

C1 Palestine : Towards the End of Occupation

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 Greens of Norway (Grønn Ungdom), Finnish
 Young Greens (ViNO), Catalan Young
 Greens (Joves d'Esquerra Verda)
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Agenda item: 3. Resolutions

Text

1 It has now been fifty years since the beginning of the occupation and
2 colonisation of Palestine. For almost three generations, Palestinians have lived
3 in occupied territories where each day, more and more land and resources have
4 been confiscated by settlers, and where the Palestinian inhabitants have endured
5 constant humiliation and violation of their human rights. The Palestinian
6 culture and history are slowly being erased. A hundred years after the Balfour
7 declaration, thirty years after the first Intifada and ten years since the
8 beginning of Gaza's blockade, it is not an option to remain silent. At the very
9 end of 2016, United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 was passed,
10 demanding the end of Israeli settlement activity on Palestinian territory.
11 Nevertheless, Israel legalised 4000 houses of settlers in Palestine in February
12 2017. This FYEG resolution is not aimed to put an end to internal discussions on
13 the Israeli-Palestinian peace process. Rather, we call for an increased effort
14 to fight for equal treatment, security and freedom in the region.

15 Daily, Israel infringes international law treaties, including human rights law.
16 Despite being labeled democratic, a country that does not respect the common
17 values of the European Union should not be treated by the EU as a priority
18 partner. Association with the EU is not just based upon economic cooperation,
19 but also upon the acceptance and adoption of common values. In particular, it is
20 unacceptable for the EU to economically support a system of illegal military
21 oppression and segregation. Many European states provide the Israeli regime with
22 resources used against civilians and peaceful demonstrators, predominantly in
23 the occupied West Bank.

24 As long as Israel does not comply with international law, the Federation of
25 Young European Greens calls upon the EU, the governments of EU member states and
26 other European states to:

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- end the EU-Israel association agreement immediately;

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- prohibit the import into the EU of all Israeli goods and services coming from the occupied territories;
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- establish an arms embargo: prohibit the exportation of weapon(system)s and all military equipment, police equipment and any other form of security related equipment to Israel;
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- end all military cooperation with Israel;
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- recognize the Palestinian state with East-Jerusalem as its capital;
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- support the Palestinian desire for full UN membership;
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- encourage intercultural dialogue, the exchange of ideas and initiatives for cooperation in the region.
- 38 Considering that up to this day, not a single academic institution in Israel
39 ever took position to condemn the illegal situation of the occupation and
40 colonisation, we ask European universities to:
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- encourage their Israeli counterparts to recognise the illegal character of this situation;
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- urge their Israeli counterparts to stop any programs contributing to the persistence of this situation.

45 Furthermore, to offer a perspective of just peace and mutual prosperity for all
46 peoples in both Palestine and Israel, we call upon the Israeli government and
47 the international community to:

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- lift the sea and land blockade on Gaza immediately. The inhabitants of
51 Gaza have been deprived of their freedom of movement for more than ten
52 years, and are unable to fulfill basic human needs and rights. Access to
53 water, food, healthcare, education and housing is heavily restricted. As
54 long as this blockade is in place, the population of the Gaza strip will
55 never be able to recover from the heavy bombings of 2008-2009, 2012 and
56 2014. It will be hard to create goodwill among the 1.7 million people
57 living in Gaza, of whom half are under 18, when the recent wars result in
the usual water and food shortage. We are convinced that if peace is
really the ultimate goal, this siege must be ended;

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- recognise the illegal situation resulting from the construction of the
61 separation wall. Furthermore, we ask for the destruction of the wall
62 actually built on Palestinian land. Israel is also under an obligation to
repair all damage caused by the construction of the wall in the Occupied
Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem;

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- dismantle the settlements and return the land to their rightful
65 Palestinian owners, including those in East-Jerusalem, in accordance with
UN resolutions 242, 252 and 446;

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- guarantee full human, civil and political rights for all, regardless of
religion or ethnicity in both states;

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- abide by international treaties promoting peace and security, including,
70 but not limited to, the Geneva Convention, the bans on nuclear, chemical
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72 and biological weapons, the ban on cluster munitions, and the 1951
Convention of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees and its 1967
Protocol;

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75 • negotiate a just and fair solution for the Palestinian refugees rightfully
calling for their Right to Return, based upon international humanitarian
law;

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77 • carry out multilateral negotiations to find a fair solution that enables a
sustainable water policy for Syria, Lebanon, Israel, Palestine and Jordan;

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80 • respect the freedom of opinion and expression of parliamentarians,
81 journalists, artists and all other civilians and to make sure that people
are freely able to exercise these rights in a safe and respectful
environment;

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83 • demand the release of all Palestinian political prisoners and Israeli
(refuzniks) prisoners of conscience;

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86 • demand the release of all prisoners held under administrative detention,
87 and urge Israel to stop the use of this measure immediately. The right to
fair trial is a fundamental right in all countries that respect the rule
of law;

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90 • condemn any violations of the status quo on Al Haram al Sharif (Arabic
name), also known as Temple Mount (Jewish name), as enshrined by UNESCO
(resolution 200 EX/PX/DR.25.2 Rev.), and ensure that this is respected.

Reason

The situation in Palestine has been debated before at FYEG, but no resolutions has ever been voted. We do believe that FYEG cannot remain silent on this sensitive issue. Many European Countries, member of the EU or not, can exercise influence because of their varied relationship with the State of Israel. We think that FYEG should have a strong opinion on this issue which could serve as a basis for MO's to act at their level against this unlawful and continued occupation and colonization.