



28 Mahuru 2021

28 September 2021

## Newsletter No 56 – coming out of lockdowns

Kia ora koutou,

We hope all our supporters around the motu are coping as best you can with lockdowns and restrictions due to the pandemic. It's been a challenging time for everyone and now as we slowly emerge from lockdowns we are looking forward to getting our campaigning back on track.

Our first priority has been to reschedule the meetings from John Minto's national tour which celebrates the campaigns against apartheid in South Africa in the 1970s and 1980s while stepping up the campaign against Israeli apartheid in 2021.

As well as these public events we have several important on-line events advertised in this newsletter AND Palestine Youth Aotearoa have organised a baking competition – so roll up your sleeves and get into the kitchen – you only have a few days to win!

### Rescheduled meetings 40th anniversary of the 1981 Springbok Tour

**40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the  
1981 Springbok Tour**

John Minto – National Organiser (former and current National Organiser of the Palestine Solidarity Network Aotearoa)

Celebrating the fight against **Apartheid in 1981**  
... And stepping up the fight against **Israeli Apartheid in 2021**

**Tour Resumed**

The National tour by PSNA National Chair John Minto will resume in October/November. The tour had reached the half-way point when it had to be abandoned through Covid 19 lockdowns.

The rescheduled meetings which have been confirmed so far are:

## October:

**Nelson:** Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> October, 7:30 pm, The Johnny Cash room (G104) at NMIT, Entry off 61 Nile Street [Details of event here.](#)

**Wellington:** Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> October, 2pm, Thistle Hall, Upper Cuba Street. [Details of event here.](#)

**Napier:** Monday 11<sup>th</sup> October, 7pm, Peddigrew Room, McLean Park, Latham Street. [Details of event here.](#)

## November:

**Auckland:** Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November, 4:00 pm Mt Eden War Memorial Hall, 489 Dominion Rd [Details of event here.](#)

**Kerikeri:** Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> November, 7pm, Turner Centre. [Details of event here.](#)

Other meetings will be included in future newsletters.

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## Something you can do right now with just a few clicks...

Please share the Facebook event links above on email and social media. We will be promoting these events on Facebook but we need to rebuild the momentum- something every supporter can help with.

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## Don't Buy Into the Occupation – online event this Wednesday 29 September (1am Thursday morning New Zealand time!)



On behalf of the **Don't Buy into Occupation Coalition (DBIO)**, we invite you to a **virtual event** to launch of the first DBIO report "*Exposing the financial flows into illegal Israeli settlements*". The

DBIO coalition is a joint initiative between 25 Palestinian, regional and European organisations based in Belgium, France, Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain and the United Kingdom. The coalition aims to investigate and expose the financial relationships between business enterprises involved in the illegal Israeli settlement enterprise in the Occupied Palestinian Territory and European Financial Institutions.

The webinar will be a panel discussion, followed by Q&A

**Wednesday, 29 September 2021** (1am Thursday morning New Zealand time!)

[Register here](#)

Speakers:

- **Maha Abdallah** (International Advocacy Officer, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies)
- **Omar Shakir** (Israel-Palestine director, Human Rights Watch):
- **Michael S. Lynk** (UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian Territory occupied since 1967)
- **Naim Abed Muhammad Shouqair** (former Mayor of Al-Zawiya town, Palestine)
- **Kiran Aziz** (Senior Analyst Responsible Investments, Kommunal Landspensjonskasse (KLP))

English, Arabic and French interpretation will be available.

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## **Palestine Youth Aotearoa – PYA Masterchef – Lockdown cook-off** **Age 10 to 30 (but older people can do an honorary entry)**

The poster is a collage of various Palestinian dishes including hummus, falafel, tabbouleh, and bread. In the center, there is a logo featuring a green olive branch and a red and green flame-like shape. Below the logo, the text reads: "PYA MASTERCHEF LOCKDOWN COOK-OFF". Further down, in bold red letters, it says "DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO WIN?". Below that, in bold black letters, it says "SHOW US YOUR PALI DISH!". Underneath, in smaller black letters, it says "WHETHER YOU CAN OR CAN'T COOK, TRY YOUR BEST AND HAVE SOME FUN!". At the bottom, it says "ENTRY CLOSES MIDNIGHT - FRIDAY 01 OCTOBER". At the very bottom, it says "SEE FB & INSTA POST FOR DETAILS" followed by Facebook and Instagram icons and the handle "@palestinian.youth.aotearoa".

**PYA MASTERCHEF**  
**LOCKDOWN COOK-OFF**

**DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO WIN?**

**SHOW US YOUR PALI DISH!**

WHETHER YOU CAN OR CAN'T COOK,  
TRY YOUR BEST AND HAVE SOME FUN!

**ENTRY CLOSES**  
**MIDNIGHT - FRIDAY 01 OCTOBER**

SEE FB & INSTA POST FOR DETAILS  
f @palestinian.youth.aotearoa

More details of the event are at the [PYA facebook page here](#).

## Auckland monthly rally for Palestine will be online this Saturday 2 October

It's still not possible for Auckland to hold public rallies or vigils so the October monthly rally will also be help online (as was the September rally)

It's 4:00 pm on Saturday 2 October [at this link here](#). See you there!

Organised by Palestine Solidarity Tamaki Makaurau and Palestine Youth Aotearoa

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### Online Forum: When Prison is a Weapon – the Palestinian Reality

With Palestinian ingenuity and a rusty spoon six Palestinian prisoners escaped Israel's much heralded security apparatus. The escapees became instant heroes to all Palestinians – while Israel launched a massive manhunt to mask their fallibility.



OCTOBER 3 | 8 - 9.30 PM

**FORUM:**  
**WHEN PRISON IS  
A WEAPON  
THE PALESTINIAN REALITY**

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Online Zoom Forum, to book:  
Website: <http://www.fpmelbourne.org>  
Instagram: link in bio

(Note the time in New Zealand is 11pm to 12.30am)

[Free Palestine Melbourne has organised a forum](#) “When prison is a weapon - the Palestinian reality” will explore what it means to be a Palestinian prisoner of the state of Israel - the loss of liberty, the abuse and torture, the impacts on families, children and communities and what it tells us about the nature of occupation.

Join us and our speakers to get an insight into the realities of life for prisoners and prison’s role in the continuing occupation and oppression of Palestinians.

\* When: Sunday 3 October

\* Time: 11pm New Zealand time)

\* Duration: approx 1.5hours

Where: Zoom (registration required) and live-streamed on [FPM's Facebook page](#)

Register: [https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_V4JmN-GHTiGI2TzRx3jTAg](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_V4JmN-GHTiGI2TzRx3jTAg)

**Speakers for the on-line rally are:**

**Yusef Alreemawi**, Palestinian lecturer, writer and activist (Melbourne, Australia) who has written the report: [Falling through the Cracks](#)

**Bassem Tamimi**, Palestinian activist and prisoner of conscience (Ramallah, Palestine)

Human Rights Watch report on Bassem Tamimi: [Israel: Palestinian's Conviction Violates Freedom of Assembly](#)

**Nadia Daqqa**, Palestinian human rights lawyer, HAMOKED (Jerusalem, Palestine)

Article featuring Nadia Daqqa: [Israeli Prison Ban on Phone Calls risks 'Breaking Spirits' of Palestinian Minors](#)

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## Historic motion supporting Palestine passed at 2021 British Labour Party Conference



Delegates vote on Palestine resolution

**Draft Composite Motion:**

Conference condemns the ongoing Nakba in Palestine, Israel's militarised violence attacking the Al Aqsa mosque, the forced displacements from Sheikh Jarrah and the deadly assault on Gaza.

Together with the de facto annexation of Palestinian land by accelerated settlement building and statements of Israel's intention to proceed with annexation, it is ever clearer that Israel is intent on eliminating any prospects of Palestinian self-determination.

Conference notes the TUC 2020 Congress motion describing such settlement building and annexation as 'another significant step' towards the UN Crime of Apartheid, and calling on the European and international trade union movement to join the international campaign to stop annexation and end apartheid.

Conference also notes the unequivocal 2021 reports by B'Tselem and Human Rights Watch that conclude Israel is practising the crime of apartheid as defined by the UN.

Conference welcomes the International Criminal Court decision to hold an inquiry into abuses committed in the occupied Palestinian Territory since 2014.

Conference resolves that action is needed now due to Israel's continuing illegal actions and that Labour should adhere to an ethical policy on all UK trade with Israel, including stopping any arms trade used to violate Palestinian human rights and trade with illegal Israeli settlements.

Conference resolves to support "effective measures" including sanctions, as called for by Palestinian civil society, against actions by the Israeli government that are illegal according to international law; in particular to ensure that Israel stops the building of settlements, reverses any annexation, ends the occupation of the West Bank, the blockade of Gaza, brings down the Wall and respects the right of the Palestinian people, as enshrined in international law, to return to their homes.

Conference resolves that the Labour Party must stand on the right side of history and abide by these resolutions in its policy, communications and political strategy.

This is the motion passed at the conference

More details are in stories [here](#) and [here](#).

## A shared struggle – book launch webinar

Sunday, 3 October, 06:00 – 07:30 New Zealand time

WEBINAR

# Book Launch

**“...witness the parallels between heroic struggles for freedom ... against seemingly overwhelming military might”**  
Gerry Adams,  
former President of Sinn Féin

Foreword by Richard Falk  
Introduction by Asad Abu Sharkh & Danny Morrison

## A SHARED STRUGGLE

Stories of Palestinian & Irish Hunger Strikers



Norma Hashim | Yousef M. Aljamal

You can register for free at this link. [Join the launch for this remarkable book, highlighting the plight of Palestinian and Irish hunger strikers.](#)

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## Letters to the editor - the apartheid state of Israel debated

There have been many letters in the media recently debating the apartheid nature of Israel's policies towards Palestinians.

PSNA National Secretary Neil Scott had this letter in the Christchurch Press last week alongside a letter from Gary Clover – a well-known pro-Israeli writer from Nelson.

beautiful and fitting name.  
What shall we call ourselves, however? Aotearoans? New Zealanders so both names are preserved? Kiwis?

This week at a 1pm briefing, the prime minister said: "It isn't the Aotearoa way to leave anybody behind." Sounds good.  
**Katherine Gillard, Papanui**

### Cemetery beauty

I wish to thank the Christchurch City Council and those who carried out the work of planting thousands of spring bulbs at the two Lyttelton cemeteries in autumn.

What is usually quite a sombre place is looking beautiful at present with thousands of beautiful flowers. My sincere thanks.  
**Lyn Carson, Lyttelton**

### Apartheid

I read with interest the letter by Grant Close (Sept 23) denying apartheid in Israel. Apartheid is a

crime against humanity and in no way has to exactly mirror South African apartheid, as Grant seems to imply. It has an international legal definition as outlined in the United Nations "International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid".

Beyond this, many people and organisations have outlined how Israel's actions do fit the legal definition, including Nelson Mandela, President Carter and many others. Indeed, there are a multitude of articles in Israeli media outlining, discussing and criticising Israeli apartheid. More

damning are the reports by the Russell Tribunal on Palestine, 2002 UNGA 4th committee, B'Tselem and Human Rights Watch in 2021. And the number of reports are growing. Indeed, in a recent survey of American Jews, a full 25 per cent believe Israel is an apartheid state.  
**Neil Scott, Auckland (abridged)**

### Judge's view

Richard Goldstone, a former South African Constitutional Court Justice, who led the UN's fact-finding mission on the 2008-9 Gaza fighting, in 2011, stated: "I know all too well the cruelty of South

Africa's abhorrent apartheid system ... In assessing the accusation that Israel pursues apartheid policies, which are by definition primarily about race or ethnicity, it is important first to distinguish between the situations in Israel, where Arabs are citizens, and in West Bank areas that remain under Israeli control in the absence of a peace agreement.

In Israel, there is no apartheid. Nothing there comes close to the definition of apartheid under the 1998 Rome Statute ... [E]qual rights are the law, the aspiration and the ideal; inequities are often successfully challenged in court.

The situation in the West Bank is more complex. But here too there is no intent to maintain "an institutionalised regime of systematic oppression and domination by one racial group ..."

**Gary A Clover, Nelson**

### Letters

Send letters to [letters@press.co.nz](mailto:letters@press.co.nz) or the Editor, Private Bag 4722, Christchurch Mail Centre, Christchurch, 8014. Letters may be edited or rejected at The Press's discretion. Correspondence will not be entered into. Letters should be no longer than 150 words and a name, postal address and phone number must be provided. Pen names are not accepted.

### Media Council

The Press is subject to the New Zealand Media Council. Complaints must be directed to [letters@press.co.nz](mailto:letters@press.co.nz). If the complainant is unsatisfied with the response, the complaint may be referred to the Media Council, PO Box 10-879, Wellington, 6143 or [info@mediacouncil.org.nz](mailto:info@mediacouncil.org.nz). Further details at [mediacouncil.org.nz](http://mediacouncil.org.nz)

**Footnote:** Debate on whether or not Israel is an apartheid state is now closed.

## Boycott PUMA campaign

The international campaign to boycott Puma for its support for Israeli soccer in the illegal Jewish-only settlements on Palestinian land had another successful day of action earlier in September.

Here in Aotearoa the focus has been on Puma sponsorship of the Silver Ferns which the Silver Ferns CEO has been refusing to discuss.



Silver Ferns CEO Jenny Wylie

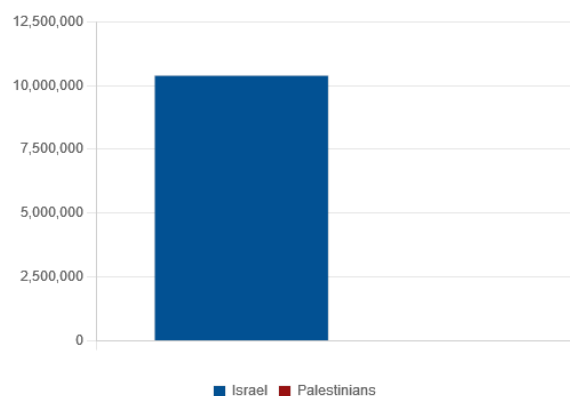
You can go to the link here to sign the Justice for Palestine [petition to the Silver Ferns](#) calling on them to drop their Puma sponsorship.

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## The astonishing facts behind US support for the racist, apartheid state of Israel

From the website If Americans Only Knew.

During Fiscal Year 2020, the U.S. is providing Israel with at least [\\$10.5 million per day](#) in military aid and [\\$0](#) in military aid to the Palestinians. (For information on expenditures on behalf of both populations, go [here](#))

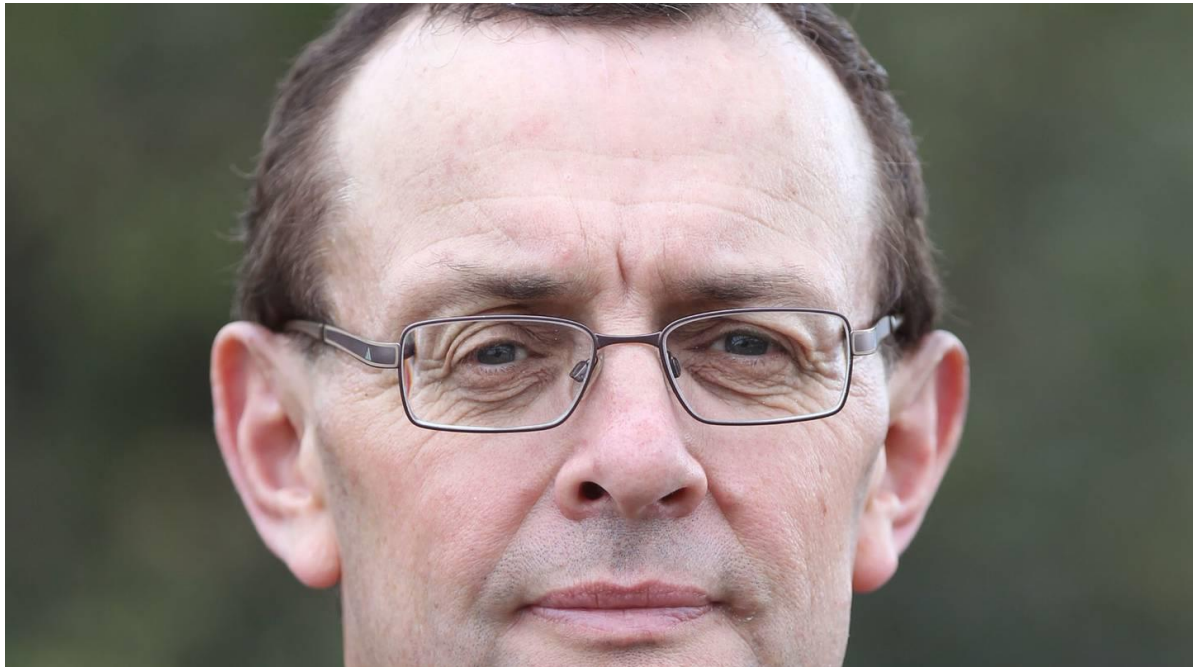


*"Since the October War in 1973, Washington has provided Israel with a level of support dwarfing the amounts provided to any other state. It has been the largest annual recipient of direct U.S. economic and military assistance since 1976 and the largest total recipient since World War II. Total direct U.S. aid to Israel amounts to well over \$140 billion in 2003 dollars. Israel receives over \$3 billion in direct foreign assistance each year, which is roughly one-fifth of America's entire foreign aid budget. In per capita terms, the United States gives each Israeli a direct subsidy worth about \$500 per year. This largesse is especially striking when one realizes that Israel is now a wealthy industrial state with a per capita income roughly equal to South Korea or Spain."*

- John J. Mearsheimer and Stephen M. Walt  
["The Israel Lobby and U.S. Foreign Policy"](#)

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## The sad face of racism



**Pastor Woodley - the sad face of Israel's racist propaganda**

Recently Pastor Woodley, an evangelical minister from Flaxmere Hastings has published full page advertisements across New Zealand's main daily newspapers encouraging people to sign a petition calling for New Zealand to open an embassy in Israel (currently New Zealand is represented in Israel from our Embassy in Turkey) Woodley is one of a tiny number of vocal, determined bigots who have big money backing their campaigns of misinformation, outright lies and what amounts to race-hatred of Palestinians.

However, New Zealanders can see through his blatant propagandising for Israel. After spending what would be close to \$60,000 on these full page adds, his petition still has only 2000 signatures. It's a pathetic waste of money at about \$30 spent per signature.

## Two inspiring movies for lockdown

We are including the links to these two brilliant movies for the third time in case people haven't had the chance to see them yet:

1. [Palestine Action – a year of direct action against Elbit Systems Limited](#)
2. [Gaza fights for Freedom!](#)

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## Stories from the Web

1. 'Israel Was Born in Sin. I'm Collaborating With a Criminal Country,' Says Former PM's Son [here](#)
2. Was Sabra and Shatila a massacre? [Here](#)
3. How Israel killer Iranian scientist with e "killer robot" [here](#)
4. "I drafted the IHRA definition of anti-Semitism – right-wing Jews are weaponising it" [here](#)
5. Freedom Tunnel Prisoners recount their struggle for liberation [here](#)
6. I hope my generation will liberate Palestine [here](#)
7. Anti-Palestinianism is as damnable as anti-Semitism" [here](#)

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## Are you able to donate a cup of coffee a month to the campaign?

We will need some serious money to make our campaign as effective as possible. For example, we will need somewhere in the vicinity of \$25,000 to bring speakers to New Zealand over the next year and organise large public meetings to help spread the message.

You can help. Are you able to donate a cup of coffee a month to the campaign? In other words, **can you afford to make an automatic payment of \$5 per month to support the Palestinian struggle?** (If you can afford more that would be great!)

Our account details are:

**Account name: Palestine Solidarity Network**

**Account number: 38-9015-0849542-00**

Or Pay Pal account: [admin@palestinesolidaritynz.net](mailto:admin@palestinesolidaritynz.net)

We are happy to provide a receipt upon request (*however, we are not a registered charity so this is not tax-deductible*)

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## Merchandise for sale

We have Merchandise you can buy including T-shirts from our website.



Go here - <https://www.psna.nz/shop>

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## In Occupied Palestine daily newsletter – an invitation to subscribe from Leslie Bravery

Because of mainstream news media complicity, daily headlines and commentary only occasionally ever mention the relentless Israeli violence in Palestine, not even the frequent air strikes!

However, daily news and statistics regarding the violence Palestinians are forced to live under are regularly reported on in the “In Occupied Palestine daily newsletter”, sourced and compiled for easy reading and correlation chiefly from the Palestinian Monitoring Group's daily situation reports.

The “In Occupied Palestine” daily newsletter continues to be circulated, by email, worldwide to subscribers only, as it has been over the last two decades.

Contact: [Palestine Human Rights Campaign](#)

*(Please note we have changed the link).*

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## More ways you can get involved

- Forward this Newsletter – If you know people who may be interested in this movement, please forward this Newsletter to them.
- Join in local activities in your area monthly Rallies - In Auckland at 2.00 pm on the first Saturday of every month. Please consider doing the same in your community. Contact [Secretary@PSNA.nz](mailto:Secretary@PSNA.nz) if you would like to know where and how to get Flags and Banners
- Help set up a Students for Justice in Palestine groups on your campus
- Tell Your MP your opinions on Divestment and Sanctions of Israel.
- Write Letters to Newspapers – Call Talkback Radio
- Keep in touch with the campaign on social media
  - ❖ Palestine Solidarity Network Aotearoa (PSNA) website: [www.PSNA.nz](http://www.PSNA.nz)
  - ❖ PSNA Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/groups/671376706283605/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/671376706283605/)
  - ❖ PSNA email: [Secretary@PSNA.nz](mailto:Secretary@PSNA.nz)
- The Palestine Human Rights Campaign produces the *In Occupied Palestine* newsletter. It is a regular daily newsletter on the daily situation in Palestine, compiled by Leslie Bravery and emailed to subscribers. If you would also like to become a subscriber, please contact Leslie at “sumud1 @ outlook. com” (remove the spaces to use as an email address) for further information.
- Keep Updated on our Facebook pages and websites (listed below)

## PSNA Groups

### National Committee

Website	<a href="http://www.PSNA.nz">www.PSNA.nz</a>	
Chair – John Minto	<a href="mailto:Chair@PSNA.nz">Chair@PSNA.nz</a>	
Secretary – Neil Scott	<a href="mailto:Secretary@PSNA.nz">Secretary@PSNA.nz</a>	

### Regional Groups

Bay of Islands	<a href="#">PSNA Bay of Islands</a>	email
Whangarei	<a href="#">PSNA Whangarei</a>	Facebook
Auckland	<a href="#">PSNA Auckland – Tamaki Makaurau</a>	Website
Hamilton	<a href="#">Palestine Human Rights Campaign Waikato</a>	Facebook
Tauranga	<a href="#">Tauranga Moana 4 Palestine</a>	Facebook
Napier/Hastings	<a href="#">Aotearoa Standing with Palestine</a>	Facebook
Palmerston North	<a href="#">PSNA Palmerston North</a>	email
New Plymouth	<a href="#">PSNA New Plymouth</a>	email
Whanganui	<a href="mailto:Whanganui@PSNA.nz">Whanganui@PSNA.nz</a>	email
Wellington	<a href="#">PSNA Wellington</a>	email
Nelson	<a href="#">Te Tau Ihu (Nelson) Palestine</a>	Facebook
Christchurch	<a href="#">PSNA Christchurch</a>	Facebook
Dunedin	<a href="#">Dunedin for Justice in Palestine</a>	Facebook
Invercargill	<a href="#">PSNA Invercargill</a>	email

### Other groups supporting Palestinian Rights

- [Palestinian Community of New Zealand](#)
- [Palestinian Youth Aotearoa](#)
- [Preserved Identity \(Palestinian products\)](#)
- [Boycott Divestment and Sanctions NZ](#)
- [Kia Ora Gaza](#)
- [Letters for Palestine](#)
- [Auckland Peace Action](#)
- [Global Peace and Justice Auckland](#)
- [Auckland Uni– Students for Justice in Palestine](#)
- [Massey Uni- Students for Justice in Palestine](#)
- [Tamaki Loves Palestine](#)
- [Justice for Palestine](#)
- [Palestine Human Rights Campaign](#)