



13 Mahuru 2022
13 September 2022

Newsletter No 79



Today, Tuesday 13th September, the 77th session of the United Nations General Assembly begins in New York.

There is a global call from Palestinians for the UN General Assembly to launch an investigation into Israel's apartheid policies against Palestinians.

Two things you can do now, with just a few clicks, to support this important campaign:

1. Go to [this link](#) to send a message to United Nations officials
2. Copy and paste this message to our Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs

Hon Prime Minister
Hon Minister of Foreign Affairs
j.ardern@ministers.govt.nz
n.mahuta@ministers.govt.nz

Kia ora kōrua,

The 77th session of the United National General Assembly begins this week and we are urging the government to support and promote a UN investigation into Israel's apartheid policies against Palestinians.

Over the past two years the leading international human rights organisations, Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International, have joined Palestinians in declaring Israel as an apartheid state.

It is no longer possible for the world to turn the other way and pretend the Palestinian reality is different. It isn't.

Please support this critically important initiative at the UN during this session.

The United Nations played an important role in the ending of South Africa's apartheid policies. It can likewise play an important role in ending apartheid against Palestinians.

(your name)

PSNA National Meeting 8/9 October in Christchurch

A reminder: We are encouraging supporters to come to the PSNA national meeting to be held on **Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th October in Christchurch at the newly refurbished WEA Building at 59 Gloucester Street, Central Christchurch.** The meeting itself will go from Saturday morning till Sunday lunchtime.

Airfare costs:

We want all areas around the country to be represented and we can help with airfare costs to make sure this happens. Please get in touch asap and we will see what we can do – email secretary@PSNA.nz or phone/message Neil on 021414161.

Registrations:

To help with organising catering etc please register your intention to come with Bronwen at bronwensummers@gmail.com

Billets:

We are able to provide billets for everyone coming from outside Christchurch. If you need a billet for Friday and / or Saturday nights please also email Bronwen at bronwensummers@gmail.com

Agenda:

The details of this are still a work in progress but the latest draft is here:

Saturday 8 October

- 8.30am MORNING TEA and registration
- 9.15am Mihi: **Maui Stuart**
Welcome, introductions (**John Minto**)
Apoorva Gautam, Asia Pacific rep from the BDS National Committee (Via Zoom)
- 9.30am Key Speakers:
Mai Tamimi, a Community Worker of Palestinian origin living in Dunedin,
Maher Nazal – PACC (Palestinians in Aotearoa Co-ordinating Committee)
Fathi Hassneiah – Palestine Youth Aotearoa – “the Palestinian struggle at home and abroad” followed by questions/discussion
- 10.30am Report from National Chair PSNA – **John Minto**
Financial report – **Neil Scott**
- 11.00am **Workshops 1 – Strategies for local organising** (Please choose one)
- Local screenings of films, and organising local actions (**Kathleen Cole**, New Plymouth)
 - BDS international campaigns – Puma (Silver Ferns sponsor), HP and Sodastream (**Neil Scott**)
 - Social media – FB, Twitter, Instagram etc (**Nedina Hohaia, Fred Hayward, Brandon Johnstone**) TBC
 - National speaking tours in 2023 (**John Minto/Don Carson**)
 - Working with the Palestinian community in Aotearoa (**PACC**)
- 11.30pm Plenary
- Reports back from Workshops 1
 - Brief introduction of new campaigns for 2022/23 before discussion in afternoon
 - NZ observer to IHRA (**John Minto**)
 - Close the Embassy campaign (**John Minto**)
 - Proposed UN investigation into Israeli apartheid (**John Minto**)
 - Apartheid-free zones national campaign (**John Minto**)
 - Visiting MP’s and emailing MP’s (**Neil Scott**)
 - Banners, Palestinian Flags and Boycott stickers available for regional groups (**Neil Scott**)
- 12.30pm LUNCH (provided on site – koha)
- 1.30pm **Workshop 2 – Organising in local networks** (Please choose one)
- Working with Māori organisations (**John Minto**)
 - Religious groups – Christian, Islamic, Jewish etc (**Steve Liddle/Barbara Menzies/Ahmed Saadeh/Billy Hania/Brian Turner**) (TBC)
 - Trade Unions (**Mike Treen**, Unite Union; **Paul Watson**, First Union) TBC
 - Student organisations (**Mika Gale**)
- 2.15pm Reporting back in plenary
- 3.00pm AFTERNOON TEA
- 3.30pm Updates:
Julie Webb-Pullman – update on ICC holding Israel to account for war crimes
Roger Fowler – Kia Ora Gaza – Update on Medical Aid Appeal for Gaza and flotilla update

- 4.00pm **New campaigns for 2022/23**
- Close the Embassy campaign (**John Minto**)
 - Proposed UN investigation into Israeli apartheid (**John Minto**)
 - Apartheid-free zones national campaign (**John Minto**)
- 5.00pm Updates from Palestine (8am Palestine time)
- **Sami Hurraini** Youth of Sumud on Masafer Yatta struggle against ethnic cleansing.
 - Six Palestinian human rights organisations declared “terrorist” by Israeli regime (TBC)
 - **Manal Shqair** from BNC National Committee and Stop the Wall Campaign
 - **Jeff Halper** from ICAHD (Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions)
- 6.30pm Dinner at 21 York Street (John and Bronwen’s home) Locals bring something to share – guests from outside – just bring yourselves!

Sunday 9 October

- 9.00am Strengths/weaknesses of our campaigning in 2021/22 (**Brandon**)
Review of National Structure – what can be improved (**Brandon**)
- Election of National Chair and Secretary
 - Appointment of National Committee
- 10.00am Political panel – building support for Palestinian human rights amongst MPs (Don Carson)
- Duncan Webb** – (Christchurch Central MP and Chief government whip) Labour Party
All members of the Foreign Affairs Select Committee are invited (**Jenny Salesa (Chair), Gerry Brownlee (Vice Chair), Ingrid Leary, Ibrahim Omer, Golriz Ghahraman, Todd McClay**) (TBC)
- 11.00am Closing comments (National Chair)
Farewells
- 11.15am Close

Hope to welcome many of you to the Garden City in Springtime!

No tech for Apartheid



No tech for Apartheid is an international campaign to stop the huge tech companies like Google, Amazon provided technology to Israel to help it oppress and. . .

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

1. Sign the letter at <https://www.notechforapartheid.com/>
2. Go to [this link](#) and send a tweet copying in the hashtags listed.

It's apartheid! What now...?

The fight for justice in Palestine

This webinar will feature prominent speakers including the first female Palestinian Member of the Knesset, **Haneen Zoabi**, Palestinian politician and prominent community activist, **Dr Basel Ghattas**, independent journalist and best-selling author, **Antony Loewenstein**, and APAN Vice-President, **Nasser Mashni**.

- **When:** Wednesday, 19th October, 8pm
- **Where:** Online
- Register for the Webinar [here](#)

Webinar: Shifting growing Palestine support into US policy

- Wednesday, September 14,
- 2022,
- 12 midnight Aotearoa New Zealand time

Since the 2021 Unity Intifada, Palestinians have garnered increasing support across the US. As a result, pro-Israel lobbies have ramped up their efforts to criminalize Palestine advocacy and quash Palestine solidarity on Capitol Hill. What does this shifting terrain signify for the Palestine solidarity movement in the US and for US policy on Palestine? What can Palestinians in Palestine and the US do to translate this growing support into actionable policy?

Join Al-Shabaka policy analyst and board member, **Zaha Hassan**, and US Policy Fellow, **Tariq Kenney-Shawa**, for a discussion with host **Nadim Bawalsa** about bridging the divide between US public discourse and policy on Palestine.

- Register [here](#)

Palestinian Youth Speak out

In our newsletter special last week we advertised this important online webinar which was organised by MLN (Movement for Liberation from Nakba)

It was an absorbing and important discussion with young Palestinians. If you missed it live you can still view it now online here <https://youtu.be/VaRffOSB7IY>.

Special message from Israeli youth refusers



Left to right: Evyatar, Einat, Nave and Shahar

Four youth refusers - Shahar Schwartz (18 year old), Einat Gerlitz (19), Evyatar Moshe Rubin (19), and Nave Shabtay Levin (18) - who declare this week their refusal to join the Israeli army and take part in the Israeli occupation over the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Shahar has refused before and was sentenced to 10 days in military prison. Einat refused Yesterday and was sentenced to 7 days in prison. Evyatar and Nave are refusing today and will likely be imprisoned. We reach out to you today because they need your help in getting their message across to Israeli officials.



We, Israeli youth, refuse to join the Israeli army and take part in the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza strip. We call out to all citizens of Israel to open their eyes and see the policy of oppression over the Palestinian people carried out by the Israeli government. We object to the militaristic education forced on us by the same oppressive policies, we object to the educational system teaching us to hate our neighbors, and we object to the social norms that prohibits the educational system from sharing the true reality in the Palestinian territories with children and youth. We feel it is important to show there is another way. We all have the option to refuse to take part in the oppression and in the occupation and we can all make sure human rights, including physical and emotional security, are provided without discrimination. Therefore we demand the following from the Israeli government:

Stop the killings of Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip; Stop the ethnic cleansing in the territories and the transfer of Masafer Yatta; Stop the siege of the Gaza strip; Stop home demolitions; Stop administrative arrests and arrests of minors; Stop supporting settler's violence towards Palestinians and start acting against it.

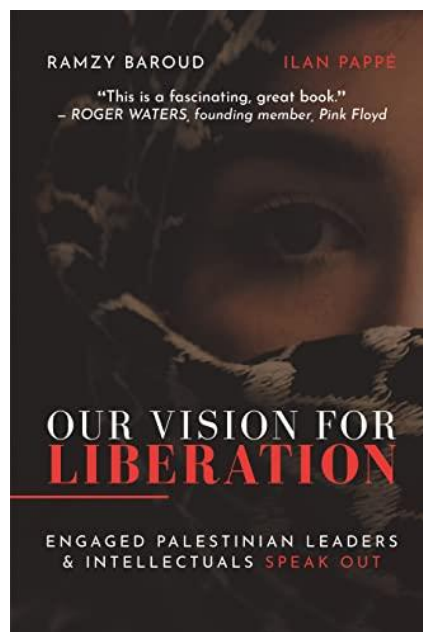
We demand a stop to the Israeli military presence in the Palestinian territories and we demand giving the Palestinian people the right to independence. We, Israeli youth, born and raised in Israel, call on the Israeli public to see there is a better way to treat our neighbors, a human way that guarantees human rights for all. We demand an end to the Israeli occupation over the Palestinian territories and we declare today our refusal to take any part in it.

[Click here to support our statement.](#)

Our Vision for Liberation

This is an exceptional book which documents what liberation looks like from Palestinian viewpoints.

A book review by Christchurch-based Lois Griffiths is [here](#)



It is presented by outstanding Palestinian author and activist Ramzy Baroud (who toured Aotearoa New Zealand several years back) and renowned Israeli historian Ilan Pappé. It is a not-to-be-missed publication!

We have purchased 50 copies for PSNA supporters and we are selling these at \$35 per copy to cover our costs. To get your copy simply deposit \$35 in our bank account here:

- Account name: PALESTINE SOLIDARITY NETWORK
- Account number: 38-9015-0849542-00

And then email secretary@PSNA.nz with your address and we will get your copy in the mail! Looking forward to hearing from you!

Important stories from the Web

Roger Waters inspired tour is cultural high point for Palestine [here](#)



- No room for love in apartheid Israel [here](#) (Note: Israel has since backed down on this plan under international pressure)
- On Palestinian killed and over a dozen wounded during military operation in Jenin [here](#)
- That's not accountability – Reporters slam State Department for accepting Israel's stance on Shireen Abu Akleh [here](#)
- German court rules Palestinian ex-DW journalist sacking unlawful [here](#)
- Israel says 'high possibility' its army killed Shireen Abu Akleh [here](#)
- How Israeli settlers use archaeology to displace Palestinians from their land [here](#)
- Israel admits highly probable soldier killed Shireen Abu Akleh [here](#)
- Remembering the Sabra/Shatila massacre forty years later [here](#)
- Israel's jailing of aid worker slammed [here](#)
- Depravity of Israeli hasbara (propaganda) [here](#)
- Israel's Operation Breaking Dawn killed 49 Palestinians – these are their stories [here](#)
- The utter hypocrisy of Facebook, Instagram on Russia and Ukraine [here](#)
- Palestinian families living in caves after Israel destroys their homes [here](#)
- New York Times and UN Security Council platform apartheid charge against Israel [here](#)
- Dark money for Israel that crushes leftwing candidates is giving Jews a bad reputation [here](#)
- Terrorist-preoccupied Israel issues latest licence for thuggery [here](#)

Reminder: Dates for Palestine Solidarity activity in 2022

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	Nakba 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)
16-18 Sep	40 th anniversary of the Sabra and Shatila massacres
28 Sep	Second Intifada - 28 Sept 2000 – 8 Feb 2005
8/9 October –	PSNA National Meeting WEA, Christchurch
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

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](mailto:Secretary@PSNA.nz)

(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	Dunedin for Justice in Palestine	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](#)
- [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](#)