

8 Poutū-te-rangi 2022 8 March 2022

Newsletter No 66

Government hypocrisy in calling out human rights abuse

Following on from our last newsletter, the theme of the Labour government's double standards in calling out human rights abuses is continuing with the Russian invasion of Ukraine.



PSNA National Chair John Minto <u>has written this piece</u>, Israeli historian Ilan Pappe has written <u>this excellent piece</u> and Palestinian writer and journalist from Gaza, <u>Mohammed Rafik Mhawesh</u> tells us <u>"What the war in Ukraine has taught us Palestinians".</u>

Our government has, quite rightly, joined the international condemnation of the Russian invasion of Ukraine and is preparing to pass legislation giving it the power to impose "autonomous sanctions" against Russia. This would be a good move if it meant the government would clearly and consistently call our human right abuses wherever they occur in the world. To do that the legislation would have to be based on international law and United Nations resolutions – both from the General Assembly as well as the Security Council.

And something you can do now with a couple of clicks.

Send this email to the Prime Minister TODAY, as the legislation is <u>due to pass tomorrow</u> (Wednesday).

Prime Minister Government Buildings Wellington j.ardern@ministers.govt.nz

Dear Ms Ardern,

Autonomous Sanctions must be based on International Law and United Nations resolutions

The proposed government "autonomous sanctions" legislation must be based on international law and United Nations Security Council and General Assembly resolutions.

New Zealand has a poor record of consistently calling out human rights abuses around the world.

Using international law and United Nations resolutions as the basis for sanctions will bring this security and accountability in a consistent and transparent way. This is essential for our integrity and credibility as a small nation which claims to have an independent foreign policy.

(your name)

Movement for Liberation from the Nakba Live Webinar – not to be missed!



After the Nakba and roughly until the 1980s, the academic research in the West on Palestine was dominated by the Zionist narrative and scholars. Palestinian scholarship was hardly heard and was brushed aside as too ideological and polemic. The pendulum shifted after the first Intifada (1987) and the emergence of critical scholarship in Israel that adopted major chapters in the Palestinian narrative and more importantly the appearance of a new generation of Palestinian scholars focusing their work on Palestine.

The impact on academic research and studying was profound. Curricula of courses and modules were revised and more critical works on Zionism and Israel began to be published in leading academic journals and publishing houses. In this century, official Israel, with help of pro-Israeli lobbies around the world responded with a targeted assault on such scholarship. The government and its propaganda machine weaponized anti-Semitism in order to undermine this scholarship and intimidate the scholars.

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

https://bit.ly/3pnUDNA

Passcode: Palestine

Please use MLN FB for Live Screening

Facebook.com/Nakbaliberation

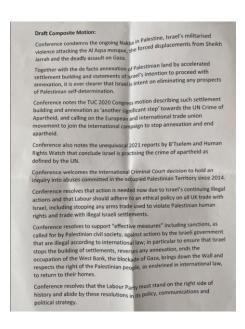
Are you a member of a political party?

Aotearoa New Zealand's political parties are well behind other countries in their policies towards recognising and supporting Palestinian human rights.

If you are a member of a political party we'd love to hear from you and encourage you to put forward new policy for your party to consider adopting.

You can email either Chair@PSNA.nz or Secretary@PSNA.nz and we can suggest some ideas you could raise to improve your party policy.

Here, for example, is a copy of the policy remit passed at the British Labour Party's National Conference in October 2021.



Palestine Land Day – 30 March

Palestine Land Day is approaching fast and groups around the country are beginning planning local events.

In Christchurch for example they will be gathering for a rally at the Bridge of Remembrance at 12 noon on Saturday 3 April to mark this day.

Here is a note from Wikipedia regarding Land Day:

March 30, is a day of commemoration for Arab citizens of Israel and Palestinians of the events of that date in 1976 in Israel.

In 1976, in response to the Israeli government's announcement of a plan to expropriate thousands of dunams of land for state purposes, a general strike and marches were organized in Arab towns from the Galilee to the Negev. In the ensuing confrontations with the Israeli army and police, six unarmed Arab citizens were killed, about one hundred were wounded, and hundreds of others arrested

Thanks so much to all who were able to make the #NoTechForApartheid endorsers call last week! Here are the notes in case you weren't able to attend.

Harvard Law School and Addameer issue Report outlining Israeli Apartheid

The International Human Rights Clinic at Harvard Law School and Addameer Prisoner Support and Human Rights Association have recently issued a report on Israeli Apartheid – "<u>Apartheid in the</u> Occupied West Bank: A Legal Analysis of Israel's Actions"





Apartheid in the Occupied West Bank: A Legal Analysis of Israel's Actions

Joint Submission to the United Nations Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Territory, including East Jerusalem, and Israel

February 28, 2022

The International Human Rights Clinic at Harvard Law School and Addameer Prisoner Support and Human Rights Association welcome the opportunity to respond to the call for submissions by the United Nations Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and Israel. This submission focuses on the legal regime enforced by Israel in the occupied West Bank that denies Palestinians their civil and political rights in violation of international law. Specifically, this submission finds that Israel's actions in the occupied West Bank are in breach of the prohibition of apartheid and amount to the crime of apartheid under international law.

This is the fifth report detailing Israeli Apartheid, which a Crime against Humanity, in just Two years.

The 4 previous reports can be found at these links:

- 2020 Yesh Din <u>The Occupation of the West Bank and the Crime of Apartheid: Legal</u>
 Opinion
- 2021 B'Tselem <u>A regime of Jewish supremacy from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea: This is apartheid</u>
- 2021 Human Rights Watch <u>A Threshold Crossed Israeli Authorities and the Crimes of</u> Apartheid and Persecution
- 2022 Amnesty International <u>Israel's Apartheid Against Palestinians Cruel System Of Domination And Crime Against Humanity</u>

You may choose to send these links to your local MP, whose email address you can find <u>here</u>, to remind them that Israel is an Apartheid state.

Google – don't punish workers for standing with Palestinians



Sign the petition at this link.

Reminder: Dates for Palestine Solidarity activity in 2022

Israel apartheid week has been added to the dates for likely local and national Palestine solidarity activity this year.

28 Mar – 4 Apr Israel Apartheid Week 30 Mar Land Day Palestine 5 Apr Palestinian Childs Day

9 Apr Deir Yassin massacre - Irgun Terrorism - 107-120 Palestinian men, women and

children massacred

17 Apr Palestinian Prisoners Day

11 May World Kufiya Day

15 May Nakba Day – marking the mass ethnic cleansing of Palestinians from Palestine in

1948

5 Jun	Naksa Day - Start of 1967 War - Land Grab – Invasion of Jerusalem, West Bank,
	Gaza, Egypt and Syria - 5 June 1967 – 10 June 1967
20 Jun	Attack on Gaza - 6–21 May 2021 (2 weeks and 1 day)
28 Sep	Second Intifada - 28 Sept 2000 – 8 Feb 2005
2 Nov	Balfour Declaration

29 Nov United Nations - International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People

8 Dec "First Intifada - 8 Dec 1987 – 13 Sept 1993

Neta Golan and the fightback in Israel



Neta Golan is an Israeli anti-apartheid activist and co-founder of the International Solidarity Movement (ISM). She was active in lobbying Agritech and the New Zealand government to withdraw support for the racist policies of the Israeli Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development through the Agritech summit last month. She has refused to appear in court in solidarity with a months-long boycott of the Israeli courts by Palestinian administrative detainees. We will keep you posted of developments. More detail here.

Important stories from the Web

- US accused of hypocrisy for sanctions against Russia but not Israel here
- It isn't apartheid it's worse here
- Israeli settlers storm archeological site here
- Rethinking Palestine Podcast Amnesty report on Israel here
- 13-year-old killed by Israeli troops here
- Demand AXA stop investing in Israeli arms trade here
- How Israel's occupation of Palestine intensifies climate change here

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

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

Merchandise for sale

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



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

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).

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 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
 - ❖ PSNA Facebook page: www.facebook.com/groups/671376706283605/
 - PSNA email: 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	www.PSNA.nz	
Chair – John Minto	Chair@PSNA.nz	
Secretary – Neil Scott	Secretary@PSNA.nz	

Regional Groups

Bay of Islands	PSN Bay of Islands	email
Whangarei	PSN Whangarei	Facebook
Auckland	PSN Auckland – Tamaki Makaurau	Website
Hamilton	Palestine Human Rights Campaign Waikato	Facebook
Tauranga	Tauranga Moana 4 Palestine	Facebook
Napier/Hastings	Aotearoa Standing with Palestine	Facebook
Palmerston North	PSN Palmerston North	email
New Plymouth	PSN Taranaki	Facebook
Whanganui	Whanganui@PSNA.nz	email
Wellington	PSN Wellington	email
Nelson	Te Tau Ihu (Nelson) Palestine	Facebook
Christchurch	PSN Christchurch	Facebook
Dunedin	<u>Dunedin for Justice in Palestine</u>	Facebook
Invercargill	PSN Invercargill	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
- <u>Letters for Palestine</u>
- Auckland Peace Action

- Global Peace and Justice Auckland
- Auckland Uni– Students for Justice in Palestine
- Massey Uni- Students for Justice in Palestine
- <u>Tamaki Loves Palestine</u>
- Justice for Palestine
- Palestine Human Rights Campaign