

R3 Resolution for Peace and Justice in Palestine and Israel

Proposer: FYEG EC
Agenda item: 6. Resolutions

Motion text

1 The Federation of Young European Greens (FYEG) and its member organisations are
2 gravely concerned by the ongoing situation in Palestine and Israel. We are
3 particularly disturbed by the far-right Israeli Government's flagrant disregard
4 for the ICJ's ruling that Israel must halt its military operations in Rafah and
5 Gaza on the grounds that such actions could lead to conditions conducive to
6 genocide (United Nations, 2023).

7 This resolution is borne out of the recognition that the European Union (EU) and
8 the governments of EU member states and other European countries have the urgent
9 responsibility to do everything in their power to prevent a genocide of the
10 Palestinian people, and to work towards peace between Israel and
11 Palestine—however distant this prospect may seem today.

12 FYEG condemns, in the strongest possible terms, the horrific terrorist attacks
13 of October 7th, in which Hamas abducted hundreds of civilians in a surprise
14 assault targeting a music festival, public spaces, and people's homes (BBC,
15 2023). These attacks, in which there are widespread reports of the use of rape
16 as a weapon of war, constitute war crimes (Human Rights Watch, 2023). Hamas must
17 immediately and unconditionally release all hostages.

18 We also recognise the decades of systemic oppression of Palestinians by the
19 Israeli state, and the failure of liberal democracies of the West to play a
20 useful role in the establishment of Peace and enforcement of UN resolutions in
21 the area. Movement restrictions, such as the network of checkpoints and a
22 complex permit system, severely hinder the daily lives of Palestinians,
23 impacting access to education, healthcare, employment, and family life (United
24 Nations, 2023). Land confiscation and settlement expansion policies in the West
25 Bank and East Jerusalem forcibly displace Palestinian families and consolidate
26 Israeli control over critical resources (Amnesty International, 2021). The dual
27 legal system in the West Bank, where Israeli settlers are subject to Israeli
28 civil law while Palestinians are governed by military law, further entrenches
29 discrimination and inequality (United Nations Office for the Coordination of
30 Humanitarian Affairs, 2022). Discriminatory urban planning policies result in
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the demolition of Palestinian homes and severe building restrictions, leading to forced displacement and hindering Palestinian development (Human Rights Watch, 2020).

The blockade on Gaza, imposed since 2007, restricts the movement of people and goods, exacerbating poverty and humanitarian crises (United Nations, 2021). Throughout history, violence by Israel against Palestinians has been marked by atrocities. Notable examples include the massacres of Deir Yassin, Lydda, and Al-Dawayima in 1948, the Khan Yunis, Rafah, and Kafr Qasim massacres in 1956, and various acts of violence during the 1967 Six-Day War (Palestinian Return Centre). Recent conflicts, such as the May 2021 conflict, have seen Israeli airstrikes resulting in unacceptable civilian casualties, as exemplified by the strikes on Al-Wahda Street in Gaza City and the al-Shati refugee camp (Human Rights Watch, 2021).

Since October 7th, the Israeli Government's response has escalated dramatically, committing actions that amount to war crimes and state terrorism (Amnesty International, 2023). Numerous Israeli airstrikes have targeted densely populated areas in Gaza, leading to significant civilian casualties (Human Rights Watch, 2023). On October 17, 2023, the Israeli military brutally attacked Al Ahli Hospital, killing over 470 civilians (United Nations, 2023) and the UNRWA school in Al Maghazi Refugee Camp, which sheltered around 4,000 displaced people (United Nations, 2023). These heinous attacks not only cause immediate and unacceptable loss of human life but also obliterate essential civilian infrastructure, exacerbating civilian suffering (Amnesty International, 2023). Additionally, the large-scale evacuations ordered in northern Gaza on October 15, 2023, result in forced displacement without adequate provisions or safe relocation areas, flagrantly violating international humanitarian law (Human Rights Watch, 2023). The complete siege of Gaza, cutting off vital supplies like food, water, and medicine, amounts to collective punishment with catastrophic consequences for the civilian population (United Nations, 2023). The use of white phosphorus in densely populated areas, such as the attack on Gaza City port on October 11, 2023, verified by Human Rights Watch, is a blatant violation of international humanitarian law (Human Rights Watch, 2023). Attacks on humanitarian workers, including the drone strike on World Central Kitchen Workers on April 1, 2024, and a Doctors Without Borders convoy on November 18, 2023, are egregious impediments to humanitarian efforts and violate international protections for humanitarian personnel (Médecins Sans Frontières, 2023). As the International Rescue Committee stated, due to the actions of the Israeli military, "Gaza is the most dangerous place in the world to be an aid worker, as well as the most dangerous place to be a civilian" (International Rescue Committee, 2023).

The Israeli Parliament's vote against the two-state solution is yet more evidence that the political leadership in the country does not take seriously the peaceful resolution of this conflict or the rights of Palestinians, and

74 makes clear their intent to eradicate Palestine (The Guardian, 2023).

75 The illegal actions of the Israeli government are not reflective of the totality
76 of the citizens of Israel, Jewish faith or the global Jewish community, and to
77 suggest otherwise is antisemitic. Rhetoric which downplays the seriousness of
78 the Holocaust is Holocaust denialism and is, in turn, antisemitic. Likewise,
79 Islamist terrorist organisations, that mostly target and terrorise the peoples
80 living in countries with a Muslim majority, do not represent Islam or the global
81 Muslim community, and to suggest otherwise is Islamophobic. FYEG is committed to
82 the eradication of antisemitism, Islamophobia and other racial, ethnic or
83 religious discrimination in all forms. Europe is experiencing a rise in
84 antisemitism and anti-Muslim racism all over Europe (European Union Agency for
85 Fundamental Rights, 2023). We strongly condemn all incidents against Jewish and
86 Muslim communities and institutions. Every incident is an attack against our
87 shared values, our democracy, and our pluralistic societies.

88 The further escalation of this conflict outside of the borders of Israel and
89 Palestine is of grave concern. Particular flashpoints have included Hezbollah's
90 rocket attacks on Israel from Lebanon and Israel's bombing of Hezbollah in
91 Lebanese territory (BBC, 2023) as well as Israel's bombing of the Iranian
92 embassy in Syria and the attacks launched in retaliation against Israeli targets
93 by Iran (Reuters, 2023).

94 The international community has repeatedly called for Israel to end its
95 oppressive practices and adhere to international law (United Nations, 2023).
96 However, Israel's actions continue unabated, leading to widespread condemnation
97 and calls for accountability (Amnesty International, 2023). We, the Federation
98 of Young European Greens, are adding our collective voice to this call. As a
99 federation committed to LGBTQ+ liberation, we reject Israel's
100 instrumentalisation of our struggle through the pinkwashing of its crimes.

101 The Federation of Young European Greens calls upon the EU, the governments of EU
102 member states and other European states to:

- 103 • Recognise the right of Palestinian and Israeli people to self-
104 determination, and reaffirm support for a two-state solution based on
105 secure and mutually agreed borders on 1967 lines.
- 106 • Recognise the state of Palestine, with its capital in Jerusalem, and
107 welcome it into the UN.
- 108 • Condemn the criminalisation and police violence against Palestine
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protestors in Europe.

- Divest public bodies from companies involved in human rights abuses or war crimes.
- Ensure Israel abides by Article 2 of the EU-Israel association agreement, respecting human rights and democratic principles.
- Prohibit the import of all Israeli goods and services from the occupied territories.
- End the sale and export of weapons to Israel.
- Promote divestment from companies supporting human rights abuses or war crimes.
- Increase funding for political education about the conflict, antisemitism, and anti-Muslim racism, and strengthen youth exchange programmes between Europeans, Israelis, and Palestinians.

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

- Cease and dismantle illegal settlements and return land to rightful Palestinian owners in accordance with UN Security Council resolutions 242, 252, and 446.
- Immediately release all Palestinians arbitrarily detained, particularly minors.
- Stop using administrative detention and ensure the right to a fair trial.
- Withdraw forces to internationally recognised Israeli territory.

- Allow freedom of movement for all Israeli and Palestinian people and remove checkpoints.

- Facilitate humanitarian aid and supplies into Palestine and ensure unimpeded access for humanitarian actors.

- Address the increase in settler violence and end the use of excessive force by the Israeli military in the West Bank, which have led to killings, injuries, displacement, and increased movement restrictions.

- End the sea and land blockade on Gaza immediately.

Similarly, we call upon the political leadership in both Israel and Palestine to:

- Implement an immediate and permanent ceasefire.

- Abide by international treaties promoting peace and security, including the Geneva Convention and the 1951 Refugee Convention.

- Negotiate a just solution for Palestinian refugees' right to return, with appropriate compensation for those who do not return.

- Cooperate with all ICC arrest warrants.

- Guarantee full human, civil, and political rights for all, regardless of religion or ethnicity.

- Respect and promote a tolerant environment for the free practice of all religious confessions, including the physical integrity and granted access to religious buildings and spaces.

- Respect the freedom of opinion and expression of parliamentarians,

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.

Finally, we call upon the international community to:

- Do everything in its power to de-escalate the conflict and prevent its spreading elsewhere. In particular, the Iranian regime must cease all support and funding for Hamas and other terrorist organisations in the region (United States Institute of Peace, 2023).
- Carry out full and independent investigations into all potential violations of international law (Human Rights Watch, 2023).
- Hold those who break international law accountable and support the work of the International Criminal Court (International Criminal Court, 2023).
- In particular, Qatar, which is used as a residence by some Hamas leaders to escape justice, must become a member of the ICC and cooperate with the court (United Nations, 2023).
- Enforce warrants issued by the International Criminal Court. This must begin with the end to the active blocking of ICC jurisdiction by the UK and US Governments (The Guardian, 2023).

Conclusion

The Federation of Young European Greens (FYEG) stands firm in its commitment to justice, peace, and the protection of human rights. We call for sustainable and long-term solutions to address the root causes of the situation, and we express our solidarity with all victims. The international community must act decisively to end the violence and support a just and lasting resolution.

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