

# GLOBAL ACTIONS TO END ISRAEL'S OCCUPATION & HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

September 2009

Organizations and governments worldwide are taking action that can help bring freedom for Palestinians and an end to the colonization of Palestinian land. This representative review of diverse approaches was initiated by the Palestine-Israel Action Group, Ann Arbor, Michigan Quakers ([piag@mac.com](mailto:piag@mac.com)). As new actions are taken, the list is updated by Interfaith Peace Initiative. Information for inclusion is welcome at [apassionforpeace@aol.com](mailto:apassionforpeace@aol.com).

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## **GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS:**

### **British Government. 3/09**

The British government cancelled plans to relocate its embassy in Tel Aviv to a building owned by an Israeli settlement builder. "The UK government's firm stance is that the construction of settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territories is unlawful under international law," said a Foreign Office spokesperson. "This is an important policy issue for the UK government." An embassy representative added: "The UK government has always regarded settlements as illegal but what has happened in recent months is that we are looking for ways to make a difference on this issue. We see them as an obstacle to peace."

[www.jpost.com/servlet/Satellite?pagename=JPost/JPostArticle/ShowFull&cid=1236103154560](http://www.jpost.com/servlet/Satellite?pagename=JPost/JPostArticle/ShowFull&cid=1236103154560)

### **British Government. 2008**

In 2008, England began targeting goods labeled "Israeli" for inspection to determine if they were in fact produced within illegal West Bank settlements and are violating Israel-EU tariff agreements. Prime Minister Gordon Brown seeks accurate information for consumers about product origin. He is said to believe an EU curb on such settlement products would discourage continued settlement growth.

[www.independent.co.uk/news/world/middle-east/britain-to-crack-down-on-exports-from-israeli-settlements-986854](http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/middle-east/britain-to-crack-down-on-exports-from-israeli-settlements-986854)

### **Cambridge, Massachusetts City Council. 1/09**

After a three-hour public hearing on the Gaza crisis, the Council adopted a resolution calling for a cease fire on both sides, a long-term negotiated truce, an end to the economic blockade of the Gaza Strip, and support for a 2-state solution. Council forwarded the message to President George W. Bush and incumbent Barack Obama.

[www.cambridgema.gov/peace/](http://www.cambridgema.gov/peace/), [www.thecrimson.com/writer.aspx?id=1204470](http://www.thecrimson.com/writer.aspx?id=1204470)

### **Greater Bordeaux Municipal Government. 4/09**

This French municipality rejected a bid from Veolia Transport Corporation to manage France's biggest urban transportation network. The firm faced intense public criticism of its construction of a "Jerusalem light railway designed to link West Jerusalem with illegal Israeli settlements in the West Bank. The contract, worth 750 million euros, was awarded to another firm. Although the municipality cited "commercial factors," their action mirrors those of governments in Stockholm and England responding to public pressure. Veolia has now lost contracts worth more than \$7.5 billion.

<http://www.bigcampaign.org/index.php?mact=News.cntnt01.detail,0&cntnt01articleid=413&cntnt01returnid=67>

### **The Greek Government. 1/09**

The Greek Government blocked the use of a Greek port for transit of US arms to Israel during the bombardment of Gaza. The Greek foreign minister stated that neither the port of Astakos nor "any other location in Greece will be used for the supplying of the Israeli army." A Greek merchant shipping company had been hired by the Pentagon to deliver hundreds of tons of munitions to Israel, but the arrangement was cancelled in the face of public anger at the Gaza assault.

[www.presstv.ir/detail.aspx?id=82263&sectionid=351020202](http://www.presstv.ir/detail.aspx?id=82263&sectionid=351020202)

[www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/US-Israel/bombsale](http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/US-Israel/bombsale)

### **Nanterre, France. 4/09**

The tribunal of Nanterre, near Paris, declared that it has the jurisdiction to examine whether the two French companies are participating in an illegal project designed to consolidate Israeli control over land illegally seized after the 1967 war. Alstom is laying the track and providing the cars for the light-rail system linking Jerusalem with West Bank Israeli settlements. Veolia has agreed to operate the system for 30 years. The judicial complaint had been brought by Association France-Palestine Solidarite, an anti-occupation group.

[www.online.wsj.com/article/SB123992141785126493.html#](http://www.online.wsj.com/article/SB123992141785126493.html#)

<http://www.online.wsj.com/public/quotes/main.html?type=djn&symbol=1022047.fr>

### **The Netherlands Government. 2008**

The Dutch Government's influence was apparent in the decision of Heineken Breweries to press its newly acquired company, Barkan Wineries, to move its facilities out of an illegal settlement in the West Bank. The move reflects the Dutch Government's expectation that multi-nationals registered in Holland will adhere to

UN human rights guidelines when operating abroad. Heineken is one of 38 Dutch companies that have joined the UN Global Compact, promising to make sure that they are not "complicit in human rights abuses." The Dutch commitment is part of a nascent international drive toward Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) promoted by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Under "Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises," companies are asked to "support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights" throughout their entire supply chain and within their operational sphere of influence.

[http://english.pnn.ps/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=3683&Itemid=31](http://english.pnn.ps/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=3683&Itemid=31)

#### **Norwegian Ministry of Finance. 9/09**

The Norwegian Ministry of Finance has excluded the Israeli company Elbit Systems Ltd. from the Government Pension Fund - Global, on the basis of the Council on Ethics' recommendation. "The Council on Ethics has found that investment in Elbit constitutes an unacceptable risk of contribution to serious violations of fundamental ethical norms as a result of the company's integral involvement in Israel's construction of a separation barrier on occupied territory. 'We do not wish to fund companies that so directly contribute to violations of international humanitarian law,' says Minister of Finance Kristin Halvorsen....The Ethics Council opinion states clearly that the construction of the separation barrier and its associated control regime along the chosen route must be regarded as being in contravention of international law."

<http://www.norway.org.il/press/Press+Releases/Supplier+of+surveillance+equipment+for+the+separation+barrier+in+the+West+Bank.htm>

#### **Norwegian Provincial Parliament: the Soer-Trondeleim District. 12/05**

Norwegian Provincial Parliament: the Soer-Trondeleim District, representing about 7% of the population of Norway, including Trondheim, the third largest city, voted in December, 2005, to "completely and totally" prohibit the purchase or sale of Israeli products by all provincial government bodies and to launch an awareness campaign calling on the populace to do the same. Significantly, this Parliament was the first Norwegian government body to boycott South African Apartheid.

<http://stophthewall.org/worldwideactivism/print1061.shtml>

#### **Stockholm Community Council, Sweden. 1/09**

The Stockholm Community Council cancelled its long-standing contract with Veolia Corp. Veolia, a French multinational, was criticized for involvement with a tramway linking West Jerusalem to illegal West Bank settlements. Veolia lost the bid although it had operated Stockholm's public transit system for ten years and sought an eight-year extension worth 3.5 Billion Euros, said to be the biggest public contract under negotiation in Europe. The Stockholm Council had received petitions signed by thousands of residents protesting further support for Veolia. [www.labournet.net/world/0901/veolia2.html](http://www.labournet.net/world/0901/veolia2.html)

#### **Switzerland. 11/08**

The Swiss Foreign Ministry notified the Israeli Foreign Ministry that Switzerland regards the demolition of Palestinian homes in East Jerusalem and near Ramallah as "violations of international humanitarian law." Swiss officials stated that over 600 homes in East Jerusalem and 1600 in the West Bank had been destroyed since 2000 in violation of the Geneva Convention's rules on military occupation.

[www.canpalnet-ottawa.org/Paju-407.html](http://www.canpalnet-ottawa.org/Paju-407.html)

#### **UK Government. 8/06**

During Israel's war with Lebanon and the Gaza Strip in 2006, UK government officials barred US flights from Prestwick Airport in Scotland. The planes were carrying bombs to Israel for attacks on Lebanon. Diversion to RAF military bases for refueling followed talks between the Scots Secretary and the UK Defense and Foreign Secretaries. After a meeting with the US Consul, Scottish Parliament Member Patrick Harvie of the Green Party reported: "We tried to convey the extreme concern, indeed disgust, among the Scottish public and politicians that a Scottish airport is being used to ferry arms to Israel." [www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/](http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/)

#### **UK House of Commons Select Committee on International Development. 1/07**

The Select Committee reported severe limitations on Palestinian trade and development caused by Israeli restrictions on movement and access to goods and markets. Meanwhile, the European Union continues to boost the Israeli economy by giving preferential treatment to Israeli products in European markets through a trade agreement. The Select Committee noted this "incongruity" and said "the UK should urge the EU to use

its Agreement with Israel as a lever for change and to consider suspending the Agreement until there are further improvements in access arrangements." [www.parliament.uk/indcom](http://www.parliament.uk/indcom)

**Venezuela and Bolivia. 1/09** Both Venezuela and Bolivia have broken ties with the Israeli government over the 2008-09 Gaza offensive. The Venezuelan Foreign Ministry said its government was responding to "the cruel persecution of the Palestinian people, directed by Israeli authorities," citing "19 days of continuous bombardment, the assassination of more than 1,000 people and the destruction of the infrastructure of the population of Gaza." Calling this "state terrorism," they said Israeli leaders should be tried before an international court for crimes against humanity. Bolivian President Morales, too, has urged that Israeli President Peres and Prime Minister Olmert be declared "war criminals."

[www.france24.com/en/20090115-chavez-breaks-diplomatic-ties-with-israel](http://www.france24.com/en/20090115-chavez-breaks-diplomatic-ties-with-israel)

<http://www.cnn.com/2009/WORLD/americas/01/14/bolivia.israel/>,

<http://www.middle-east-online.com/english/?id=29791>

**Victoria State Government - Melbourne, Australia. 6/09**

After a 4-month boycott campaign led by Australians for Palestine, during which some 100,000 pamphlets were distributed, Connex lost its contract with the Victorian State Government as train system operator for the city of Melbourne, Australia. The government and other observers attributed the contract cancellation to complaints about public transport as a result of mass cancellations on the train network in the preceding months. <http://stopthewall.org/worldwideactivism/2001.shtml>

## **BUSINESSES**

**Assa Abloy, Sweden. 10/08**

Responding to criticism from NGOs like the Swedish group Diakonia (with the Church of Sweden and SwedWatch), Assa Abloy transferred into Israel its Mul-T-Lock manufacturing facility, formerly located in Barkan, an industrial park in the Ariel settlement. Assa Abloy apologized "that the inappropriateness"...of having a production unit on the West Bank "had not been noted internally." [PDF] Illegal Ground: Assa Abloy's business in occupied Palestinian territory <http://www.diakonia.se/sa/node.asp?node=2718>

**ASN Bank, Holland, 11/06**

This Dutch Bank announced that it would end its relationship with all companies that benefit from Israel's occupation of Palestinian territory, including the French multi-national firm Veolia Transport, involved in a light rail system that aims to connect illegal settlements with Israeli cities.

<http://www.haaretz.com/hasen/pages/ShArt.jhtml?itemNo=795723&contrassID=1&subContrassID=1>

**BlackRock, Inc. 8/09**

BlackRock, one of the world's largest investment firms, has divested its holdings in Africa Israel Investments due to Africa Israel owner Lev Leviev's involvement with settlement projects on occupied Palestinian land. The divestment followed pressure by three Norwegian banks marketing BlackRock funds. BlackRock was second biggest shareholder in the controversial Israeli firm. BlackRock had recently purchased Barclay's, another major fund manager, which held a major position in AI Investments as of mid-2009. Observers were watching to see whether Barclay's holdings in AI would also be divested when the deal was finalized.

<http://www.norwatch.no/200908201324/english/fund/blackrock-divests-from-the-west-bank.html>,

<http://electronicintifada.net/v2/article10736.shtml>

**Dexia Bank. 2009**

Dexia, responding to Belgian pressure, committed to end its financing of West Bank settlements. <http://www.maannews.net/eng/ViewDetails.aspx?ID=211153>, <http://usacbi.wordpress.com/2009/06/11/dexia-israel-stops-financing-israeli-settlements/> Dexia, a French-Belgian firm, was asked by eighteen Belgian city councils and one Belgian province to sever its ties with its subsidiary Dexia Israel. Dexia Israel had supported illegal West Bank settlements with loans and other financial services.

[www.electronicintifada.net/v2/article10434.shtml](http://www.electronicintifada.net/v2/article10434.shtml)

### **FreedomCall, UK. 12/08**

FreedomCall, a British telecom firm, informed Israel's MobileMax, provider of international service for cellular phones, that "we will no longer be in a position to consider doing business with you or any other Israeli company...as a result of the Israeli government action" during the assault on Gaza.

[www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-3648346,00](http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-3648346,00)

### **Grand Hotel Intercontinental, Paris. 1/09.**

In the wake of Israel's massive assault on Gaza in January, 2009, the management of the Grand Hotel Intercontinental in Paris cancelled an Israeli "tourism fair" and disinvited all 50 Israeli exhibitors who had planned to present tourism products. [www.bellacio.org/en/spip.php?article18190](http://www.bellacio.org/en/spip.php?article18190)

### **Group 4 Falck, Denmark. 10/02.**

In October, 2002, the world's second biggest security firm Group 4 Falck decided to withdraw the company's guards from the West Bank after an investigation by the British newspaper *The Guardian* showed that guards employed by a company in which it had a controlling interest were working closely with Israel's military and security apparatus which enforced the occupation. Group 4 Falck had purchased a controlling stake in an Israeli security company, Hashmira, which employed at least 100 armed guards at settlements inside the West Bank before they were withdrawn. <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2002/oct/09/israel>

### **Group Danone. 5/07**

Group Danone, the parent of the Dannon Company Inc., sold its shares in Eden Springs and its 59% stake in a joint venture it had established with Eden Springs, after pressure from Palestinian solidarity groups around the world. Eden Springs is located in the illegal Israeli settlement of Katzrin, on Syria's Golan Heights, occupied by Israel in 1967. The company profits from water resources belonging to the occupied population in violation of international law.

[http://archive.globes.co.il/default.aspx?ID=935242#doc\\_1\\_of\\_2](http://archive.globes.co.il/default.aspx?ID=935242#doc_1_of_2)[http://archive.globes.co.il/default.aspx?ID=935242#doc\\_1\\_of\\_2](http://archive.globes.co.il/default.aspx?ID=935242#doc_1_of_2),

[http://www.scottishpsc.org.uk/index.php?option=com\\_docman](http://www.scottishpsc.org.uk/index.php?option=com_docman)  
[www.scottishpsc.org.uk/index.php?option=com\\_docman](http://www.scottishpsc.org.uk/index.php?option=com_docman)

### **Guloguz, Turkey. 1/09**

The Turkish firm cancelled its Israeli tool-maker contacts in January, 2009. "We cannot sell Israeli products because of the cruel attacks by Israel in Gaza," an executive wrote. Israeli arms industries sources are cited as fearing that additional business ventures are at risk.

<http://www.globes.co.il/serveen/globes/docview.asp?did=1000417069&fid=1725>

### **Heineken Breweries. 2008**

Heineken told its subsidiary Barkan Wineries to move its facilities out of an illegal settlement in the West Bank. Barkan, newly acquired by the Dutch firm, complied by moving its winery from the Barkan industrial zone into Israel. [www.alhaq.org/etemplate.php?id=393](http://www.alhaq.org/etemplate.php?id=393)

### **Israel Manufacturers Association. 4/09**

The Israeli Manufacturers Association reported a 21% drop in export demand due to boycott campaigns. A poll of 90 exporters revealed sharp lessening of demand. 10% of 400 exporters polled in March also reported cancellation of orders since the assault on Gaza. "There is no doubt that a red light has been switched on," said the head of foreign trade at the manufacturers association. Many European consumers are boycotting Israeli products, and "organisations are bombarding retailers with letters, asking that they remove Israeli merchandise from the shelves," according to an Israeli official based in England.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2009/apr/03/israel-gaza-attacks-boycotts-food-industry>

### **Motorola. 3/09**

Motorola Israel sold its Government Electronics Division (GED) and pledged to sell its MIRS subsidiary in Israel following publicity by the US Campaign to End the Israeli Occupation of its involvement with the occupation. US Campaign criticized GED's production of bomb fuses for the Israeli army and MIRS production of surveillance systems for illegal settlements in the West Bank. Motorola remains involved in other ways with the occupation. <http://www.monthlyreview.org/mrzine/israel020409.html>

### **Produce importers in Sweden, Norway, Denmark, England, and Jordan. 1/09**

Produce importers in Sweden, Norway, Denmark, England, and Jordan cancelled orders during Gaza assault. Israel's Organization of Fruit Growers reported that fruit was rotting in warehouses. A spokesman said: "It's getting worse, and more voices can be heard calling to boycott Israeli merchandise."

[www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-3656454,00.html](http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-3656454,00.html)

[www.morris108@wordpress.com/2009/01/16/turkey-israel-relationship-in-the-dustbin/](http://www.morris108@wordpress.com/2009/01/16/turkey-israel-relationship-in-the-dustbin/)

### **U2U, Belgian Hi-Tech Company. 9/06.**

"U2U does not wish to tie itself with Israeli products," the firm's manager told his Israeli suitor, citing "the devastating and inhumane war crimes Israel perpetrated in Lebanon" and "the apartheid regime" it inflicts on Palestine. The Israeli hi-tech representative said he countered that "Israel is a technological hub and that many of the Microsoft products which [you use] are developed here in Haifa." The Belgian manager, however, declined. Israel's Ynet News reported similar refusals from numerous European firms that take the stance of the U2U manager: "I hope that the political situation in your country will radically change and will be based on peace and respect to non-Jewish cultures." <http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-3308579,00.html>

### **Unilever. 2008**

The Anglo-Dutch multinational Unilever responded to dialogue initiated by a Dutch coalition, United Civilians for Peace, and agreed to sell its interest in a company located in the West Bank. Unilever, manufacturer of food and soap, had owned a 51% share in Beigel & Beigel, maker of pretzels and other snacks, located in the Barkan Industrial Park near the settlement of Ariel. <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2008/dec/01/israel-palestine-unilever>

### **Veolia. 7/09.**

Giant French multinational Veolia announced it would withdraw from the Citypass Consortium, which is building a light rail system to connect illegal West Bank settlements with Jerusalem. This followed a loss of \$7.5 billion in contracts largely due to pressure from groups who opposed the company's involvement in the Jerusalem light rail. In one instance, Veolia subsidiary Connex lost an Irish contract to use the Dublin tram system to train Israeli drivers and engineers to operate the Jerusalem project. Veolia remains involved in the occupation through Connex, which runs buses for settlers into the W. Bank, and through the operation of a landfill for settler waste on occupied Palestinian property.

<http://www.indymedia.ie/article/77961>

## **LABOR ORGANIZATIONS**

### **British Fire Brigades Union (FBU). 8/09.**

The firefighters' union, which represents 85% of firefighters and support staff in Britain, called for a boycott of Israel. The union planned to introduce motions at the Trade Union Congress's (TUC) annual congress in September, 2009 calling for the trade union movement to work to increase Israel's international isolation.

<http://www.greenleft.org.au/2009/808/41576>

### **Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW). 4/08**

Representing over 50,000 postal workers across Canada, Canadian Union of Postal Workers delegates, voted at their annual convention in Ottawa to follow the example of CUPE, the union of public employees of the Canadian province of Ontario. The postal workers' resolution, adopted nearly unanimously, recognizes Israel as an apartheid state and expresses CUPW's support for boycott and divestment. CUPW thus became the first national union in North America to adopt a BDS resolution. The union has a long history of support for international workers' rights. Many of its workers refused to handle mail from South Africa in earlier protests. <http://www.imemc.org/article/54304>, <http://www.caiaweb.org/node/628>

**Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), 5/06**

The Ontario division of Canada's largest union, Canadian Union of Public Employees, representing 200,000 workers, voted in 5/06 to support the international campaign of boycott, divestment, and sanctions until Israel recognizes "the Palestinian people's inalienable right to self-determination" and "the right of Palestinian refugees to return to their homes and properties as stipulated in UN resolution 194." The group asked the Canadian Labor Congress to "join us in lobbying against the apartheid-like practices of the Israeli state and call for the immediate dismantling of the wall." CUPE will develop an education campaign about the political and economic support of Canada for these practices. <http://www.caiaweb.org/node/1183>

**Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), 10/04, 6/06, 1/09**

The Congress, representing 1.2 million workers, called for a comprehensive boycott of Israel as championed by a coalition including Physicians for Human Rights, South African NGO Coalition, and the Landless People's Movement. The call was led by the Palestine Solidarity Committee. In 6/06, COSATU representative Patrick Craven said the trade union's policy is to support the Palestinian struggle for freedom because his own people in South Africa were also forced to fight a war of independence using similar tactics against harsh oppression. In 1/09, in response to the bombing of Gaza, COSATU organized a series of rallies across the country and announced that its member unions will strengthen their support for boycotts, divestment and sanctions. [www.aidc.org.za/?q=book/view/586](http://www.aidc.org.za/?q=book/view/586)

**Dublin Tram Workers, 8/06** Tram drivers refused to allow the Dublin tram system ("Luas") to be used to train Israeli drivers and engineers for a new light-rail system in East Jerusalem that will serve illegal settlements. In response, the local Irish authority cancelled its training plan with Connex, the French firm that will operate the Israeli system (and that also operates Dublin trams). "When you do business with Israel, you invariably do business with the Occupation," said a representative of the Irish Palestinian Solidarity Committee, congratulating the tram drivers on their stand. "We must cut ties with Israel in order to force it to end its Occupation." [www.scottishpsc.org.uk](http://www.scottishpsc.org.uk), <http://www.indymedia.ie/article/77961>

**FAWU - Food and Allied Workers Union, South Africa, 1/07** The union head condemned South African retailers for importing produce from Israel... Union head K. Masemola says Israel produces avocados, for example, under "slave-like conditions," using child labor--forbidden under International Labor Organization (ILO) conventions. <http://electronicintifada.net/v2/article6458.shtml>

**Fire Brigades Union (FBU), UK, 5/09**

The Fire Brigades Union, UK, with over 40,000 members, passed a resolution endorsing boycott, divestment and sanctions. In the accepted resolution, the union "calls on the Executive Council to support and promote throughout the Trade Union and Labour Movement a campaign to boycott Israeli goods, disinvest from Israeli institutions and for sanctions to be taken against Israel, similar to those sanctions imposed by the international movement against apartheid in South Africa, until such time as Israel ends its occupation of Palestine and its oppression of the Palestinian people." <http://www.uslaboragainstwar.org/article.php?id=19272>

**Intersindical Alternativa de Catalunya (IAC) or Catalan Workers' Union, Spain, 11/08**

The Catalan Workers' Union in Spain, known as the Intersindical Alternativa de Catalunya (IAC), passed a resolution at its General Assembly in November, 2008, calling for an end to Israel's occupation and calling on world leaders and the UN Security Council to demand that Israel abide by international humanitarian law and UN resolutions by immediately ending its policy of collective punishment. It called for a halt to Israel's siege of the Gaza Strip and an end to its construction activities in the Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and the Separation Wall. It condemned repression and disproportionate use of force by the Israeli army, and called for broad boycotts and divestment initiatives, embargoes and sanctions against Israel. Finally, it called for an international commission of inquiry into "events that occurred in Palestine" during the past 60 years. <http://www.bdsmovement.net/?q=node/226>

**Irish Congress of Trade Unions (ICTU), 7/07**

The ICTU biennial conference adopted motions to "actively and vigorously" promote a policy of boycott and divestment. The Congress, representing trade unions and workers from all sectors of industry and employment throughout the island of Ireland, criticized the British and Irish governments and the European

Union for the failed policy of "constructive engagement," as, in effect "appeasement of the Israeli aggression and territorial expansionism." The EU has failed to end preferential trading status with Israel although "(t)he litany of human rights abuses, atrocities and war crimes should long ago have led to the ending of the agreement." They noted that the European Parliament has already on two separate occasions called on the EU Council of Ministers to take this action. ICTU will register direct complaints to its governments and to the EU and will seek to mobilize EU-wide trade union action. The Congress's statement contains an eloquent and powerful summary of Israel's oppressive treatment of Palestinians.

<http://www.pacbi.org/etemplate.php?id=557>

#### **Labor for Palestine, US, 2007**

Labor for Palestine, established by American Association for Palestinian Equal Rights, emerged in the US as a response to Palestinian workers' exploitative conditions. US labor union pension funds are said to have about 5 billion dollars invested in State of Israel Bonds. Divestment from these bonds is a central platform of Labor for Palestine.

[http://www.laborforpalestine.org/site/c.jnKJIMNoEkG/b.3781053/k.1889/Labor\\_Home.htm](http://www.laborforpalestine.org/site/c.jnKJIMNoEkG/b.3781053/k.1889/Labor_Home.htm)

#### **Labour for Palestine, Canada. 2007, 2008**

LFP Canada addressed US labor unions with a ringing defense of BDS in August 2007. The group works within the Coalition Against Israeli Apartheid (CAIA) to promote the BDS campaign in Canadian labor unions. Its 134-page informational handbook, updated in 2008, is available from

[www.womensbookstore.com](http://www.womensbookstore.com) <http://www.caiaweb.org/node/742>

#### **Maritime Union of Australia (MUA). 1/09**

Western Australian members of the Maritime Union called for a boycott of all Israeli-registered vessels and all ships bearing goods arriving from or going to Israel. They support the international campaign of boycotts, divestment, and sanctions. [www.bdsmovement.net/?q=node/278](http://www.bdsmovement.net/?q=node/278)

#### **National Union of Journalists (NUJ) -UK. 5/07**

NUJ voted for a boycott of Israeli goods in protest of last year's Lebanon war and Israeli "aggression" in the territories. <http://www.guardian.co.uk/media/2007/apr/13/nationalunionofjournalists.mediaunions1>

#### **Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions. 5/09**

The Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions, whose members constitute more than a third of the country's employees, urged Israel to put an end to the "illegal occupation," respect the 1967 borders, halt the expansion of the settlements and remove the security barrier. It called on the government of Norway to lead an international boycott of Israel if Israel did not reach a peace agreement with the Palestinians.

<http://www.haaretz.com/hasen/spages/1085865.html>

#### **Scottish Trade Union Congress. 4/09**

The Scottish Trades Union Congress (STUC), representing every Scottish trade union, voted overwhelmingly to commit to boycott, divestment and sanctions against Israel. This was the third example of a national trade union federation [including Ireland and South Africa] committing to boycotts, divestment and sanctions.

[http://spsc.scottishpsc.org.uk/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=2871:scottish-tuc-commits-decisively-for-boycott-divestment-a-sanctions&catid=293&Itemid=200116](http://spsc.scottishpsc.org.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=2871:scottish-tuc-commits-decisively-for-boycott-divestment-a-sanctions&catid=293&Itemid=200116)

#### **South African Transport and Allied Workers Union (SATAWU), Durban. 2/09**

The South African Transport and Allied Workers Union became the first to refuse to offload a ship from Israel carrying Israeli goods. SATAWU's General Secretary Randall Howard said the union's members are committed to refusing to handle Israeli goods. The action was applauded by the Canadian Coalition Against Israeli Apartheid, in a statement saying, "(T)he South African workers have shown everyone that it is not only up to the governments, but also individuals, groups and unions have the power to hold Israel to account." <http://www.maritime-union.org/?page=archive&id=4575>

#### **Transport and General Workers Union (TGWU) - UK. 7/07**

This British workers' union called on its 800,000 members to boycott Israeli-made products based on Israel's "criminal policies in Palestinian territories." <http://www.haaretz.com/hasen/spages/879531.html>

### **UNISON - UK. 6/07 & 1/09**

The major British public services union UNISON asked members to stop purchasing Israeli products, stating that "ending the occupation demands concerted and sustained pressure upon Israel, including an economic, cultural, academic and sporting boycott." The intention is not to discriminate against the Israeli people themselves, said delegate Tracy Morgan: "The occupation needs to end so that everyone can live together. And I believe that Israelis and Palestinians do want to live together." The union will produce material on Palestine to build knowledge among members. <http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-3415552,00.html>

The Unison Lambeth branch in January 2009 voted to submit an emergency motion to the UNISON National Conference in July demanding diplomatic sanctions and boycotts against Israel. The British trade union movement played a crucial part in delegitimising South African apartheid, said a spokesman "and now it must do the same for Israel." He added, "the policy of the Israeli state in carrying out ethnic cleansing needs to be condemned unequivocally."

<http://jamescaspell.blogspot.com/2009/01/lambeth-unison-calls-for-boycott-of.html>  
<http://lambethunison.blogspot.com/2009/01/branch-policy-on-palestine>

## **UNIVERSITY AND ACADEMIC ORGANIZATIONS**

Universities, students, and faculties are undertaking drives that inform and create pressure for change. Here are some approaches:

### **Association pour une Solidarite Syndicale Etudiante (ASSE). Quebec. 6/08**

The federation, representing over 42,000 students throughout the province of Quebec, voted to join the anti-apartheid boycott campaign following workshops organized by Quebec's largest college-level teachers union and the Quebec Public Interest Research Group. The campaign marks a challenge to Canada's Conservative government's support for Israel and its occupation of the West Bank.

[www.electronicintifada.net/v2/article9599](http://www.electronicintifada.net/v2/article9599)

### **British Committee for the Universities of Palestine (BRICUP)**

British-based academics work through BRICUP to support Palestinian universities, staff and students and to oppose Israel's suppression of Palestinian academic freedom. BRICUP encourages individual academics to boycott academic conferences in Israel and to refuse to collaborate with Israeli academics except those who support Palestinian scholars' demands for academic freedom. <http://www.bricup.org.uk/>

### **British Universities: Student Sit-in Movement. 1-2/09**

By mid-February 2009, 22 universities in England were or had been occupied, winning concessions from divestment or scholarships for Palestinian students from administrators.

[www.stophthewall.org/worldwideactivism/1856.shtml](http://www.stophthewall.org/worldwideactivism/1856.shtml)

### **Caledonian University Students Parliament. 2008**

Caledonian University Students Parliament (student's representative council) voted to cancel the university's Eden Springs contract - with no votes against. Eden Springs has operations on Israeli-occupied land in the Golan Heights, and profits from the sale of water belonging to the occupied people in violation of international law. This and similar actions by other Scottish groups led to the closing of Eden Springs' plant in Scotland in Nov., 2008. <http://www.badil.org/al-majdal/2008/winter-spring/document3.htm>

### **Cardiff University students win divestment from the arms trade. 2/09**

Cardiff University administrators agreed to sell off all holdings in General Electric and BAE Systems, both companies named by students as supplying military equipment to Israel. The agreement followed a three-day sit-in the Shandon Lecture Theatre, where students heard speeches, watched documentaries about the conflict, and took part in a live link-up with Gaza. The sit-in movement is sweeping British colleges. By mid-February 2009, 22 universities were or had been occupied. [www.walesonline.co.uk/.../wales.../27/power-of-student-action-forces-university-to-divest](http://www.walesonline.co.uk/.../wales.../27/power-of-student-action-forces-university-to-divest)

### **Education Institute of Scotland (EIS), Napier University branch**

Napier University branch of the Education Institute of Scotland (EIS) passed a motion at its Annual Meeting to call for a cancellation of the university's Eden Springs contract. Eden Springs profits from natural resources belonging to an occupied people in violation of international law. Their plant is in the Golan Heights on Israeli-occupied land. This and similar actions by other Scottish groups led to the closing of Eden Springs' plant in Scotland in Nov., 2008.

<http://www.badil.org/al-majdal/2008/winter-spring/document3.htm>

### **Hampshire College. 2/09**

Hampshire College announced that it would divest from six corporations, Caterpillar, United Technologies, General Electric, ITT Corp, Motorola, and Terex. The campus group Students for Justice in Palestine had, with alumni and professors, waged a two-year campaign calling for this action on grounds that the companies provide the Israeli military with equipment and services. The action subsequently aroused public criticism from Professor Alan Dershowitz, a supporter of Israel. The college then issued a "clarifying report" to alumni and parents stating that it had undertaken a review of its investments upon request from Students for Justice in Palestine, but that the review was carried out "without reference to any country or political movement." [www.electronicintifada.net/v2/article10304.shtml](http://www.electronicintifada.net/v2/article10304.shtml)

### **The Haverford Campaign, Haverford College, Pennsylvania. 2009**

A group of students and alumni at Haverford College in Pennsylvania has launched a campaign to call on the University to divest from "any entity that contributes to or supports Israel's military occupation of Palestine." <http://www.thehaverfordcampaign.com/>, <http://www.biconews.com/?p=15446>

### **Heriot Watt University**

Heriot Watt University in Scotland has decided to terminate its contract with Eden Springs, which has operations on Israeli-occupied land in the Golan Heights. The company profits by exploiting the natural resources of an occupied people in violation of international law. Similar actions by other Scottish organizations led to the closing of Eden Springs' plant in Scotland in Nov., 2008.

[http://scottishpsc.org.uk/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=2518:campaign-update&catid=288&Itemid=200256](http://scottishpsc.org.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=2518:campaign-update&catid=288&Itemid=200256)

### **Howard University. 3/07**

The faculty of the College of Arts and Sciences at Howard University voted overwhelmingly to ask the Board of Trustees to divest from companies that are "offering material support to Israeli Occupation." The resolution adopted the approach of the University of Wisconsin Platteville faculty (see below) and a recent divestment action citing Sudan for violations in Darfur. The movement in this historically Black university in Washington, DC, was initially stymied when Howard President Patrick Swygert rejected it outright. Faculty leaders planned to reintroduce it "in the hope that the resolution spread around the country and generate action comparable to the anti-apartheid movement of the 1980s."

[www.jai-pal.org/content.php?page=501](http://www.jai-pal.org/content.php?page=501)

### **London School of Economics Student Union (LSEU). 2/08**

After weeks of debate, nearly 400 LSEU students voted 6-to-1 to call on their university and on the National Union of Students to divest from companies that provide military and commercial support for the Israeli occupation. The Union also resolved to join international campaigns to end the siege of Gaza and to publicize Israel's discriminatory policies more widely. <http://www.bdsmovement.net/?q=node/166>

### **National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education (UK). 5/06**

Britain's largest faculty association voted to urge its 67,000 members to "consider the appropriateness of a boycott" of Israeli faculty who fail to "publicly dissociate themselves" from Israel's "apartheid policies, including construction of the exclusion wall and discriminatory educational practices." They asked British college teachers "to consider their own responsibility for ensuring equity and nondiscrimination in contacts with Israeli educational institutions or individuals." <http://chronicle.com/article/British-Faculty-Union-Votes-to/23332/> , <http://www.forward.com/articles/694/>

### **St. Andrews University Student Union, Scotland.**

St. Andrews University Student Union voted to cancel the university's Eden Springs contract. Eden Springs has a company on Israeli-occupied land in the Golan Heights and exploits the resources of the occupied people for its own profit. This and similar actions led to the closing of Eden Springs' plant in Scotland. <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2218670784>

### **Strathclyde University, Scotland. 2/09**

University authorities agreed to cancel their contract with Eden Springs, an Israeli water company that had been the main supplier for their water coolers. A group of 40 students had issued urgent appeals in response to Israel's attacks on Gaza. The university further agreed to establish a scholarship arrangement for Palestinian students. "We are particularly aware that the infrastructure of higher education has been damaged," said University secretary Dr. Peter West, "making it particularly difficult for Palestinian students to pursue their studies." This was one of many actions by Scottish organizations which led to the closing of Eden Springs' plant in Scotland in Nov., 2008. [www.news.scotsman.com/scotland/University-agrees-to-cancel-Israeli.4954032.jp](http://www.news.scotsman.com/scotland/University-agrees-to-cancel-Israeli.4954032.jp)

### **Stevenson College Edinburgh, Scotland. 2008**

Stevenson College Edinburgh (SCE) is one of the largest colleges in Scotland. The college terminated its contract with Eden Springs in response to student pressure to sever ties with the company due to its location on occupied land in the Golan Heights. Eden Springs profits from natural resources belonging to an occupied people in violation of international law. As a result of this and similar actions throughout Scotland, Eden Springs was forced to close its Scottish plant. [http://scottishpsc.org.uk/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=2742:israels-eden-springs-taking-hits-from-successful-boycott-campaign&catid=288&Itemid=200256](http://scottishpsc.org.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=2742:israels-eden-springs-taking-hits-from-successful-boycott-campaign&catid=288&Itemid=200256)

### **Students for Justice in Palestine, Bryn Mawr College, Pennsylvania. 2005**

Students for Justice in Palestine, a Bryn Mawr club that works to raise awareness regarding the ongoing conflict between Israel and the Palestinians, called on Bryn Mawr College "to divest from Caterpillar, General Electric, and Boeing because of strong evidence showing that these companies sell arms, technology, and other military products that support the illegal military occupation." <http://www.biconews.com/?p=1813>

### **Swarthmore College Alumni for Peace, 1/09**

A group of Swarthmore College alumni started a campaign in January, 2009 to gather signatures asking Swarthmore College to divest from Israel because of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in the Gaza strip, West Bank and Israel. Those who signed the online open letter promised to withhold any future donations to the school until Swarthmore ceases to do business with any companies in Israel, those that do business with Israel, and "other holdings that financially support or sustain Israeli state-sponsored apartheid," <http://www.theswarthmorecampaign.com/>

### **The University of Wisconsin, 2005**

A coalition of groups and individuals in the University and the state began in 2005 circulating a petition, asking the University of Wisconsin Board of Regents "to divest from any company doing business with or in the State of Israel until . . . Israel accepts and facilitates the full implementation of the individual and collective human rights of the Palestinian people." The petition cites Israeli "policies of encapsulation, expropriation, and ethnic cleansing against the indigenous Palestinian population," depriving them of "residency rights, the right to work, and the right to equality before the law."

In a related action, The Association of University of Wisconsin Professionals (TAUWP), a statewide local of the American Federation of Teachers-Wisconsin, representing faculty and academic staff from 25 UW campuses, in 4/05 adopted a divestment resolution, naming companies that "provide material aid to the Israeli Army in the form of weapons, equipment, and supporting systems used to perpetrate human rights abuses against Palestinian civilians" – including Boeing, Caterpillar, General Dynamics, General Electric, Lockheed-Martin, Northrop-Grumman, and Raytheon. TAUWP's resolution notes that the Regents' policies prohibit such investments. Notably, the Faculty Senate of one UW branch (Platteville) was the first such

faculty body in the nation to pass a divestment resolution (1/25/05), citing "violations of international law and the human rights of the Palestinian people," enabled by the named U.S. arms companies.  
[http://www.monabaker.com/pMachine/more.php?id=A2780\\_0\\_1\\_0\\_M](http://www.monabaker.com/pMachine/more.php?id=A2780_0_1_0_M)

### **University and College Union (UCU) - UK. 2007, 2008**

The UCU, a union of 100,000 university and other higher-education teachers in Great Britain, voted to ask members to "reflect on "the appropriateness of continued educational links with Israeli academic institutions," "to discuss the occupation" with "Israeli colleagues with whom they are collaborating," and to establish links with Palestinian educational institutions. The move echoed a motion adopted a year earlier that openly supported a campaign for educational institutions to consider boycotting Israeli academic institutions after a year of informed debate on British campuses, including a review of the Palestinian BDS call. The 2007 UCU boycott-discussion campaign was rescinded when lawyers retained by union leaders termed an academic boycott discriminatory and illegal. Union leaders stated that the new 2008 motion was not "a boycott motion." The UCU is a new union formed in 2006 through the merger of two previous UK academic unions, AUT and NATFHE. Its actions, in turn, echo the 2006 call of 61 Irish academics for a boycott of Israeli universities. [www.spme.net/cgi-bin/articles.cgi?ID=4126](http://www.spme.net/cgi-bin/articles.cgi?ID=4126) ; [www.ucu.org.uk/circ/html/ucu89.html](http://www.ucu.org.uk/circ/html/ucu89.html)

### **University of Rochester. NY 2/09**

Beginning February 6, 2009, students at the University of Rochester in New York, and members of the surrounding community held a series of sit-ins in the University Atrium calling for divestment from Israel's occupation, humanitarian aid to Gaza, aid to a destroyed Gaza university and a minimum of five scholarships for Palestinian students every year. The sit-ins were organized by UR Students for a Democratic Society.  
<http://rochester.indymedia.org/feature/display/19887/index.php>

## **CHRISTIAN ORGANIZATIONS**

### **Amman Call: Churches Together for Peace and Justice in the Middle East. 6/07**

130 representatives from churches around the world met in Amman, Jordan, seeking to mobilize more vigorous church involvement in response to the deteriorating situation in the Palestinian territories: "No more words without deeds. It is time for action." The ecumenical representatives launched the "Palestine/Israel Ecumenical Forum (PIEF) to catalyze and coordinate new and existing inter-religious action--including economic initiatives--for peace and justice for all the people of the region.  
[www.electronicinfada.net/v2/article9803.shtml](http://www.electronicinfada.net/v2/article9803.shtml);[www.paxchristi.de/fix/files/doc/AMMAN-Kirchenkonferenz-Juni-07-0641.pdf](http://www.paxchristi.de/fix/files/doc/AMMAN-Kirchenkonferenz-Juni-07-0641.pdf)

### **Anglican Church of England. 2/08**

The Church of England finally divested its \$3.3 million holdings in Caterpillar, Corp. in line with the decision of its Synod in 2006 to support "morally responsible investment in the Palestinian occupied territories and, in particular to disinvest from companies profiting from the illegal occupation, such as Caterpillar Inc, until they change their policies."

The Synod's Ethical Investment Advisory Group (EIAG), charged with implementing this policy, had long delayed taking action. It had been asked to divest if Caterpillar refused to stop supplying or maintaining equipment or parts for use by Israel in demolishing Palestinian homes. However, the Church announced in early 2009 that EIAG had in fact quietly divested from Caterpillar in "for purely investment reasons." The timing of the divestment announcement blocked the imminent publication in The Guardian of a letter from 23 theologians accusing the Church of not acting on its own ethical investment policies.  
[www.anglicancommunion.org/](http://www.anglicancommunion.org/) , [www.fosna.org/content/church-england-divests-caterpillar](http://www.fosna.org/content/church-england-divests-caterpillar),

### **Anglican Church of England: Virginia Water Parish, Guildford Diocese. 10/06**

The parish decided to implement the decision of the General Synod on its own. It withdrew its funds from its Church of England investment account in order to disinvest from companies such as Caterpillar that are profiting from Israel's occupation of Palestine. The Central Board of Finance (CBF), which manages investment funds, had so far declined to implement the General Synod's decision. "We are simply doing

what the local Church in Palestine and the General Synod has asked us to do," said Vicar Stephen Sizer. "If the CBF will not withdraw our money from Caterpillar, then we will do it for them. We are looking for an investment fund with a more ethically sound policy." <http://www.sizers.org/articles/imri.pdf>, <http://www.jewishvoiceforpeace.org/publish/economic-engagement.shtml>, [www.ekklesia.co.uk/content/news\\_syndication/article\\_061022caterpillar.shtml](http://www.ekklesia.co.uk/content/news_syndication/article_061022caterpillar.shtml)

#### **Anglican Consultative Council. 5/05, 6/09**

Calls for "active engagement" by Anglican communions worldwide to wrestle with companies that support the occupation of Palestinian lands or violence against innocent Israelis. It encourages investment that supports the infrastructure of a future Palestinian State. <http://www.fosna.org/content/anglican-vote-anglican-consultative-council>

On May 9, 2009, the Council passed a resolution that calls on Israel to end its occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, freeze immediately all settlement building with the intention to abandon its settlement policy in preparation for a Palestinian state, remove the separation barrier (wall) where it violates Palestinian land beyond the Green Line, end home demolitions, and close checkpoints in the Palestinian territories. <http://www.anglicancommunion.org/acns/news.cfm/2009/5/12/ACNS4630>

#### **Anglican Church of Kenya. 7/05**

The Anglican Church of Kenya joined the Anglican Consultative Committee in urging movement toward divestment from companies whose activities contribute to the occupation of Palestinian land or to violence against innocent Israelis. "You only have to go there and [you will] sympathize with the Palestinians, especially when it comes to the separation wall. . . and the mistreatment of the women and men at the roadblocks," said Bishop Gideon Ileri, speaking after the Kenyan synod backed the 5/05 call of the Anglican Consultative Council. <http://www.bethlehemmedia.net/featers/feat174.htm>, [www.episcopalchurch.org](http://www.episcopalchurch.org),

#### **Anglican Church of Canada. 11/05**

The Council of General Synod unanimously passed a resolution asking the eco-justice committee, with the help of Kairos, a Canadian ecumenical justice group, to research the activities of companies believed to be contributing to violence in Israel and Palestine, as well as those contributing to peace and economic stability in that region. The committee, along with the Financial Management Development Investment Subcommittee, should "explore a range of socially responsible investment strategies, including corporate engagement and positive investment or divestment." <http://www.anglicancommunion.org/the-holy-land/data/canada.pdf>

#### **Ecumenical Action Group: Investment for a Just Peace in Israel/Palestine. 2006 (ongoing)**

This is a US-based group of investment advisors from several Christian denominations working for the investment of their churches' funds consistent with a just Israeli-Palestinian peace. They serve as an ecumenical resource, providing information and advice to interested church members who share this aim. For further information, contact [Bill.Somplatsky-Jarman@pcusa.org](mailto:Bill.Somplatsky-Jarman@pcusa.org).

#### **Ecumenical Campaign to End the Illegal Occupation of Palestine: Support a Just Peace in the Middle East.**

The campaign, begun in 2002, aims to mobilize member churches and ecumenical partners of the World Council of Churches through advocacy, prayer, building awareness of the issues and of churches' and secular groups' work in addressing the conflict, and accompaniment of Israelis and Palestinians engaging in nonviolent actions. The Campaign calls for a boycott of all products from Jewish settlements and an arms embargo until Israel withdraws from the Occupied Territories and complies with UN resolutions. [www.wcc-coe.org/wcc/what/international/palestine/campaign-home.html](http://www.wcc-coe.org/wcc/what/international/palestine/campaign-home.html)

#### **Episcopal Diocese of New Hampshire. 12/08**

The Episcopal Diocese of New Hampshire passed a resolution to support the call urging divestment from companies that profit from Israel's occupation of the Palestinian territories. The resolution intends to increase awareness of and divest from the companies that actively participate in the oppression of Palestinians and launches a strategy for morally responsible investing to initiate a process of divestment from corporations that allow and profit from the Israeli occupation of the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem. [http://www.nhepiscopal.org/convention/diocon\\_over.html](http://www.nhepiscopal.org/convention/diocon_over.html)

### **Episcopal Executive Council (US). 10/05**

EEC directed its Committee for Social Responsibility in Investments to undertake the following actions:

1. Corporate engagement via dialogue and shareholder resolutions, as appropriate, to encourage companies to adopt socially responsible practices that advance positive changes in Israeli government policy and end the Occupation.
2. Urge the Palestinian Authority to oppose violence as a means of resistance.
3. "Positive investment" – encourage companies to invest in the economic infrastructure of the West Bank and Gaza: "A stable Palestinian state will make for a more secure Israel." Seek opportunities, with others, to make loans to "support economic justice and development in support of a future Palestinian State." Palestine, like Israel, has a right to an economy that flourishes.
4. Urge members of the Church to visit church partners and others in Israel and the Palestinian Territories in order to understand the complexities of the conflict. <http://www.anglicancommunion.org/the-holy-land/data/usa.pdf>

### **Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA). 8/07**

Evangelical Lutherans, with nearly 5 million US members, backed "exploration of the feasibility of refusing to buy products produced in Israeli settlements," and of supporting the purchase of Palestinian products, in measures adopted by The Churchwide Assembly, the denomination's key legislative body. The Assembly called for examination of the denomination's "entire investment activity," excluding divestiture. These economic initiatives are part of a decision to "recommit to the Churchwide Strategy for Engagement in Israel and Palestine through awareness-building, accompaniment [visits with Holy Land hosts], and advocacy." The initiative builds on the Peace Not Walls campaign the Assembly adopted in 2005, and will be undertaken in consultation with Evangelical Lutheran churches in Jordan and the Holy Land. [www.elca.org/news/Releases.asp?a=3718](http://www.elca.org/news/Releases.asp?a=3718)

### **Palestine-Israel Action Group (PIAG), Ann Arbor, Michigan.**

A group of Ann Arbor, Michigan Quakers has distributed 343,000 informational "mapcards" throughout the United States. The colorful little cards illustrate the loss of Palestinian land from 1946 – 2009. They also show the fragmentation of the West Bank, with myriad Jewish settlements scattered throughout the area on occupied land, in violation of international law. These may be ordered from [piag @mac.com](mailto:piag@mac.com).

### **Pax Christi: Catholic International Peace Movement. 7/06**

Pax Christi announced support for a UK campaign aimed at multi-national companies that profit from the Occupation, including Volvo, Caterpillar, Daewoo and Sainsbury's. Australian Pax Christi convenor Fr. Claude Mostowik called for the campaign to expand as a worldwide boycott. [www.cathnews.com/news/607/60.php](http://www.cathnews.com/news/607/60.php)

### **Presbyterian Church, USA. 6/08**

Representatives of the Committee on Mission Responsibility Through Investment (MRTI) reported to the 2008 General Assembly that they were in the midst of "corporate engagement" with both Caterpillar and Motorola and believed they were making progress. MRTI aims to persuade corporations to change their practices through correspondence, direct talks, proxy voting, shareholder resolutions, and, if need-be, through a recommendation for divestment.

The Presbyterians also voted to endorse the World Council of Churches affirmation of a "two-state" solution, a shared Jerusalem, and human rights of refugees and occupied peoples. The Assembly called on the church to be a voice for victims of violence in Israel and in Palestine and it condemned all acts of violence against innocent civilians.

These new resolutions built on measures adopted in 2006 asking MRTI to "identify affirmative investment opportunities as they pertain to Israel, Gaza, East Jerusalem, and the West Bank" and to assure that the church invests there "only in peaceful pursuits." They call for the "creation of a socially, economically, geographically, and politically viable and secure Palestinian state, alongside an equally viable and secure Israeli state," adding "both of which have a right to exist." The 2006 GA also supported "fair criticism" of the wall, saying: "To the extent that the security barrier violates Palestinian land . . . the barrier should be dismantled and relocated."

<http://www.pcusa.org/worldwide/israelpalestine/resources/divestmentfaqpart2.pdf>

### **Presbyterian Church, USA, Detroit Presbytery. 2/08**

This group called for Temporary Suspension of Military Aid to Israel: The Presbytery voted to ask the 2008 General Assembly to 1) reaffirm the right of Israel to exist; 2) deplore suicide bombings and terror attacks; and 3) call for temporary suspension of US military aid to Israel until it complies with the Arms Export Control Act and the Foreign Assistance Act. These laws prohibit the use of US weapons against civilians or civilian infrastructure and bar aid to countries that engage in a consistent pattern of gross violations of internationally recognized human rights.

(Middle East Work Group (MEWG) of the Presbytery of Detroit <http://mewg.org/overture218/>)

### **Presbyterian Church of Scotland. 2006**

The Church of Scotland General Assembly (GA) asked the Church & Society Council to investigate implications of occupation for the church's portfolio of investments. The matter had been referred to the GA in 5/06. The Church found it had no relevant investments, but the General Assembly called on the European Union to clearly inform consumers by identifying products from Israeli settlements. After a visit to the Occupied Palestinian Territories, the moderator of the General Assembly called on the church to pursue divestment/boycotts against companies that profit from the occupation.

[http://www.kairoscanada.org/fileadmin/fe/files/PDF/HRTrade/Pal-Isr/Paper\\_EconomicAdvocacyMeasures\\_Jan08.pdf](http://www.kairoscanada.org/fileadmin/fe/files/PDF/HRTrade/Pal-Isr/Paper_EconomicAdvocacyMeasures_Jan08.pdf)

### **Religious Society of Friends (Quakers): American Friends Service Committee (AFSC). 3/08**

AFSC is affiliated with the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers). The AFSC Board adopted an "investment screen" barring investments in companies that provide products or services (including financial services) used by Israeli governmental or military bodies or Israeli or Palestinian organizations or groups "to facilitate or undertake violent acts against civilians or violations of international law." The screen would bar investment in companies that help maintain Israel's military occupation of Gaza and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, or that help maintain and expand Israeli settlements or the Separation Wall. The Board stated, "We take this action as a matter of conscience and an expression of our unwillingness to remain complicit with violence and oppression occurring daily in Palestine and Israel, which is contrary to all that we know to be true and right." [www.afsc.org/israel-palestine/default.htm](http://www.afsc.org/israel-palestine/default.htm)

### **Religious Society of Friends, Atlanta Quaker Meeting. 2006.**

This group adopted a resolution that said, in part, "The Atlanta Friends Meeting urges the President and Congress to act immediately to halt Israel's military attacks in the Middle East that are being conducted with U.S.-supplied weapons in violation of our laws. We urge the President and Congress to stop all foreign assistance and military equipment exports to Israel until it ceases military attacks outside of its internationally recognized borders." The resolution called for a cease-fire and negotiations to end Israel's conflicts in Lebanon and Gaza. <http://atlanta.quaker.org/peaceminutes.htm>

### **Religious Society of Friends (Quakers): Olympia Meeting, Washington State. 8/06**

"By using US-supplied weapons to attack Gaza and Lebanon, Israel is violating the terms of the US Arms Export Control Act and Foreign Assistance Act. The Arms Export Control Act restricts the use of US weapons to legitimate self-defense and internal policing; US weapons cannot be used to attack civilians in offensive operations. The Foreign Assistance Act prohibits US aid of any kind to a country that routinely kills civilians as a result of its military operations. ... We urge the President and Congress to stop all foreign assistance and military equipment exports to Israel until it ceases military attacks outside of its internationally recognized borders." [http://olyfriends.homestead.com/justice.html#anchor\\_29](http://olyfriends.homestead.com/justice.html#anchor_29)

### **Roman Catholic: Mercy Investment Program, Sisters of Mercy, Maryknoll Sisters, Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia, Sisters of Loretto, together with Jewish Voice for Peace. 2004, 2005**

As shareholders in Caterpillar, Inc., the Sisters of Loretto filed a resolution in 2004, asking Caterpillar to stop providing arms to Israel. A Sister addressed the annual shareholders meeting, telling the executives, "You understand the implications of improvement in clean emissions, equal employment opportunity, environmental impact of mining and logging. But with sales to the Israeli Army through the Department of Defense, you have stepped up Caterpillar's role in the public arena. Caterpillar bulldozers are tools of war now and Caterpillar is an arms dealer, sharing in responsibility for the horrendous use of those weapons."

The resolution won 4% of the shareholders' votes, assuring its reconsideration in 2005. The Sisters' communities in 2005 joined Jewish Voice for Peace in asking CAT to investigate whether its sale of bulldozers to Israel violates the company's own code of conduct: "It is a matter of public record that since September 2000, the Israeli government has used Caterpillar equipment to destroy more than 3000 homes, hundreds of public buildings and private commercial properties and vast areas of agricultural land," uprooting "hundreds of thousands of olive trees as well as orchards of dates, prunes, lemons and oranges causing widespread economic hardship and environmental degradation in rural areas of Palestine." The resolution received a 3% vote at the shareholders' meeting.

<http://www.catdestroyshomes.org/article.php?id=526>,

[http://www.jewishvoiceforpeace.org/publish/article\\_192.shtml](http://www.jewishvoiceforpeace.org/publish/article_192.shtml)

#### **Roman Catholic: National Coalition of American Nuns. 8/07**

The coalition, founded in 1969 for individual nuns dedicated to issues of social justice and human rights, backed municipal boycotts of Caterpillar machinery and a boycott of Israeli goods at its 2007 board meeting. "Because Caterpillar (CAT) bulldozers are used as weapons of war in the Occupied Territories in violation not only of the U. S. Arms Export Control Act, but also of international law and the corporation's own code of conduct, we call for divestment from Caterpillar, municipal boycotts of CAT machinery, and a consumer boycott of other CAT products." Further, "We encourage a boycott of Israeli goods in order to hasten a more just civil order in the Holy Land." <http://www.ncan.us/page/2/>

#### **Sabeel**

Sabeel, a Jerusalem-based international organization representing Palestinian Christians, has stated that "There is a spiritual dimension to all investment." Sabeel explains that:

1. Earning money through investment in companies whose products and services are used to violate International Law and human rights is equivalent to profiting from unlawful acts and the oppression of others.
2. Continuing such investments, once the facts are brought to our attention, constitutes enabling harm to innocent civilians under Occupation and condoning illegal settlement policies that lead to human rights violations.

Sabeel cites Israeli human rights lawyer Shamai Liebovitz: "If the Jewish people are ever to become 'a light of all nations' and return to their core values of justice and human dignity, Israelis and Jews of conscience must call for effective measures to end the occupation of millions of Palestinians. I believe that selective economic pressure is the most effective way to end the brutal occupation."

"The churches have exhausted all other options," says Sabeel founder Naim Ateek, a Palestinian-Israeli Anglican priest. (See "Morally Responsible Investment: A Nonviolent Response to the Occupation," 8/05.) <http://www.cc-vw.org/articles/mri.htm>, <http://www.sabeel.org/pdfs/mri.htm>

#### **South African Council of Churches (SACC). 5/05**

The Council, representing millions of South Africans, endorsed the call for boycott issued by the Palestinian Campaign for the Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel. The endorsement was joined by over a hundred prominent South African academics. [www.aidc.org.za/?q=book/view/586](http://www.aidc.org.za/?q=book/view/586)

#### **United Church of Canada (Presbyterian, Methodist, United Church of Christ). 8/06**

The UCC General Council adopted a Pro-Peace Investment Strategy "to invite the membership, congregations, and organizations of The United Church of Canada to invest in companies that contribute to peace and a secure and economically viable Palestinian state alongside a secure and economically viable State of Israel" and to "make financial investments, as they pertain to Israel, Gaza, East Jerusalem, and the West Bank, with . . . companies that are engaged only in peaceful pursuits in the region." UCC is Canada's largest Protestant denomination. It ruled out investment in companies supporting the occupation and settlements, as well as in firms serving "any government or organization that refuses to recognize the legitimate rights of the State of Israel, including its right to exist as a Jewish state." The denomination denounced acts of violence perpetrated against persons on all sides of the conflict. It committed to raising one million dollars to support projects of groups working for peace in Palestine and Israel. [www.united-church.ca/news/2006/0818.shtml](http://www.united-church.ca/news/2006/0818.shtml)

### **United Church of Christ (UCC). 7/05**

"The Use of Economic Leverage in Promoting Peace in the Middle East," adopted at UCC's twenty-fifth General Synod, asked pension boards, conferences, local churches and members to use economic leverage -- advocating reallocation of US foreign aid to constrain Middle East militarization; contributing to groups and partners committed to nonviolent resolution of the conflict; challenging corporations' practices that gain from the conflict and occupation; and divesting from companies that refuse to change these practices. The Synod called for education of congregants about how economic leverage may help support the development of Palestine and Israel as two independent, secure, economically viable states. It further urged continuation of dialogue with Jewish, Christian and Muslim partners to work for Israel-Palestine peace. [http://www.cmep.org/Statements/2005July\\_UCCEconomic.htm](http://www.cmep.org/Statements/2005July_UCCEconomic.htm)

### **United Methodist Church: General Conference. 2004, 2008**

In 2004, the United Methodist General Conference overwhelmingly passed a resolution opposing Israel's occupation of Palestinian land. The resolution stated: "*Therefore, be it resolved*, that The United Methodist Church opposes continued military occupation of the West Bank, Gaza, and East Jerusalem, the confiscation of Palestinian land and water resources, the destruction of Palestinian homes, the continued building of illegal Jewish settlements, and any vision of a "Greater Israel" that includes the occupied territories and the whole of Jerusalem and its surroundings." The United Methodist General Conference of, 2008 advanced its commitment to ethical investment by establishing a "socially responsible investment task force" to examine how church investments may avoid linkage with companies involved in human rights abuses in the Middle East, as well as in China and Sudan.

[http://archives.umc.org/interior\\_print.asp?ptid=4&mid=6855](http://archives.umc.org/interior_print.asp?ptid=4&mid=6855)  
[www.unitedmethodistdivestment.com](http://www.unitedmethodistdivestment.com), [www.jewishvoiceforpeace.org/publish/article\\_1091.shtml](http://www.jewishvoiceforpeace.org/publish/article_1091.shtml)

### **United Methodist Church: Regional conferences:**

United Methodist regional or annual conferences that have passed resolutions calling for economic action to end the Israeli occupation include Baltimore-Washington Conference, California-Nevada, California-Pacific, New England, North Central New York, Northern Illinois, Oregon-Idaho, Rocky Mountain, Virginia and Western Ohio. [www.unitedmethodistdivestment.com](http://www.unitedmethodistdivestment.com)

The New England Conference established a Divestment Task Force in 2005 to communicate with and publicize key companies found to support the Occupation. Twenty companies were placed on a divestment list and shared with Methodist churches and investment managers. They are Lockheed Martin, Blockbuster, Alliant Tech Systems, Boeing, Caterpillar, Cement Roadstone Holdings, General Dynamics, General Electric, Globecom Systems, Magal Security Systems, Motorola, Northrop Grumman, Oshkosh Truck Corp, Raytheon, Silicon Graphics, Terex, United Technologies, Veolia Environnement, ITT, and Volvo. "Selective divestment is consistent with the United Methodist commitment to a just and sustainable peace for all the people of the Middle East," says William Aldrich, of the Task Force. "Selective divestment offers a tangible way of working toward this goal." [www.neumc.org/divest](http://www.neumc.org/divest)

### **World Council of Churches Central Committee. 2005, 2006, 2009**

WCC advocates selective divestment from US companies like Caterpillar that profit from the Occupation, and from Israeli companies that depend on settlements for materials and labor, or that produce military equipment used to violate Palestinian human rights.

Churches with investment funds have an opportunity to use those funds responsibly in support of peaceful solutions to conflict. "Economic pressure, appropriately and openly applied, is one such means of action." (Adopted 2/05; reaffirmed 8/06).

On September 2, the WCC issued a public statement urging Israel to freeze all settlements and begin dismantling them. The Committee said the settlements are "illegal, unjust, incompatible with peace and antithetical to the legitimate interests of the state of Israel". It renewed its call for an international boycott of all settlement products.

<http://wcccoe.org/wcc/what/international/regconcerns-palestine-israel.html> ; [media@wcc-coe.org](mailto:media@wcc-coe.org)

### **York and Hull District Methodist Synod, England. 4/05**

The York and Hull District Methodist Synod recommended to the 2005 UK Methodist Conference that it follow the lead of the World Council of Churches and Presbyterian Church, undertaking a review of all investments under its control, with a view to divesting from any corporations or activities that support the

illegal occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. A proponent stated, "International law is the basis of the Conference resolution. This fact should be well publicized." The report was referred to a committee, which amended the language and submitted it again to the Conference in 2006, where it was accepted in its altered form. <http://www.methodist.org.uk/index.cfm?fuseaction=opentogod.content&cmid=1292>

## **JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS**

### **American Jews for a Just Peace (AJJP). 8/08**

American Jews for a Just Peace, formed in 2008, is an alliance of activists working for equal rights, safety and dignity for all the people of historic Palestine. AJJP's "Common Ground" principles "recognize the importance of boycott, divestment and sanctions work and support the right of our members to engage in that work." The group further calls for cessation of US aid to Israel until that government ends its occupation and expropriation of land in the West Bank, Gaza, and East Jerusalem and achieves a just peace. AJJP operates as an alliance of autonomous chapters and individual members committed to these and other principles listed on its web site. It is predominantly Jewish but welcomes the participation of others committed to these core principles. <http://www.ajjp.org/about/common-ground/>

### **European Jews for a Just Peace (EJJP). 2005**

EJJP is a coalition of Jewish groups from 9 European countries and the United Kingdom. A statement called "No Other Way," adopted at the group's 2005 annual plenary, calls for economic pressure targeted at the Occupation. The rationale for these measures highlights: 1) Their nonviolent nature and 2) The fact that the need to resort to these steps is a result of the failure of other means. Opposing the Israeli occupation cannot be construed as anti-Semitic.

Under "Divestment Actions," EJJP calls for pressure by boycott and information campaigns on companies, institutions, organizations, and individuals that profit from involvement in or contribution to the Occupation, such as Caterpillar, Intel, and Soda Club. It includes Israeli companies that produce military equipment used to violate Palestinian human rights, and also universities, research institutions, and individuals that contribute to the perpetuation of the Occupation.

The purchase of Israeli arms and weapons should be banned, and governments are asked to stop selling Israel arms used to continue the Occupation. Settlement products should be boycotted, based on the Gush Shalom list, as well as products with labels that do not differentiate between settlement products and those made in Israel. <http://www.ejpp.org/aboutejpp/our-members.html>

### **Independent Jewish Voices (Canada). 6/09**

Independent Jewish Voices (Canada) voted to join the growing international campaign in support of the Palestinian call for Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) against Israel, at its first Annual General Meeting this past weekend. This decision makes IJV the first national Jewish organization in the world to do so. The adopted resolution states that IJV will "Support the Palestinian call for a campaign of boycott, divestment and sanctions until Israel meets its obligation to recognize the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and complies with the precepts of international law, including the right of Palestinian refugees to return to their homes and properties as stipulated in UN resolution 194." According to IJV, "Independent Jewish Voices is a member-led organization, with chapters in Vancouver, Winnipeg, Toronto, Hamilton, Ottawa, Montreal, and Halifax." <http://ijvcanada.org/ijv-vji-positions/>

### **Jewish Voice for Peace, US**

The group includes American Jews and Israeli peace activists. It supports the Presbyterian Church's position on "selective divestment from companies, including Caterpillar, that profit from Israel's occupation of the West Bank, Gaza, and East Jerusalem and from Israeli companies that use settlements as a source for materials and labor or that produce military equipment used to violate Palestinian human rights." It believes that general divestment from Israel itself is not now advised; rather: divestment should target the Occupation and the Israeli military complex that sustains it. JVP counters Caterpillar's claims that the company is not involved with Israeli violence because it does not sell its house-wrecking equipment directly to the IDF. In fact, the company's bulldozers are sold to Israel through the US Foreign Military Sales Program (as Cat CEO Jim Owens wrote JVP in 2003). JVP notes that US military aid since 1949

“represents the largest transfer of funds from one country to another in history.” However, by law, 75% of US military aid to Israel must go to US corporations, so US companies are major financial beneficiaries of the Occupation. [www.jewishvoiceforpeace.org](http://www.jewishvoiceforpeace.org)

#### **Jewish Voice for Peace. Germany. 8/07**

Protestors from Jewish Voice for Peace demonstrated against settlement food products during "Israel Week" at a Berlin department store, Galeria Kaufhof. The protestors, joined by Middle East Workshop Berlin and Solidarity with Palestine, targeted Amnon and Tamar (spices).

<http://www.haaretz.com/hasen/spages/894796.html>

#### **Jews Against The Occupation (JATO), New York, NY. 11/04**

Jews Against the Occupation sent a letter to the Presbyterian Church USA saying, “We are writing as deeply committed Jews to thank the Presbyterian Church for acting as a true friend to our people. Their decisions to condemn Israel's Wall . . . and to begin selective divestment of holdings in multinational corporations doing business in Israel/Palestine represent an important step forward in the struggle for Palestinian freedom and an end to the conflict . . . (W)e believe that the day will come, be it in five years or fifty, when the Presbyterian Church's action in this matter will be remembered with love and gratitude by Jews around the world. . . .” <http://electronicintifada.net/v2/article4806.shtml>

#### **Jews for a Just Peace, Vancouver, Canada. 8/06**

A statement issued by Jews for a Just Peace in Vancouver read, “There is no such thing as a benign occupation.” Appeals to the Israeli government to end their harsh treatment of Palestinians have simply not worked. “That’s why stronger measures are called for, measures such as selective divestment . . . Israel’s occupation is being institutionalized and made permanent. As Jeff Halper says: ‘Neither security nor terrorism are really the issue; Israel’s policies of annexation are based on a pro-active claim to the entire country . . . Terrorism on all sides is wrong . . . but to demand that resistance cease while an occupation is being made permanent is unconscionable.’”

“In Gaza, the siege continues. Israel has kidnapped elected Palestinian officials, shelled and bombed, conducted military operations resulting in civilian deaths, and destroyed civilian infrastructure -- power grids, bridges, government buildings and more. Still understood as Occupation under international law, Israel controls Gazan airspace, borders and ports. “We support the views of the prominent Israeli writer, the late Yeshayahu Leibovitz, who wrote: ‘We must free ourselves from the curse of dominating another people.’”

<http://www.jewsforajustpeace.com/pages/stand.html>

#### **Jews for Boycott of Israeli Goods - UK Sports Boycott. 2007**

Jews for Boycott of Israeli Goods has joined others in seeking an international sporting boycott against Israeli teams until Israel ends the Occupation. The campaigners circulate petitions, lobby, and demonstrate at British stadiums, asking "Fair Play for Palestinians." They urge football associations worldwide to "Kick Israeli Apartheid out of football!" A key coalition group is PSC (Palestine Solidarity Campaign) ([www.palestinecampaign.org](http://www.palestinecampaign.org)) <http://www.bigcampaign.org/index.php?page=jbig>

#### **Jews for Justice for Palestinians (UK). 2006**

This group signed a 2006 letter of support for the Church of England's General Synod call to disinvest church funds from companies profiting from Israel's illegal occupation of Palestinian territory.

[http://neconference.brickriver.com/files/oFiles\\_Library\\_XZXLCZ/Divestment\\_Statements\\_from\\_Jewish\\_Groups\\_YVJ27FBI.pdf](http://neconference.brickriver.com/files/oFiles_Library_XZXLCZ/Divestment_Statements_from_Jewish_Groups_YVJ27FBI.pdf)

#### **Just Peace Between Israel and Palestine (Switzerland). 2006**

This group signed a 2006 letter of support for the Church of England's General Synod call to disinvest church funds from companies profiting from Israel's illegal occupation of Palestinian territory.

[http://neconference.brickriver.com/files/oFiles\\_Library\\_XZXLCZ/Divestment\\_Statements\\_from\\_Jewish\\_Groups\\_YVJ27FBI.pdf](http://neconference.brickriver.com/files/oFiles_Library_XZXLCZ/Divestment_Statements_from_Jewish_Groups_YVJ27FBI.pdf)

#### **Matzpun (the Hebrew word for "Conscience"). 10/06**

This group of Israeli citizens and Jews of other nationalities “whose families have been victims of racism and genocide in past generations, and who feel they cannot remain silent” says that Palestinians have been

imprisoned in ghettos, while the Israeli government reduces their existence to bare survival and depopulates their territories. Matzpun asks people everywhere to "organize and boycott Israeli industrial and agricultural exports and goods, as well as leisure tourism, in the hope that it will have the same positive result that the boycott of South Africa had on Apartheid." They ask individuals to practice the boycott on a personal level, telling shopkeepers why they will not buy Israeli products. They urge organizing to press governments to end commercial ties with Israel and rescind preferential economic treaties. Matzpun's online appeal can also be circulated. <http://www.matzpun.com/>

#### **Not in My Name (NIMN). 1/05**

NIMN supports selective divestment as a tool to oppose the Occupation. This predominantly Jewish US group stated in 1/05, "We continue to add our voices to the growing anti-Occupation movement and make it clear that Israel neither speaks nor acts in the name of all Jews." "[T]he Occupation is destroying Israeli society by increasing poverty, violence, and insecurity. Therefore actions that oppose the Occupation are, in fact, pro-Israeli. Furthermore, we believe that such actions are in keeping with our vision of a Judaism that is based on the principle of justice." "We believe that the Israelis and Palestinians deserve a chance to live together in peace and we support self-determination for both peoples. We oppose the obstacles that prevent the creation of a just and lasting peace, and believe that the Occupation and the U.S. support for it are primary obstacles. ...Well-designed divestment campaigns can help focus public discourse on the Occupation. They can also have a positive material impact, as has been shown by such projects as the grape boycott to support the United Farm Workers and the opposition to South African apartheid." "Therefore, NIMN urges its members and supporters to investigate and actively support selective divestment and boycott campaigns that target corporations that profit from the Occupation." <http://www.nimn.org/Resources/divestments/000450.php?section=>

#### **Union Juive Francaise pour la paix, France. 2006**

This group signed a 2006 letter of support for the Church of England's General Synod call to disinvest church funds from companies profiting from Israel's illegal occupation of Palestinian territory.

[http://neconference.brickriver.com/files/oFiles\\_Library\\_XZXL CZ/Divestment Statements from Jewish Groups\\_YVJ27FBI.pdf](http://neconference.brickriver.com/files/oFiles_Library_XZXL CZ/Divestment Statements from Jewish Groups_YVJ27FBI.pdf)

## **MUSLIM ORGANIZATIONS**

#### **Joint Committee of Muslim Organizations, India. 1/08**

This group of Muslim organizations in India held a sit-in on January 28, 2008, in New Delhi to protest the inhuman and illegal siege of Gaza Strip by the Israeli occupation forces. Taking part were the All-India Muslim Majlis-e Mushawarat Jamiat Ulama-e Hind Jamaat-e Islami Hind Kul Hind Jamaat-e Ahl-e Hadees MOEMIN Students Islamic Organisation of India, Muslim Political Council, Majlis-e Fikro Amal Kul Hind Anjuman Himayat-e Islam, Majlis Ulama-e Islam, Milli Wa Ta'leemi Foundation, Shia Conference, Momin Conference, Popular Front of India Safinatul Hidayah Trust, Shah Waliullah Institute, The Milli Gazette Afkar-e Milli [http://www.milligazette.com/dailyupdate/2008/200801281\\_Protest\\_against\\_Israeli\\_occupation.htm](http://www.milligazette.com/dailyupdate/2008/200801281_Protest_against_Israeli_occupation.htm)

#### **Organization of the Islamic Conference. 5/09**

The Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) is the second largest inter-governmental organization after the United Nations. It has a membership of 57 states spread over four continents. The OIC issued a statement on May 16, 2009, the 61<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the Palestinian Nakba, calling for an end to the occupation, establishment of a Palestinian state with Jerusalem (al Quds) as its capital, and a return of the Palestinian people to their homeland. "The international community ought to mend the historical injustice suffered by the Palestinian people, and work out a just solution for the Palestinian cause by ensuring that Palestinians regain their inalienable national rights, acquire emancipation from occupation and establish an independent Palestinian state with Al-Quds as its capital as well as secure the return of refugees to their homeland." [http://www.ssig.gov.my/ssig/news/fullnews.php?news\\_id=57817&news\\_cat=ts](http://www.ssig.gov.my/ssig/news/fullnews.php?news_id=57817&news_cat=ts)

### **Union of Islamic Organizations in France. 1/09**

On January 24, 2009, the Union of Islamic Organizations in France (UOIF) issued a strong statement against the assault on Gaza by the "Israeli occupants." The statement said, "This new offence is a crime against humanity and is part of the war against the resistance of a besieged and victimized people."

[http://www.islamonline.net/servlet/Satellite?c=Article\\_C&cid=1234631324959&pagename=Zone-English-Euro\\_Muslims%2FEMELayout](http://www.islamonline.net/servlet/Satellite?c=Article_C&cid=1234631324959&pagename=Zone-English-Euro_Muslims%2FEMELayout)

### **Muslim American Society Freedom, American Muslims for Palestine, Free Palestine Alliance and National Council of Arab Americans. 2/09**

These groups organized rallies in 8 American cities and Toronto, Canada in late December, 2008 and early January, 2009 to show solidarity with the Palestinian people in Gaza and to demand an immediate end to the attacks carried out by the Israeli military against the people of Gaza.

[http://www.tsmmedia.net/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=157:arab-american-muslim-groups-plans-nationwide-rallies-against-israel-aggression-on-palestinians&catid=69:world-news&Itemid=97](http://www.tsmmedia.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=157:arab-american-muslim-groups-plans-nationwide-rallies-against-israel-aggression-on-palestinians&catid=69:world-news&Itemid=97)

## **INTERFAITH ORGANIZATIONS**

### **Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice. 5/03**

The Ann Arbor, Michigan Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice, in 5/03 adopted a resolution that recognized the US government's complicity in violations of human rights, and called for suspending military aid and arms sales to Israel. It asked the University of Michigan, the city of Ann Arbor and members' religious organizations to exert their influence, and, along with individuals, to divest from companies that sell arms or other military hardware to Israel. The goal is to bring about Israel's compliance with UN resolutions and the Geneva Convention. <http://www.icpj.net/>

### **Interfaith Group for Morally Responsible Investment (IMRI)-UK**

This consortium sees "no prospect for peace without the intervention of the international community." They support the decision of the Synod of the Anglican Church of England, 2/06, to commence divestment from companies that support Israel's illegal occupation. IMRI asks individual Anglican parishes to shift their investment funds away from Caterpillar. IMRI members include concerned Anglicans, and the Amos Trust, Friends of Al Aqsa, Interpal, Jews for Justice for Palestinians, Just Peace-UK, the Palestinian Return Centre, and Pax Christi. For more information, contact [info@imri.org.uk](mailto:info@imri.org.uk).

### **Interfaith Peace Initiative. 8/09**

The Interfaith Peace Initiative embraces three principles: respect for all faiths, adherence to international law (including UN Resolutions), and support for the equal human rights of all peoples. The group favors economic action, including divestment, as a means to end the Israeli occupation of Palestinian land. The Interfaith Peace Initiative has published a report prepared by Hoder Investment Research documenting 58 companies that help sustain Israel's occupation. It may be found at <http://www.interfaithpeaceinitiative.com/resources/profitting.pdf>

### **Washington Interfaith Alliance for Middle East Peace (WIAMEP). 6/08**

The Washington Interfaith Alliance for Middle East Peace, representing faith-based groups in the DC area, issued an Economic Measures Statement supporting efforts to engage companies that profit from the Israeli occupation and to divest or boycott those that fail to comply. WIAMEP "hold(s) this position out of concern for the well-being of Israelis and Palestinians, given that the occupation hurts both peoples and is detrimental to their need to live in peace and with justice." WIAMEP noted that the US has provided \$19.6 billion in foreign aid to Israel from 2002 through 2008 (not including loan guarantees). "As an interfaith member of US civil society, we believe it is our moral obligation to speak out publicly against our own government's complicity in this continued injustice, and to work to ensure that private investment and spending do not undermine efforts for peace." <http://www.wiamep.org/resources/EconomicMeasuresStatement.pdf>

## **OTHER RELIGIOUS GROUPS**

### **Unitarian-Universalist Association of Congregations. 6/02**

The 2002 General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association opposes Israeli settlements, land confiscation, house demolitions, and other violations of international law, as well as "all attacks on civilians, whether by suicide bombers, F-16 or helicopter gunships, or any other means." The US government "is responsible for a significant portion of arms sales to this over-armed region" and the GA calls on the US to "suspend all transfers of those types of weapons and munitions used to commit human rights violations until Israel is clearly in compliance with the terms for arms transfers as expressed in United States law and bilateral agreements." <http://uua.org/socialjustice/socialjustice/statements/13983.shtml>

## **ISRAELI ORGANIZATIONS**

### **Breaking the Silence**

Breaking the Silence is an organization of veteran Israeli soldiers that collects testimonies of soldiers who served in the Occupied Territories during the Second Intifadah. In 2009, the group published fifty-four testimonies of Israeli combat soldiers who participated in Operation Cast Lead. These reports "reveal gaps between the reports given by the army following January's events; the needless destruction of houses; firing phosphorous in populated areas and an atmosphere that encouraged shooting anywhere." Some of these testimonies were published in Israel's Ha'aretz newspaper on July 15, 2009.

[http://www.shovrimshatika.org/news\\_item\\_e.asp?id=30](http://www.shovrimshatika.org/news_item_e.asp?id=30), <http://haaretz.com/hasen/spages/1072040.html>

### **B'Tselem**

B'Tselem, or the Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories, documents human rights violations in the Occupied Territories and educates the Israeli public and policymakers about them. B'Tselem acts primarily to change Israeli policy in the Occupied Territories and ensure that the Israeli government protects the human rights of residents there and complies with its obligations under international law. [http://www.btselem.org/English/About\\_BTselem/Index.asp](http://www.btselem.org/English/About_BTselem/Index.asp)

### **Coalition of Women for Peace. 2/09**

CWP is a coalition of independent women and ten feminist peace organizations who work relentlessly for peace and justice. Founded in November 2000, after the outbreak of the Second Intifada, the Coalition today is a leading voice in the peace movement. In February, 2009, the group launched a web site dedicated to exposing Israeli and international companies directly involved with Israel's occupation.

[www.whoprofits.org](http://www.whoprofits.org), <http://coalitionofwomen.org/home/english>

### **Gush Shalom. 8/08**

In August 2008, Gush Shalom congratulated Barkan Wineries for closing its facilities in a settlement in the northern West Bank. Barkan completed the move into Israel proper after years of negative publicity and demonstrations led by Gush Shalom. A final precipitating factor was a new partnership with Heineken, the Dutch beer company. The Dutch government and Dutch public opinion oppose the Israeli occupation, and Barkan feared international boycotts if it remained within the Green Line. Gush Shalom ("Peace Bloc" in Hebrew) is a highly active Israeli peace organization that started a National Boycott of Settlements' Products in 1997, providing a list of products produced in settlements' industrial parks. The list is constantly revised and is provided to tens of thousands of Israeli households on request and is available on line to international groups seeking such information. Barkan remains on the list because it still owns a vineyard in the occupied Golan Heights. <http://zope.gush-shalom.org/home/en/events/1220118081/>

### **HaMoked: Center for the Defence of the Individual. 5/09**

Founded by Dr. Lotte Salzberger, Hamoked is a human rights organization which was established in order to assist Palestinians subjected to the Israeli occupation which causes severe and ongoing violation of their rights. HaMoked works for the enforcement of the standards and values of international human rights and humanitarian law. On May 12, 2009, HaMoked and other human rights organizations petitioned the High Court of Justice against the continued holding of Palestinian detainees and prisoners from the Occupied Territories in facilities inside Israel, and the policy of holding arrest extension proceedings in military courts which operate outside the Territories: HaMoked's data indicates that 7,119 prisoners and detainees from the Territories are currently being held in incarceration facilities inside Israel. This is a violation of the Geneva Conventions. [http://www.hamoked.org.il/pages\\_en.asp?page\\_id=1](http://www.hamoked.org.il/pages_en.asp?page_id=1)

### **ICAHD (Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions). 1/05**

ICAHD is comprised of members of many Israeli peace and human rights organizations. ICAHD in 2005 issued a call for sanctions against the occupation which included the following positions:

1. ICAHD supports selective divestment from companies that profit from the Occupation, e.g., Caterpillar, and from Israeli companies that depend on settlements for materials or labor or that produce military equipment used to violate Palestinian human rights;
2. ICAHD reminds churches with investment funds that they have an opportunity to use those funds responsibly in support of peaceful solutions to conflict. Economic pressure is one such means of action.
3. ICAHD urges churches to:
  - A. Exert pressure on companies to discontinue business that supports the occupation.
  - B. When pressure fails, divest from such companies.

<http://www.icahd.org/eng/news.asp?menu=5&submenu=1&item=218>,

### **Israeli Council for Israeli-Palestinian Peace (ICIPP)**

ICIPP publishes a Newsletter called *The Other Israel*, featuring Israeli voices of resistance against the occupation. ICIPP advocates a two-state solution based on the 1967 borders with negotiated modifications, and a shared Jerusalem, which could serve as the capital of the two states. It calls for equal rights for Palestinian citizens of Israel, stating "ICIPP has never forgotten that even after Israeli withdrawal to the 1967 borders, many Palestinians will continue to live in Israeli territory, and that Israel, by abolishing all discriminatory laws and practices, must make it possible for these Palestinians to feel themselves truly equal citizens of Israel. <http://otherisrael.home.igc.org/ICIPP.html>

### **MachsomWatch. 2001**

MachsomWatch, in existence since 2001, is an organization of peace activist Israeli women against the Israeli Occupation of the territories and the systematic repression of the Palestinian nation. The group calls for Palestinian freedom of movement within their own territory and for an end to the Occupation that destroys Palestinian society and inflicts grievous harm on Israeli society. The group maintains a presence at checkpoints and reports abuses not covered by the media. <http://www.machsomwatch.org/en>

### **New Profile. 2/05**

New Profile, an Israeli peace group, active with army Refusers, women's groups, and other peace groups, said in 2005 it "opposes the Occupation on three counts: 1. Its destruction of Palestinian life, society, land, and property. 2. Its role in maintaining militarism in Israel. 3. Its erosion of Israel's socio-economic and moral fabric." The statement continued, "We therefore seek non-violent means of ending this catastrophic Occupation. One such means is using economic sanctions to pressure the government to change its policy. To this end New Profile welcomes and supports selective divestment aimed at divesting from companies that contribute to the continuation of the Occupation by supplying arms, other equipment, or staff . . . [E]nding the occupation is not only to the benefit of the Palestinians but also necessary for the welfare of Israel, its youth, and future generations. Over 20,000 Israeli soldiers have died in its wars since 1948. Enough." <http://www.newprofile.org/english/?cat=7>

## **PALESTINIAN ORGANIZATIONS:**

### **International Solidarity Movement (ISM)**

ISM is a Palestinian-led movement committed to resisting the Israeli occupation of Palestinian land using nonviolent, direct-action methods and principles. Founded by a small group of activists in August, 2001, ISM aims to support and strengthen Palestinian popular resistance by providing the Palestinian people with two resources, international protection and a voice with which to nonviolently resist an overwhelming military occupation force. <http://palsolidarity.org/about>

### **Open Bethlehem. 2005**

"Open Bethlehem's launch in November 2005 was a response to the state of emergency imposed by the Israeli-built wall which cuts deep into the heart of the city, taking most of its agriculture land, confiscating

heritage landmarks and creating a prison-like environment for Bethlehem's citizens." According to Archbishop Desmond Tutu, "Open Bethlehem is a nonviolent attempt to save a city that belongs to many in the world. It is unconscionable that Bethlehem should be allowed to die slowly from strangulation." Open Bethlehem has prepared educational powerpoints and other presentations which may be downloaded from its web site at [http://openbethlehem.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=68&Itemid=29](http://openbethlehem.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=68&Itemid=29)

### **Palestinian Civil Society (170 organizations). 7/05**

This group, comprising most of the NGO's and other civil society organizations throughout Palestine, issued a call for "Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions against Israel until it complies with international law and universal principles of human rights" The group stated that South Africa's apartheid is a historical precedent. It called for an end to the occupation and dismantling the wall. It called for recognition of the rights of the Arab-Palestinian citizens of Israel, and the Palestinians' right of return as called for under UN Resolution 194. <http://www.pacbi.org/etemplate.php?id=66>

### **Palestinian Artists and Filmmakers, 2006**

Over 100 Palestinian filmmakers, artists and cultural workers have called on filmmakers and artists worldwide to cancel art exhibitions planned in Israel, to boycott Israeli film festivals, Israeli cultural venues, and to end all cooperation with Israeli art, film and cultural organizations and institutions sponsored by the Israeli government. Artists and filmmakers of good conscience around the world are asked to cancel all exhibitions and other cultural events that are scheduled to occur in Israel and to "speak out against the current Israeli war crimes and atrocities," as they did in boycotting South African art institutions. A goal of the campaign is to "appeal to the Israeli people to give up their silence, to abandon their apathy, and to face up to their responsibility in the destruction and killing their elected government is wreaking." People can endorse this call by sending an email with name, position and country to [pal.filmakers@gmail.com](mailto:pal.filmakers@gmail.com). <http://www.pacbi.org/etemplate.php?id=333>

### **Joint Advocacy Committee, East Jerusalem YMCA. 2006**

The Joint Advocacy Committee of the East Jerusalem YMCA is one of 170 civil society organizations that joined together in 2006 to call for boycott divestment and sanctions against Israel until it complies with international law and universal principles of human rights. <http://www.jai-pal.org/content.php?page=173>

### **Occupied Palestine and Syrian Golan Heights Advocacy Initiative (OPGAI). 2005**

**At the World Social Forum in 2005, OPGAI delivered a joint call for intervention by the international community to end Israel's occupation. The call was signed by the following member organizations:**

Alternative Tourism Group, [atg@p-ol.com](mailto:atg@p-ol.com)

BADIL Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights, Bethlehem, Palestine, [info@badil.org](mailto:info@badil.org)

Defense for Children International/Palestine Section, [george@dcipal.org](mailto:george@dcipal.org)

The Joint Advocacy Initiative (incorporating YWCA of Palestine and The East

Jerusalem YMCA, [advocacy@ej-ymca.org](mailto:advocacy@ej-ymca.org)

Environmental Education Center, [eec@p-ol.com](mailto:eec@p-ol.com)

Golan for Development, [taiser@jawlan.org](mailto:taiser@jawlan.org)

Ibdaa Cultural Center, [ziadabbas@yahoo.com](mailto:ziadabbas@yahoo.com)

Jerusalem Center for Women, [jcw@palnet.com](mailto:jcw@palnet.com)

Palestinian Grass-roots Anti-Apartheid Wall Campaign

## **PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:**

### **Architects and Planners for Justice in Palestine, UK. 2006, 2008**

This British group calls for an economic boycott of the Israeli construction industry. They protest the building of Israeli settlements and the Wall in the Occupied Territories, saying that architects and others working on such Israeli projects are "complicit in social, political and economic oppression." The "construction disciplines are being used to promote an apartheid system of environmental control." A leader of the group, architectural critic Charles Jenckes, told The Independent, "I understand fully that security is the problem for Israel and they have the right to protect themselves. But this is not the solution. It is an

extremist measure which foments extremism, by incarcerating and intimidating Palestinians.” The group may target Israeli-made construction materials and Israeli architects and construction companies. It joined Adalah-NY in 2008, urging Parliament not to rent an embassy building in Tel Aviv from Lev Leviev, a settlement builder. The UK Foreign Ministry ultimately withdrew from its agreement with Leviev. <http://electronicintifada.net/v2/article4502.shtml>, [http://www.bigcampaign.org/index.php?mact=News.cntnt01\\_detail\\_0&cntnt01articleid=358&cntnt01origid=84&cntnt01returnid=72](http://www.bigcampaign.org/index.php?mact=News.cntnt01_detail_0&cntnt01articleid=358&cntnt01origid=84&cntnt01returnid=72)

#### **British Doctors. 5/07**

130 British doctors called for a boycott of the Israeli Medical Association and its expulsion from the World Medical Association. The letter stated, "Persistent violations of medical ethics have accompanied Israel's occupation...We are calling for a boycott of the Israeli Medical Association and its expulsion from the WMA. There is a precedent for this: the expulsion of the Medical Association of South Africa during the apartheid era." <http://www.ejpress.org/article/16412>

#### **Irish Academics. 9/06**

61 Irish academics asked the EU: "Halt financial support to Israeli academic institutions," saying, "Israel appears impervious to moral appeals from world leaders and to longstanding United Nations resolutions" to end the Occupation. [www.haaretz.com/hasen/spages/766389.html](http://www.haaretz.com/hasen/spages/766389.html)

#### **Lawyers for Palestinian Human Rights (LPHR), UK**

These British lawyers campaign to oppose the import of settlement products in Britain and the European Union as part of their international campaign to affirm the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and freedom from domination and exploitation. They address a range of specific injustices such as the separation of Palestinian families. (Lawyers for Palestinian Human Rights, PO Box BMJP1, London WC1N 3XX). [www.nclg.org.uk/book1/3\\_9.htm](http://www.nclg.org.uk/book1/3_9.htm), [www.bigcampaign.org/index.php?page=letter-to-the-observer-from-lawyers-for-palestinian-human-rights](http://www.bigcampaign.org/index.php?page=letter-to-the-observer-from-lawyers-for-palestinian-human-rights)

#### **National Lawyers Guild. 10/04**

The guild of progressive lawyers throughout the United States adopted a "Resolution To Divest, In Principle And Practice, From Israel" at its National Convention, in 2004: The full text of its resolution, which highlights the legal argument for divestment, may be found at <http://www.nlg.org/mideast/resolutions/resolutions.shtml> and at the end of this document, on page 35.

## **POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS:**

#### **The Canadian Action Party (C.A.P.). 3/07**

The Canadian Action Party became the first Canadian political party to officially support an international call for boycott, divestment and sanctions against Israel's apartheid-like practices. In March, 2007, it endorsed a call for a boycott, divestment and sanctions campaign against Israel's apartheid-like practices against the Palestinian people. [http://www.canpalnet.ca/mambo/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=88&Itemid=1](http://www.canpalnet.ca/mambo/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=88&Itemid=1)

#### **British Liberal Democrats. 12/08**

During Israel's assault on Gaza in December 2008, Nick Clegg, the leader of the British Liberal Democrats, called for suspension of a proposed co-operation agreement between Israel and the European Parliament. Clegg pointed out that the EU has "enormous potential leverage in the Middle East as the major donor of aid to the Palestinian community and the main market for Israeli exports." He called for suspension of the proposed agreement until "there is a transformation of the conditions on the ground in Gaza." Clegg added that EU Foreign Ministers must also reiterate that they would be prepared to talk to Hamas if it "permanently renounces terrorist violence." The EU would then be able to support "a unified Palestinian leadership covering both Gaza and the West Bank, an essential ingredient for any lasting peace." <http://www.nickclegg.com/2008/12/clegg-calls-for-suspension-of-israeleu-agreement/>

### **Green Party, US. 11/05**

**The Green Party in the United States** “calls for divestment from and boycott of the State of Israel until such time as the full individual and collective rights of the Palestinian people are realized. The party calls on all civil society institutions and organizations around the world to implement a comprehensive divestment and boycott program. The party calls on all governments to support this program and to implement state-level boycotts.” [http://www.gp.org/press/pr\\_2005\\_11\\_28.shtml](http://www.gp.org/press/pr_2005_11_28.shtml)

## **NGOS**

### **American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC). 4/09**

The American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee wants to leverage US military aid to halt settlement expansion. ADC policy analyst Yousef Munayer has asked the public to back a new policy "conditioning assistance on compliance with a complete and permanent freeze on settlement construction," adding, "Every American administration since Jimmy Carter's has taken a position against settlements in the West Bank. They are not only illegal under international law, but they also jeopardize Israel's long-term security, stability, and prospects for peace with its neighbors." They "debilitate the livelihoods of Palestinians, cut them off from each other, and make a viable Palestinian state unachievable." Munayer's statement is an op-ed in the Philadelphia Inquirer, 4-19-09. [www.philly.com/inquirer/currents/43237562](http://www.philly.com/inquirer/currents/43237562).

### **Amnesty International 6/07, 8/09**

Amnesty International published a report in 2007, entitled "Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories: Enduring occupation. Palestinians under siege in the West Bank." It described the checkpoints, blockades and 700-km. wall, saying "The stringent restrictions on movement imposed on more than two million Palestinians who live in the West Bank are unlawful as they are disproportionate, discriminatory and violate the right to freedom of movement.) In 2009, Amnesty it withdrew its support from a concert by Leonard Cohen in Israel following pressure from anti-occupation groups around the world. Amnesty has condemned the use of flechette shells by the Israeli army in Gaza, and has also condemned suicide bombings by Palestinians.

<http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE15/033/2007>,

<http://imeu.net/news/article0017254.shtml>, <http://livewire.amnesty.org/2009/01/27/a-bloodstained-wall-full-of-flechettes/>,

### **European Coordinating Committee of NGOs on the Question of Palestine (ECCP). 7/05**

Members of the civil society of EU-member states petitioned their governments, the EU Council, and the UN "to take political and economical measures, including sanctions, to prevent Israel from continuing the construction of the wall and to force it to respect the International Court of Justice Advisory Opinion" [which ruled that the Wall on Palestinian soil is unlawful]. They urged their governments to cease military exchanges and agreements with Israel, to provide no aid in construction of the Wall, to honor their commitment to the Fourth Geneva Convention and UN Resolutions, and to suspend the EU-Israel Association Agreement. <http://www.saar.at/pdf/LettreType8dec2005.pdf>

### **Global Exchange. 8/05**

This international human rights organization working for social, economic, and environmental justice says Palestinians in Israel "live as third class citizens, facing legal, economic, and social discrimination. In the occupied territories, Israel continues to subject the Palestinians there to home demolitions, closures and checkpoints, extrajudicial detentions and assassinations, immobilizing curfews, and countless other daily abuses and forms of oppression. The system of apartheid that Israel has developed closely resembles that which South Africa once had. Apartheid in South Africa was eventually abolished in large part because of an international grassroots movement to stop financial support of the apartheid regime." They add: "Through divestment (stopping capital investment in companies that do business in Israel) and boycott (not buying Israeli products) we can bring justice to the Israelis and Palestinians as well." (statement updated 8/23/05) <http://www.globalexchange.org/countries/mideast/palestine/divestmentfaq.html>

### **Human Rights Watch. 12/04**

HRW reported that the Israeli military uses the D9 bulldozer as its primary weapon to raze Palestinian homes, destroy agriculture, and shred roads in violation of the laws of war and international human rights

laws. The group urged the company to cease D9 sales that go to the Israeli military. Caterpillar's CEO claimed the firm lacks "the practical ability or legal right to determine how our products are used after they are sold." HRW said this stance ignores international standards on corporate social responsibility. Since 2003, the United Nations has been developing important standards for corporations. The "UN Norms on the Responsibilities of Transnational Corporations and Other Business Enterprises with Regard to Human Rights" states that companies should not "engage in or benefit from" violations of international human rights or humanitarian law and that companies "shall further seek to ensure that the goods and services they provide will not be used to abuse human rights."

<http://www.hrw.org/en/news/2004/11/21/israel-caterpillar-should-suspend-bulldozer-sales>

#### **Oxfam International. 11/08 and 8/09**

Global charity Oxfam targets products sold in British shops, labeled "West Bank," implying Palestinian origin when these goods originate in illegal settlements. "It's wrong for goods to be stocked in British shops where consumers do not know the conditions or legality under which they were produced," said spokesman Mike Bailey. The charity has said it will not accept support from Lev Leviev, an Israeli entrepreneur, a builder of West Bank settlements who runs a lucrative international jewelry chain featuring Israeli-polished diamonds. Leviev routinely publicizes his contributions to charities like Oxfam. In August, 2009, Oxfam suspended celebrity Kristin Davis from publicity work for the charity after being notified that she was also a spokesperson for Avava, a cosmetics company located in the occupied West Bank and exploiting Palestinian resources for profit.

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/middle-east/britain-to-crack-down-on-exports-from-israeli-settlements-986854.html>,

[http://www.nypost.com/p/pagesix/sex\\_star\\_oxfam\\_part\\_ways\\_o5m9Vlo99OqHDauO3134aK](http://www.nypost.com/p/pagesix/sex_star_oxfam_part_ways_o5m9Vlo99OqHDauO3134aK)

#### **Partners for Peace, US.**

Partners for Peace provides a public platform for the voices of Israeli and Palestinian women working for a peaceful and just resolution to the conflict by sponsoring US speaking tours, each featuring Jewish, Christian and Muslim women. The group begins its 16<sup>th</sup> US tour in the fall of 2009. Partners for Peace advocates an end to the occupation "for the good of both Palestinians and Israelis."

<http://www.partnersforpeace.org/tours/>

#### **Scottish Council of Voluntary Organisations (SCVO) in Edinburgh, Glasgow and Inverness**

The Scottish Council of Voluntary Organisations (SCVO) in Edinburgh, Glasgow and Inverness has terminated its contract with Eden Springs, which has operations on occupied land in the Golan Heights.

[http://www.scottishpsc.org.uk/index.php?option=com\\_docman&task=doc\\_download&gid=5&Itemid=200127](http://www.scottishpsc.org.uk/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=5&Itemid=200127)

#### **UNICEF. 6/08**

UNICEF, the UN's International Children's Fund, agreed to reject future financial support from settlement-builder Lev Leviev, who had publicly touted his UNICEF fundraising. The organization responded to an approach from a New York coalition citing the suffering of Palestinian children, who become impoverished when settlements are built atop the farmland that had sustained their villages. Such children must often drop out of school, and hundreds have been hurt by the violent response of Israeli soldiers and militant settlers to villagers' peaceful demonstrations. UNICEF first responded by sending fact-finders to Palestine and then issuing a letter agreeing to reject any future financial support from Leviev. UNICEF stressed its commitment to the well-being of children and affirmed that Israeli settlements in the West Bank violate international law, as declared in UN resolutions. <http://palsolidarity.org/2008/06/3194> Jewish peace groups announced their support for the move. [http://www.jewishvoiceforpeace.org/publish/article\\_1113.shtml](http://www.jewishvoiceforpeace.org/publish/article_1113.shtml)

#### **United Nations International Conference of Civil Society in Support of Middle East Peace**

A Call to Action (9/06): The annual conference, meeting in Geneva, called on the UN and its member states "To encourage and impose sanctions, in the form of ending the murderous arms trade with Israel, and to end sanctions that have been imposed against the elected Palestinian Authority and the collective punishment of the Palestinian people." The group decided to expand its global campaign of Boycotts, Divestment and Sanctions, adopted in 2005, and to mark the 40th anniversary of the Occupation with a global Day of Action on June 9, 2007, under the slogan "The World Says No to Israeli Occupation." The

Conference's follow-up work is carried out by ICNP, the International Coordinating Committee on Palestine. [www.un.org/depts/dpa/qpalnew/dpr.htm](http://www.un.org/depts/dpa/qpalnew/dpr.htm), <http://stopthewall.org/worldwideactivism/1300.shtml>

### **War on Want-UK (WoW), UK.**

WoW asks people "to challenge the global structures which sustain poverty across the world." In Palestine, it says, "Caterpillar's armoured bulldozers have been responsible for the destruction of thousands of Palestinian homes, schools, wells and olive groves" in a systematic campaign to destroy the Palestinian economy and demoralize residents. Caterpillar bulldozers are currently used in almost every significant operation by Israeli forces, and in fact they are, according to one Israeli military commander, 'the key weapon.' WoW reported in 2005 that the Israeli army currently has around 100 D9s in operation. D9s are modified by state-owned Israeli Military Industries and by Ramta, a division of Israel Aircraft Industries. Some bulldozers have customized packages, including machine gun mounts, smoke projectors and grenade launchers. The Israeli military recently ordered 25 D9 armored bulldozers reinforced by Israel Aircraft Industries, while the US Department of Defense acquired 14 armored Caterpillar D9Rs from the Israeli army for use in Iraq. WoW asks people to boycott Caterpillar products—from construction equipment to clothing and footwear—and to buy Zaytoun fair-trade olive oil to help redress the damage caused to Palestinian farmers. [http://bigcampaign.org/uploads/File/WoW\\_Caterpillar\\_Report.pdf](http://bigcampaign.org/uploads/File/WoW_Caterpillar_Report.pdf)

### **West Asia Conference on War, Imperialism and Resistance, New Delhi. 3/07**

The conference called for boycott, disinvestments and sanctions on Israel as long as it continues its occupation of Palestinian and Arab territories, demands that the Government of India immediately break its military and security ties with Israel, noting that India has become the largest importer of arms from Israel. The Conference "welcomes the advisory judgement of the International Court of Justice on the Apartheid Wall and calls for immediate measures by the international community for dismantling this illegal Wall. ...Israel's so-called 'disengagement' is in fact a re-arrangement of Occupation. It has turned all of Gaza into a vast prison with the Palestinian population there under continuous, murderous assaults and a permanent state of siege." [http://www.tni.org/detail\\_page.phtml?&act\\_id=16459](http://www.tni.org/detail_page.phtml?&act_id=16459)

## **ARTISTS, WRITERS, FILM-MAKERS**

### **Artists and Filmmakers Protest Toronto Film Festival. 9/09**

An international group of more than 50 prominent filmmakers, writers, artists and academics – including Ken Loach, David Byrne, Naomi Klein, Alice Walker, Jane Fonda, Wallace Shawn and Danny Glover – has signed a letter protesting the Toronto International Film Festival's decision to spotlight the city of Tel Aviv and the work of 10 Israeli filmmakers. The letter is to be published online with a call for additional signatories. <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/arts/tiff-2009/tiff-focus-on-tel-aviv-draws-protests/article1273755/>

### **Artists Against Apartheid**

Artists Against Apartheid is an International Alliance committed to Equal Rights and Justice, and the elimination of Apartheid in our world. It has launched a campaign "to help end apartheid in Palestine-Israel." <http://www.artistsagainstapartheid.org/>, <http://www.highbeam.com/doc/1G1-92527704.html>

### **Dance Europe Magazine**

This London-based dance magazine, with a circulation of 17,500, joins the cultural boycott. "We are opposed to the occupation," says advertising director Naresh Kaul. Dance Europe screens its ads: "If any company in Israel cooperates with us by adding a disclaimer saying it is opposed to the occupation, settlements and everything else, we will cooperate with them." The magazine prints Israeli ads if the advertiser includes a statement saying the firm disapproves of the occupation. [www.danceeurope.net](http://www.danceeurope.net)  
<http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-3230909,00.html>

### **Edinburgh International Film Festival. 2006, 2009**

The 2009 Edinburgh International Film Festival organisers announced that they were returning money donated by the Israeli Embassy. The return of the money was accompanied by an admission that it had been "a mistake to accept the £300 from the Israeli Embassy" and followed a torrent of angry letters

expressing incomprehension, fury or sadness at the EIFF for being associated with the Israeli State. Many pledged to support SPSC pickets of screenings throughout the 2009 Festival and an initial public protest planned for the following day.

In 2006, the Festival had also returned a donation to the Israeli Embassy and cancelled several Israeli films following the Israeli War against Lebanon. The Israeli donation was intended to underwrite the attendance of Israeli director Yoav Shamir at the showing of his documentary "Five Days," about the withdrawal of Israel from Gaza. The festival decided to show the film nevertheless and offered to fund Shamir's expenses itself. Seven Israeli films were cancelled of the eighteen originally scheduled for screening. Festival artistic director Christophe Postic explained, "(T)he war in Lebanon changed the picture. We couldn't present only Israeli films for three days and ignore what is happening." [www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-3290032,00.html](http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-3290032,00.html), <http://www.bdsmovement.net/?q=node/405>

**International authors, film-makers, musicians and performers ask colleagues not to visit, exhibit or perform in Israel.**

By 12/06, nearly 100 artists, including Brian Eno, Sophie Fiennes, and Arundhati Roy had signed a boycott letter written by noted author John Berger, stating "the day to day brutality of the Israeli army in Gaza and the West Bank continues. Ten Palestinians are killed for every Israeli death,. . .UN resolutions are flouted, human rights violated as Palestinian land is stolen, houses demolished and crops destroyed. For Archbishop Desmond Tutu...the situation of the Palestinians is worse than that of black South Africans under apartheid. Meantime, Western governments refer to Israel's 'legitimate right' of self-defence, and continue to supply weaponry. The challenge of apartheid was fought better. The non-violent international response was boycott, divestment, and finally UN sanctions that enabled the regime to change without terrible bloodshed." Artists can endorse the letter at [info@bricup.org.uk](mailto:info@bricup.org.uk) <http://www.pacbi.org/etemplate.php?id=415>

**Jean-Luc Godard, 2008**

The Swiss film director refused an invitation to attend the Tel-Aviv film festival and receives thanks and congratulations from Tadamon, a Montreal collective. <http://www.tadamon.ca/campaigns/boycott-divestment-and-sanctions-against-israeli-apartheid/boycott-culturel-contre-lapartheid-israelien>

**John Greyson, 8/09**

Acclaimed Canadian filmmaker John Greyson decided to withdraw his new film "Covered" from the 2009 Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) because of the festival's decision to make Tel Aviv a focus of its programming this year. In his letter, to the festival, Greyson cited "the devastating Gaza massacre of eight months ago, resulting in over 1000 civilian deaths; the election of a Prime Minister accused of war crimes; the aggressive extension of illegal Israeli settlements on Palestinian lands; the accelerated destruction of Palestinian homes and orchards; the viral growth of the totalitarian security wall, and the further enshrining of the check-point system" as reasons for his decision.

**Ken Loach, 8/06**

The British film director announced his support for an Israeli boycott, stating: "Palestinians are driven to call for this boycott after forty years of the occupation of their land, destruction of their homes and the kidnapping and murder of their civilians.... As British citizens we have to acknowledge our own responsibility. We must condemn the British and US governments for supporting and arming Israel." The director, who won the Palme d'Or at Cannes in 2006, added, "I would decline any invitation to the Haifa Film Festival [to which he had been invited] or other such occasions." [www.haaretz.com/hasen/spages/755249.html](http://www.haaretz.com/hasen/spages/755249.html).

**Lussas Documentary Film Festival, France, 8/06**

Lussas cancelled screenings of Israeli documentary films following the outbreak of the massive Israeli attack on Lebanon. Festival directors wrote the Israeli directors that they planned to substitute a program of Lebanese and Palestinian films "that will show our opposition to the war." [www.newsbusters.org/node/7136](http://www.newsbusters.org/node/7136)

**Rock Star Roger Waters, 6/06**

Waters moved a June 2006 concert away from Tel Aviv, met with Palestinian artists, called for "an end to Israeli oppression" during his Israeli performance, and stated in Israel "**Tear Down This Wall!**" [www.pacbi.org/boycott\\_news\\_more.php?id=A255\\_0\\_1\\_0\\_M](http://www.pacbi.org/boycott_news_more.php?id=A255_0_1_0_M)

## **ANTI-OCCUPATION ORGANIZATIONS**

### **ADALAH-NY: The Coalition for Justice in the Middle East. 2008**

Adalah-NY is an alliance of groups and concerned individuals in the Metro New York area working for an "end to US and US-sponsored Israeli aggression in the Middle East." The group's name, "Adalah," means "justice" in Arabic. Their public campaigns achieve notable successes. UNICEF, Oxfam International, and the Emirate of Dubai have responded to concerns about the work of Lev Leviev, an Israeli entrepreneur who is charged by the coalition with building illegal Jewish-only settlements in the West Bank and with human rights abuses in his diamond operations. The Emirate of Dubai withdrew permission for Leviev's jewelry chain to open stores in Dubai. UNICEF returned a donation from Leviev. The British government, too, was contacted by Adalah-NY, protesting plans to rent space for an embassy in a Leviev building in Tel Aviv. The British government withdrew its plans. The Adalah-NY coalition includes Jews Against the Occupation-NYC; the NY Campaign for Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions Against Israel; International Solidarity Movement-NYC; National Council of Arab-Americans-NYC; WESPAC Foundation; and several other groups. <http://adalahny.org/>; [www.apjp.org](http://www.apjp.org); [www.news.independent.co.uk/world/middle\\_east/article344510.ece](http://www.news.independent.co.uk/world/middle_east/article344510.ece)

### **Coalition Against Israeli Apartheid (CAIA), Canada. 2007-2008**

This wide-ranging Canadian organization includes Labour for Palestine and Students Against Israeli Apartheid (SAIA). CAIA's labor committee has issued a book -- "Labour for Palestine: A Reader for Unionists and Activists" -- revised and expanded in 2008. The handbook describes the successful approaches of anti-apartheid organizers in Canadian postal workers' and public employees' unions. CAIA members marched in a Toronto Labor Day parade beside a float bearing images of Palestinian workers, while distributing 3000 leaflets urging trade unionists to join the movement. The student wing of CAIA holds panels and exhibits at Canadian colleges to enlist students in the work. In Montreal, CAIA helped Tadamon stage a Palestinian film festival in 2007 and protest an Israeli film festival. It issued criticism about a bookstore chain called Chapters/Indigo, whose majority shareholders support a foundation that helps the Israeli Defense Force with financial aid to international IDF recruits. <http://www.caiaweb.org/node/742>

### **Coalition for Justice and Peace in Palestine, Quebec. 12/05**

CJPP, based in Quebec, launched a campaign of "boycott, divestment, and sanctions, calling on Israel to respect international law," stating, "Israel is moving ahead with a much more significant expansion of its settlements in the West Bank and the illegal construction of its apartheid wall, gradually reducing the occupied Palestinian territories into a disconnected patchwork of mini-bantustans." The campaign covers 1) the boycott of Israeli products and products of companies that are contributing to the occupation, 2) the retrieval of investments from these companies, and 3) sanctions against the Israeli State, starting with opposition to the Canada-Israel free trade agreement. The initial focus is on Caterpillar and Israeli wines. <http://www.hour.ca/news/news.aspx?ilDArticle=8648>,

### **Coalition to Stop \$30 Billion to Israel. 4/09, 8/09**

12 organizations in the Albuquerque-Santa Fe region of New Mexico joined together in the Coalition to Stop \$30 billion to Israel. The group placed signs on ten billboards calling for a halt to the Bush Administration's 2007 commitment to send a total of \$30 billion to Israel over ten years. The signs pictured a child and the caption "Tell Congress: Stop Killing Children. No More Military Aid to Israel." Under pressure, the billboard company removed the signs. However, it agreed to a modified message geared toward tax monies and the Israeli military. The Coalition set up an information table on the campus of the University of New Mexico on Welcome Back Day, when students returned to campus in August, 2009. [http://stop30billion.com/documents/Stop\\_30\\_Press\\_Release\\_09April09.pdf](http://stop30billion.com/documents/Stop_30_Press_Release_09April09.pdf)  
<http://stop30billion.com/contentsindex.php?page=billboardremovalpressrelease>

### **Collectif Urgence Palestine (CUP), Switzerland. 2005, 2006**

CUP boycotted Connex, a French company hired to run a light railway system connecting Jewish-only settlements in Jerusalem. It protested a contract for Connex to operate public transport services in Geneva, stating: "Switzerland, as depository of the Geneva Conventions, should not deal with companies that violate international law and support Israeli Apartheid in Palestine." In 2005, CUP petitioned the Swiss parliament

to nullify the purchase of Israeli military equipment worth 150 million Swiss francs. In May 2006, CUP hosted an international conference with ECCP: "For a Just Peace in Palestine and Israel: Enforce International Law!" which called for divestment and boycott.

<http://www.urgencepalestine.ch/Agenda/news.html>,  
<http://stophthewall.org/worldwideactivism/1120.shtml>

### **Corrie Family Lawsuit vs. Caterpillar, Inc. 3/05-9/07**

The family of Rachel Corrie, who was killed by an Israeli bulldozer in the Gaza Strip, brought a civil action seeking compensatory and punitive damages against Caterpillar for violations of international and state law committed against their daughter, including war crimes...and wrongful death. The suit, filed in US District Court in Seattle, stated: "On March 16, 2003, Rachel Corrie, a peace activist and United States citizen, was killed by a Caterpillar bulldozer while protesting the demolition of a Palestinian home. According to the suit, "Caterpillar, Inc., has aided and abetted or otherwise been complicit in the Israel Defense Forces (hereinafter "IDF") in the above-mentioned human rights violations and war crimes by providing the bulldozers used to demolish homes of Palestinians in the Occupied Palestinian Territories in violation of international law when it knew, or should have known, that such bulldozers were being used to commit human rights abuses." The suit also alleges that "The IDF has destroyed approximately 10,000 Palestinian homes since 1967 leaving approximately 50,000 men, women, and children homeless.,,"

In 2005, a US District Judge dismissed the case on grounds that political constitutional questions were involved. His argument was reaffirmed by the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals, which refused to reinstate the case in 9/07 on grounds that the US Department of Defense reimburses the Israeli army for its purchases of bulldozers.

<http://www.catdestroyshomes.org/downloads/final.corriecomplaint.3.15.pdf>

[http://blog.oregonlive.com/breakingnews/2007/09/9th\\_circuit\\_refuses\\_to\\_reinstate](http://blog.oregonlive.com/breakingnews/2007/09/9th_circuit_refuses_to_reinstate)

### **Diakonia - Sweden. 2008**

Diakonia is a Christian development organization based in Sweden. In 2008, the group Diakonia, in cooperation with SwedWatch and Church of Sweden, published a comprehensive report regarding Assa Abloy, a Swedish producer of lock and security solutions. Assa Abloy owned a factory in the illegal Barkan settlement in the West Bank. Within days of the release of this report, Assa Abloy announced the withdrawal of its operations in the West Bank. Diakonia has also issued a "Guide to International Humanitarian Law in the Occupied Territories," and other materials dealing with Israel's occupation of Palestinian land.

<http://www.diakonia.se/sa/node.asp?node=469>

### **Divest From War and Occupation Campaign-Seattle, Washington. 2008**

The campaign sought the signatures of thousands of Seattle voters in support of Initiative 97, calling on Seattle City Council to adopt an ordinance barring the investment of city employees' retirement funds in corporations that do business in or with Israeli settlements in the Occupied Territories. Also prohibited would be investments in corporations like Caterpillar that assist Israel's West Bank repression. Notably, I-97 also called for automatic withdrawal of investments in Israeli government bonds "if Israel attacks Iran without UN authorization." A final key innovation linked the occupations in Iraq and Israel by barring investment in corporations "that profit directly from the US presence in Iraq." 18,000 signatures were required to place the initiative before the city council, which must then enact the measure into law or place it before voters as a ballot initiative. The campaign mounted a major drive, informing citizens about the dual occupations, relevant international law, UN resolutions, and the suffering of the Palestinian and Iraqi people. Numerous co-sponsoring organizations are recruited. The signature drive neared success. However, progress halted just two weeks before the September deadline, when a King County judge ruled that the subject of I-97 was out of bounds for voters and City Council, as well. The successful plaintiffs argued that the Seattle Employees' Retirement System is a separate entity and that Council and voters have no say in how its funds are invested. (Plaintiffs were the Washington Israel Business Council, Stand with Us, and a Seattle resident.) The campaign was considering an appeal. [www.divestfromwar.org](http://www.divestfromwar.org)

### **Global Palestine Solidarity (GPS). 2/07**

Palestine Solidarity groups from Europe, Canada, and Australia have started a coordinated "conflict diamond" campaign. For Valentine's Day 2007, groups such as Ireland-PSM contacted retail jewelers associations, requesting "Israeli Free" diamonds for consumers who want to avoid diamonds that help

support the Israeli economy and illegal occupation of Palestinian land. For more information, contact sc3@bds-palestine.net. <http://www.indymedia.ie/article/85581>

### **ICAHD UK, United Kingdom. 2006**

This organization, dedicated to ending the destruction of Palestinian homes, signed a letter of support for the Church of England General Synod's recommendation to divest from companies supporting Israel's occupation. It is part of the Interfaith Group for Morally Responsible Investment. <http://www.cc-vv.org/articles/eiag.pdf>

### **ISM Italy. 2006**

The Italian branch of ISM (International Solidarity Movement) staged a colorful demonstration during the Winter Olympics in Turin in 2006. The group floated a large three dimensional mascot on the River Po, bearing the motto "Free Palestine! Boycott Israel!" They cited Israel's refusal to comply with the 2004 ruling of the International Court of Justice on the illegality of the Wall. For further information contact [info@ism-italia.it](mailto:info@ism-italia.it)

### **Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP), UK. 3/09**

MAP partnered with the British medical journal The Lancet to publish a series on "Health in the Occupied Palestinian Territory" in 2009 after the Israeli onslaught on Gaza. MAP provides and promotes healthcare for Palestinians, especially those under occupation or exile, based on principles of self-determination and social justice. The Lancet published MAP's findings about severe medical problems caused by the Occupation. <http://www.map-uk.org/regions/uk/projects/view/-/id/58/>

**New York Campaign for the Boycott of Israel. 7/09** The New York Campaign wrote a letter to Amnesty International urging it to drop its cooperation with Leonard Cohen in channeling funds from his Israeli concert to "peace groups." The New York group was one of many around the world arguing that Mr. Cohen's performance in Israel would lend an air of normalcy and "whitewash" Israel's ongoing actions against the Palestinian people. Amnesty ultimately withdrew its agreement with Mr. Cohen. <http://boycottisraelnyc.org/category/nycbi/letters-statements/our-letters>

### **Palestine Solidarity Campaign-Ireland. 11/06, 2/07**

Atlantic Homecare, a large Limerick store, removed all Israeli stock from its shelves in response to an informational picket by I-PSC (11/06). In 2/07 before Valentines Day hundreds of people signed petitions and accepted informational leaflets urging Dublin jewelers to "Give consumers the right to choose Israel-free Diamonds." [www.ipsc.ie](http://www.ipsc.ie); [www.pacbi.org/boycott\\_news\\_more.php?id=A405\\_0\\_1\\_0\\_M](http://www.pacbi.org/boycott_news_more.php?id=A405_0_1_0_M)

### **Palestine Solidarity Campaign-Scotland. 7/06**

Requests from S-PSC ended the use of Prestwick Airport for transshipment of US weapons to Israel for attacks on Lebanon in 2006. S-PSC has also achieved changes in venues for cricket games with Israeli teams. It boycotted Disney outlets in Scotland, citing plans by Roy Disney's Shamrock Fund to add to its sizeable investments in Orad, an Israeli firm that provides electronic monitoring equipment for the Wall. (Roy Disney's Shamrock Fund also holds large investments in Tadiran, an Israeli military equipment firm.) "[T]his money will be used to help Israel continue its policies of colonization, land theft and slow ethnic cleansing." <http://www.indymediascotland.org/node/2104>. In 2006, the group joined the Israel boycott. [http://www.songsforchange.com/forum.cfm?forum\\_action=showposts&topicid=31713](http://www.songsforchange.com/forum.cfm?forum_action=showposts&topicid=31713)

### **Palestine Solidarity Campaign-UK.**

The Palestinian Solidarity Committee **asks consumers to Boycott Israeli Goods via the "BIG" Campaign.** "BIG" buys shares in companies like Tesco to pressure corporate boards to eliminate Israeli imports. In 6/06, Tesco agreed to phase out Israeli peppers due to consumer pressure. A key boycott target is Agrexco, Israel's largest exporter of fresh agricultural produce, selling in England under the Carmel, Coral and Jaffa brands. The company is 50% owned by the Israeli state. Much of its produce comes from illegal settlements that hire Palestinian workers at exploitative wages and working conditions.

The BIG campaign also boycotts Israeli tourism and Israeli cultural, sporting, and academic institutions and individuals who do not condemn the occupation. It seeks to end trade agreements between the EU, UK, and Israel, and it promotes an end to the arms trade, citing "Israel's appalling human rights record, grave

breaches of the Fourth Geneva Convention, and its ongoing occupation and settler-colonisation of Palestinian lands” and noting “widespread concerns that British-made equipment is being used against Palestinian civilians, in defiance of UK export criteria.” Finally, BIG seeks to increase trade in Palestinian goods. [www.bigcampaign.org](http://www.bigcampaign.org)

#### **Palestine Solidarity Movement, US. 2/06**

PSM asked US universities, churches and other institutions to end financial support for companies linked with Israeli injustice. Their campaign was modeled after the successful effort to end apartheid in South Africa. PSM hosted university students and community activists in its 5<sup>th</sup> annual conference at Georgetown University, Washington, DC. 2/06. [www.palestinesolidaritymovement.org](http://www.palestinesolidaritymovement.org) , <http://explore.georgetown.edu/documents/?DocumentID=12105>

#### **People's Food Co-op Members' Petition, Ann Arbor. 6/07**

Over 400 Co-op members and hundreds of passers-by signed a petition asking the popular Co-op grocery store to hold a referendum on a boycott of Israeli goods. The drive, initiated by B.I.G. (Boycott Israeli Goods)-Ann Arbor, shared information focusing on Palestinians' loss of basic human rights under Israeli repression. When opponents threatened to withdraw their membership in the Co-op, harming its economic viability, the formal vote by members failed. Weavers Way Co-op in Philadelphia (2004) and Rainbow Co-op in San Francisco report similar experiences.

[http://blog.mlive.com/annarbornews/2007/08/proposed\\_boycott\\_of\\_israeli\\_go.html](http://blog.mlive.com/annarbornews/2007/08/proposed_boycott_of_israeli_go.html),

#### **Rete-ECO - Italy**

Endorsed a 2006 letter of support for the Church of England General Synod call for divestment from Caterpillar and other companies supporting the occupation.

[http://neconference.brickriver.com/files/oFiles\\_Library\\_XZXLCZ/Divestment\\_Statements\\_from\\_Jewish\\_Groups\\_YVJ27FBI.pdf](http://neconference.brickriver.com/files/oFiles_Library_XZXLCZ/Divestment_Statements_from_Jewish_Groups_YVJ27FBI.pdf)

#### **Sanctions Against Israel Coalition, South Africa branch. 8/06, 1/07**

"We are making a call to mobilise South African workers," said Shaheed Mohamed, of SAIC - SA. We want all diamonds from Israel to be treated as conflict diamonds. We urge people not to buy diamonds from Israel." Mohamed said Israel imports South African diamonds, polishes, cuts them, and sells them back "at almost ten times the original value." Israel imports diamonds worth \$430 million a year from South Africa, he said, adding that fully 30 percent of Israel's annual GDP (gross domestic product) comes from diamonds. (Inter Press Service (IPS), Johannesburg, 1/27/07) In August, 2006, this group had issued a statement demanding that the ANC (African National Congress) "institute immediate, comprehensive sanctions against the apartheid state of Israel." <http://www.jai-pal.org/content.php?page=374>

#### **Stop CAT Coalition**

Stop CAT sponsors an annual Day of Action focused on Caterpillar headquarters in Peoria, Illinois, to urge that Caterpillar "cease all sales to the Israeli military and government" and abide by its own code of conduct which states "as a company, we strive to contribute toward a global environment in which all people can work safely and live healthy, productive lives." The Coalition says Caterpillar's D-9 bulldozer "is directly implicated in grave abuses of human rights by Israeli Defense forces, including the collective punishment of the Palestinian people through house demolitions, clearing a path for and constructing the Apartheid Wall and murder of civilians"-- actions that "are illegal under international law -- specifically violating the Fourth Geneva Convention, the Rome Statute of the International Court and the Hague Conventions." The sale of the D-9 to the IDF also violates the US Arms Export Control Act. On an annual International Day of Action Against Caterpillar, protests are held in cities worldwide, and are organized in the US by Stop Cat, Jewish Voice for Peace, and the US Campaign to End the Israeli Occupation. Demonstrations at Caterpillar dealers are also held. Stop Cat provides informational videos and PowerPoint presentations.

<http://www.catdestroyshomes.org/>

#### **Tadamon! – Montreal. 4/08**

The Montreal-based collective works for social justice and human rights. It encourages writers and filmmakers to refuse invitations to Israel. In 2008 it launched a Palestinian Film Festival, boycotted Israeli cultural events, and protested a speech by Israeli Ambassador Alan Baker.

[www.sketchythoughts.blogspot.com/2008/04/tdamon-confronting-israeli-apartheid](http://www.sketchythoughts.blogspot.com/2008/04/tdamon-confronting-israeli-apartheid)

**United Civilians for Peace-Netherlands, a coalition of Pax Christi IKV, Oxfam Novib, Cordaid, and ICCO, 2008.** The group won divestment of Unilever from Beigel & Beigel, a company based in an illegal West Bank settlement. UCP had issued a pivotal report titled "Dutch Economic Links in Support of the Israeli Occupation of Palestinian and/or Syrian Territories" in 2006 and had initiated a "constructive dialogue" with Unilever, which bore fruit in 2008.

[www.unitedcivilians.nl/nl/doc.phtml?p=Profundo+Report+\(English\)](http://www.unitedcivilians.nl/nl/doc.phtml?p=Profundo+Report+(English))

#### **US Campaign to End the Israeli Occupation. 2009**

The US Campaign's focus on Motorola in 2009 contributed to the company's sell-off of a firm that manufactures fuses for aerial explosives like cluster bombs. US Campaign's boycott drive, "Hang up on Motorola," targeted Motorola's provision of military-related equipment such as the fuses and also radar devices for Israeli settlements and the separation wall, and cellphones adapted for military use by the IDF. The sale of the fuse company to Israel seemed to indicate an early response. US Campaign joined US church groups asking Motorola to cease supplying military equipment to Israel at the company's shareholders meeting in 4/09. Campaign members provided supportive informational material and a demonstration.

The US Campaign is a coalition of some 180 US organizations. It supports municipal, state and business-oriented divestment campaigns. It provides resources to inform, educate and mobilize the public about the US government's role in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and the way cities, states, trade unions and other organizations help sustain the occupation through their investment funds. The Campaign's member groups call on municipal, state and federal governing bodies to issue statements opposing the occupation. The campaign stresses that there is no single way to approach divestment. It is up to activists to decide what practices would work best in their localities. The Campaign also has a continuing focus on Caterpillar Corp..

[www.endtheoccupation.org/](http://www.endtheoccupation.org/)

#### **Veterans for Peace. 8/05**

VFP, a 20-year-old US veterans' organization, adopted "Economic Support For Justice And Peace In Palestine" at its National Conference, 8/05. The resolution states that the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is a major international flashpoint; people of the region are suffering from militarization; the US is the largest single source of governmental financial aid to Israel; and all forms of intervention have failed to achieve Israeli compliance with international law as embodied in UN resolutions and world court decisions (and supported by peace activists in Israel). Therefore, inspired by the South African struggle and the international solidarity which made it effective, and in support of the call by more than 170 Palestinian political parties, unions, and organizations for such economic actions, "Veterans For Peace calls for boycott, divestment, and other actions against economic activities that support Israel's continued occupation and colonization of Palestinian lands and the denial of fundamental human rights to Palestinians both in Israel and in the occupied territories until the Government of Israel complies with international law and the universal principles of human rights. VFP urges members and chapters to support such economic actions, which seem to them best calculated to bring about a change in Israeli government policy for the benefit of both the Israeli and Palestinian people." [http://www.veteransforpeace.org/Board\\_resolutions\\_2004.vp.html](http://www.veteransforpeace.org/Board_resolutions_2004.vp.html)

#### **Vlaams Palestina Komitee. Flanders. 6/05**

Supermarket customers were directly urged to stop buying Yarden wines, Sabra salads, Jaffa and Carmel fresh produce, as well as other Israeli products. [www.vlaampalestinakomitee.be](http://www.vlaampalestinakomitee.be)

#### **Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), Canadian Section, 12/05 and 7/09**

In December, 2005, WILPF-Canada wrote INTEL's Board Chairman and CEO: "Let INTEL not be wooed by Israel's \$525 million grant incentive to expand INTEL's existing microprocessing factory in Israel. The site of the proposed expansion is Kiryat Gat, on land expropriated from the Palestinian village of Iraq Al-Manshiya. By further building there, you are denying Palestinian refugees the right to return to their land." (For further information, contact [joandgord@shaw.ca](mailto:joandgord@shaw.ca)) In July, 2009, the group joined the worldwide Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions Campaign.

<http://www.wilpf.int.ch/PDF/Statement%20on%20BDS%20Movement.pdf>

### **Women in Black, Los Angeles. 2/07**

"Maybe it's the artists and musicians who will finally bring peace and justice to Israel, Palestine and the region." This was the plea of Women in Black-Los Angeles, asking members of the Israel Philharmonic to make a public call for an end to the Occupation, thus creating "a huge positive ripple effect on Israeli society." Receiving no such assurance, silent vigilers held candles outside Disney Hall during two performances. The Philharmonic is called "Israel's flagship" by conductor Zubin Mehta, and is supported by the Israeli government. It has played for soldiers in the field and is an instrument of government policies, says Women in Black. WIB is an international movement of both women and men, standing against violence and for justice. It was founded in Israel in 1988 to oppose the Occupation. The L.A. vigils were endorsed by the Middle East Peace Fellowship of Southern California, by A.N.S.W.E.R. and by Campaign to End Israeli Apartheid (CEIA). <http://www.wib-la.net/>, <http://www.normanfinkelstein.com/a-call-for-justice-and-decency/>

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### **Appendix A – National Lawyers Guild Resolution**

"WHEREAS the Israeli government with its illegal occupation and expansionist program in the Palestinian West Bank and Gaza Strip is engaged, and has been engaged in grave human rights violations including but not limited to: the use of live ammunition on unarmed civilians (including men, women, and children); massive and disproportionate use of force including the firing of missiles from Apache helicopter gunships against defenseless civilian populations; illegal mass arrests and institutionalized torture (including men, women, and children); the willful destruction of agricultural land; the deprivation of water; forced malnutrition with concomitant health consequences including stillborn deaths and irreversible developmental damage to children; the mass demolition of homes and confiscation of land; hostage taking and extra-judicial assassinations; denial of medical services to the sick and wounded; the use of human shields (including children); the targeting of schools, and hospitals; the building of illegal fortified "Jewish-only" Israeli colonies/settlements on confiscated land connected by "Jewish-only" bypass roads, and the heavily subsidized transfer of hundreds of thousands of its own civilian population into these colonies/settlements;

WHEREAS the International Court of Justice has ruled that Israel's Apartheid Wall violates international humanitarian law which governs Israel's administration of the Palestinian territories it has occupied since 1967 as well as the fundamental human rights of the Palestinians;

WHEREAS by virtue of, but not limited to, the Principles of the Nuremberg Charter and Judgment; The United Nations Declaration of Human Rights; International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights; The Geneva Conventions, in particular, but not limited to the 4th Geneva Convention, the Convention Against Torture, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, Protocol 1, Additional to the Geneva Conventions, as well as other international covenants and the general humanitarian principles of international law, these acts constitute war crimes, and in some cases crimes against humanity.

WHEREAS, the U.S. Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, 22 USC sec. 2304, provides that "no security assistance may be provided to any country the government of which engages in a consistent pattern of gross violations of internationally recognized human rights;"

WHEREAS, the UN General Assembly on October 22, 2003, reaffirming the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, and . . . reiterating its opposition to settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territories almost unanimously, with the exception of the US, Israel

BE IT RESOLVED that the NLG seeks, in principal and practice, to support national and international campaigns to divest from Israel . . . and (a) support divestment campaigns to make full public disclosure of any and all investments it or other institutions have in Israel and of any and all profits earned from companies invested in Israel, and (b) either immediately divest from those companies, or cause such companies to disinvest from Israel until all of the following conditions are met: 1) Withdraw armed forces; 2) Permit interested refugees to return to their homes and compensate the rest; 3) End torture; 4) Vacate all Jewish-only settlement/colonies; 5) Compensate all Palestinian victims."