to encourage greater awareness of the situation in Palestine today, and to support the call for divestment, boycott and sanctions.
- g) that the implementation of ICTU policy be further strengthened by the formation of Trade Union Friends of Palestine groups in the Republic of Ireland to work alongside TUFFP in Northern Ireland. That ICTU hosts a TUFFP Conference, with invited international speakers, to further develop trade union solidarity action.

#### Derry Trades Council

#### 2009 Motion 70

This BDC welcomes and endorses the report of the visit of the ICTU delegation to Israel and Palestine in November 2007.

BDC commends the solidarity work of TUFFP, North and South.

BDC condemns Israel's criminal attack on the citizens and infrastructure of Gaza between 27th December 2008 and 18th January 2009, when the entire population of Gaza, already imprisoned by the illegal Israeli-imposed siege, was forced to endure intensive bombing of densely-populated civilian areas as well as the bombing of ambulances, hospitals, schools and UN compounds being used for refuge. We note that many civilians suffered devastating injuries from white phosphorus bombs and new types of weapons such as Dense Inert Metal Explosives (DIME). Over 1400 Palestinians, a large majority of them civilians, including more than 400 children, died as a result of this merciless military assault.

The assault on Gaza confirmed that Israel's oppression of the Palestinian people can be likened to the oppression of the black majority in South Africa under Apartheid. The parallel with Apartheid has been noted

12 by Nelson Mandela, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, ex- President Jimmy Carter, a number of UN Special Rapporteurs and many others of high standing in the world. We note the call of the current President of the UN General Assembly, Fr. Miguel d'Escoto Brockman, for a global response to the oppression of Palestinians along the lines of the non-violent campaign of boycott, divestment and sanctions which helped bring Apartheid to an end.

BDC registers its concern that, despite mass popular opposition to the brutality of the Israeli occupation across the European Community, the Governments of the EU and the EU Commission have failed to take effective action to sanction Israel.

### This BDC therefore:

1. Calls for the establishment of a War Crimes Tribunal to investigate Israel for crimes against humanity and breaches of the Fourth Geneva Convention and International Humanitarian Law during the assault on Gaza
2. Recognises that, in the absence of UN or Governmental intervention, the most effective action which it is open to us to take in support of the Palestinian people is to assist in the mobilisation of civil society behind the campaign for boycott and divestment. We note the statement, 'We are all Gazans', issued by the PGFTU in the midst of the Gaza massacre, calling for 'support and encouragement for Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) against Israel'. We note that this call was directed to all sister labour unions world-wide, and particularly to unions and union federations in Europe and the USA. Accordingly, this BDC calls for adequate officer time to be allocated to the implementation of the current strategy
3. Calls for the recommendations of the delegation report published last year to be implemented in full

**Proposing Union : Derry Trades Union Council**

## Boycott Divestment Sanctions

The Palestinian Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions National Committee (BNC) is a wide coalition of the largest Palestinian mass organisations, trade unions, networks and organisations. Member organisations:

- Council of National and Islamic Forces in Palestine
- General Union of Palestinian Workers
- Palestinian General Federation of Trade Unions
- Palestinian NGO Network (PNGO)
- Palestinian National Institute for NGOs
- Federation of Independent Trade Union
- Palestine Right of Return Coalition
- Occupied Palestine and Golan Heights Initiative
- General Union of Palestinian Women
- Union of Palestinian Farmers
- Grassroots Palestinian Anti-Apartheid Wall Campaign (STW)
- The National Committee for Popular Resistance
- Palestinian Campaign for the Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel (PACBI)
- National Committee to Commemorate the Nakba
- Civic Coalition for the Defense of Palestinian Rights in Jerusalem (CCDPRJ)
- Coalition for Jerusalem
- Union of Palestinian Charitable Organisations
- Palestinian Economic Monitor
- Union of Youth Activity Centers
- Palestine Refugee Camps

Web: [www.bdsmovement.net](http://www.bdsmovement.net)

E-mail: [info@bdsmovement.net](mailto:info@bdsmovement.net)

## Press Release

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On 25 November 2009, the Palestinian Trade Union Movement, along with a number of civil society groups listed above, unanimously confirming their support for BDS.

See: <http://www.ictu.ie/download/pdf/bncpressreleasepgftuhistadrutbdseng.pdf>





32 Parnell Square  
Dublin 1  
T +353 1 8897777  
F +353 1 8872012  
congress@ictu.ie

Carlin House  
4-6 Donegall Street Place  
Belfast  
BT1 2FN

design: www.reddog.ie

[www.ictu.ie](http://www.ictu.ie)

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