



Gaza War: A Historic Victory for the Palestinian People!

Special Issue on the new Palestinian Intifada and the Fourth Gaza War in May 2021. It includes a number of statements, articles, reports and pictures, reflecting the joint positions and activities of the RCIT and *Convergencia Socialista* (Argentina). Furthermore, this issue includes links to videos of interviews and speeches of leaders of both organizations.

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Picture on the Cover: Palestine and Free Syria Flags at a Gaza Demonstration in Vienna (12.5.2021)

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The Fourth Gaza War Ended in a Historic Victory for the Palestinians!

Joint Statement of the Liaison Committee of the RCIT and Con-vergencia Socialista (Argentina), 21 May 2021 (UTC: 10:00)

Introductory Note: This is a brief emergency statement on the ceasefire in Gaza a few hours ago. It focuses only on the assessment of the immediate outcome of the war and not on the long-term and international implications. These issues will be dealt with in a separate document which we hope to publish very soon.

1. After eleven days, the Fourth Gaza War ended with a historic victory for the heroic Palestinian people as well as for the international working class! In this war between David and Goliath, Israel succeeded in killing 243 people – a large proportion of them civilians including 66 children, 39 women and 17 elderly men. In Israel, 12 people were killed. But despite having one of the most-modern armies in the world, the Zionist state did not dare to invade Gaza. It did not even venture to mobilize its army at the border to the enclave. It is evident that its deterrence effect is smaller than ever before. In fact, it was Israel which came under pressure – also because of the massive international pro-Palestine mobilizations – and had to publicly accept a one-sided ceasefire before *Hamas* and *Palestinian Islamic Jihad* agreed to it.

2. The fact of the Palestinian victory is recognized within both camps. The Palestinians in all corners of historic Palestine – in Gaza, in Westbank, in East Jerusalem as well as within the Israeli state – are holding enthusiastic celebrations on the streets. Likewise, international supporters of the Palestinian liberation struggle are jubilant. Pakistan already announced to hold a ‘*day of solidarity*’ with Palestinians.

3. In contrast, nobody among the Zionists celebrates. Mayors of cities in Southern Israel slam the government

(“It seems like nobody wants to defeat Hamas”, mayor of Sderot) and opposition politicians denounce Netanyahu (Gideon Sa’ar calls the ceasefire “*embarrassing*”, and the fascist leader Ben Gvir characterizes it as “*a grave capitulation to terror and to Hamas’s impositions*”). The government tries to reassure the public by claiming that it destroyed large parts of the defensive tunnels in Gaza. However, as everyone could see, Israel failed to weaken the Palestinian armed forces as it was capable to fire rockets and mortar shells against Israel until the very end of the war (more than 4340 rockets according to the Israeli army). Tellingly, there are no public celebrations even among the most fanatic supporters of Netanyahu.

4. One does not need to be Clausewitz to understand that the outcome of a war is not determined by tones of destroyed concrete but by the political consequences. And these consequences are clear: Israel is more isolated than ever, support for Israel in the U.S. – the strongest backer of the Zionist state – is weaker than ever, and the global solidarity with the Palestinian people stronger than ever before!

5. The *Liaison Committee of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT)* and *Convergencia Socialista (Argentina)*, including our comrades in Occupied Palestine, called for the military victory of Gaza and the defeat of the Zionist state from the very beginning. We welcome the triumph of the Palestinian resistance as an important factor contributing to the enhancement of the Third Intifada in all parts of historic Palestine, of the Arab Revolution as well as the global struggle of the working class and the oppressed peoples!

Argentina: Militant Rally in Front of the Zionist embassy

Convergencia Socialista (Argentina), May 14, 2021

On 13 May, a rally was held in front of the Israeli embassy, in solidarity with the Palestinian people and against the Zionist monster, which is waging a new war against Gaza. The rally has been called by various leftist organizations – among them *Convergencia Socialista*, *MTR Histórico*, and *Asambleas del Pueblo*. They were joined by youth comrades from the *Partido Revolucionario Marxista Leninista (JR-Che)*, the NGO “*Our voices*” and the *Federación de Entidades Argentino Palestina*.

Tilda Rabi, from the Palestinian Federation, spoke at the beginning of the event and called for all kinds of support actions towards her people. At the end of her speech she chanted one of the emblematic slogans: “*We will return, we will return, we will return to Palestine with its capital Jerusalem*”. Then, comrades from the organizations present took the floor, criticizing the absence of sectors that traditionally take the Palestinian cause as their own – such as the largest parties of the left – which were invited to participate in the event but didn’t turn up.



Juan Giglio, leader of *Convergencia Socialista* (left)

Who Won this Round in the Struggle Against the Zionist State?

Statement by the Internationalist Socialist League (RCIT Section in Israel / Occupied Palestine), 21 May 2021

From the very beginnings of this military round there was not a doubt that Hamas and the Islamic Jihad by themselves could not defeat Israel, which has the fourth or the fifth strongest army in the world. However, the fact that Israel could not destroy the fighters of Hamas and the Islamic Jihad, nor disarm them or occupied Gaza is a victory for the Palestinian resistance. There is no question that in the account of killing and injuring people, Israel killed and maimed many more people. Israel killed at least 232 Palestinians, including 65 children, in the bombardment. On the Israeli side, 12 people, including two children, have been killed. There is no question that Israel destroyed many more houses, as at least 72,000 people do not have a home to return to in Gaza.

Thus, from a purely military aspect Israel has inflicted much more pain on the Palestinians in Gaza than the pain inflicted on the Israelis, for this reason 70% of the Israelis wanted to continue the war and kill many more Palestinians in order to break the struggle against the repression of the Palestinians. Yet Israel could not destroy the resistance and missiles continued to land on Israel until two hours before the cease fire came into force in the Gaza Strip in the early hours of Friday morning.

And when the ceasefire came into force you could not see any celebrations in Israel while the people of Gaza celebrated. *"Thousands of people in Gaza and the Palestinian territories poured onto the streets to celebrate the ceasefire, waving flags and flashing 'V' signs for victory."* (1)

"Celebratory demonstrations took place in the Gaza Strip and West Bank as well, following the ceasefire. Fireworks, singing, and parades down the streets could be seen in uploaded footage shared on social media, accompanied with the hashtag #Palestine_Victorious. On the Temple Mount, thousands of Palestinians launched fireworks and waved Palestinian flags. Video reportedly showing crowds entering the complex, showed Palestinians chanting and throwing objects at Israeli police who stood along the side." (2)

The last time the Israelis celebrated was in 1967, in 1973 they hardly won the war, in 2000 Israel had to escape Lebanon and in 2006 it could not win against Hezbollah. Thus, in spite of the hundreds of billions of dollars the American and the European imperialists have invested to fortify Israel as the front line of imperialism, its usefulness for these imperialists is in decline. Add to it the fact that the USA, the closed ally of Israel, itself is in decline and you do not have to be a genius to understand that Israel is in the process of being thrown into the garbage bin of history. When this will happen the best friends of Israel will be the worst enemies of the Jews.

No doubt the Israeli government will tell the Israelis that Israel won and Hamas will not dare to provoke Israel in the coming years. If you believe the story of Cinderella and red hood you may believe the Zionist government. Especially when it is not clear at all what were the political aims of Israel in this war. *"War is a mere continuation of policy by other means"* wrote Carl von Clausewitz and if the political aim of Israel was to terrorize the Palestinians to submission it failed. The Palestinians feel stronger than before. It was manifested in the struggle against the Zi-

onist apartheid in the Jerusalem, the Westbank and in Israel itself in the forms of demonstrations, clashes with the police and the fascists and in the political general strike. The Zionist policies of dividing the Palestinians into Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza, the "Israeli Arabs" and the Palestinians in the diaspora have been crushed as the Palestinians feel as one nation in contrast to the Israeli Jews divided along ethnic and the different religious sects. Not only this but the myth that all the Jews are one world nation has suffered a real setback with the growing American Jews who distance themselves from Israel.

It is clear that Netanyahu wanted to continue the war but he had to give in to the pressures coming from the USA and Europe, the same states that support Israel and its aim to subdue and subjugate the Palestinians. This is the result of the strong opposition coming from the Arab, Muslims and local Europeans to Israel in these countries and even more in the Arab countries where their local ruling classes who serve the imperialists were forced to denounce Israel. Even the Gulf states fearing a new wave of the Arab revolution were forced to condemn Israel and announce their support for the Palestinians.

Hezbollah that did not intervene in the war congratulated Hamas on Friday for what it called a *"heroic round,"* saying that Palestinian groups had managed to establish *"new rules that will pave the way for the next great victory, and restore life to the Palestinian cause. This victory, which was achieved today, will have very important strategic, political and cultural implications for the future of conflict in the region,"* added Hezbollah, calling Israel *"weaker than spider's web."* (3)

The isolation of Israel in the world is growing while the support for the Palestinians is further on the rise. Not only this, but the direction of the political solution is manifested in the popular slogan we have seen in the demonstrations in the USA and Europe: *"Palestine free from the river to the sea!"*

The Samidoun Palestinian Prisoner Solidarity Networks accurately summed up the situation: *"While the Israeli war machine, armed and funded by the United States and the arms sales of Europe, Canada and elsewhere, was humiliated by the Palestinian resistance, the ceasefire does not end the ongoing Nakba of the Palestinian people, the project of Zionist settler colonialism for the past 73 years. Palestinians are continuing to resist land confiscation, home demolitions, siege, mass incarceration, extrajudicial killings, the denial of the right to return: the entire colonial project in Palestine, on the road to return and liberation, from the river to the sea. At this moment, it is more critical than ever to support Palestinian steadfastness, resistance and revolutionary struggle with global solidarity and action."*

Even the so-called opposition to Netanyahu who attacked him from the right say that Israel has failed. *"Yesh Atid Chairman Yair Lapid took Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to task on Friday on the outcome of Israel's latest operation in Gaza, saying it failed to bring about any major change. "The defense establishment, first and foremost the defense minister, the chief of staff and the soldiers of the Israel Defense Forces, conducted a high-quality, precise and ethical military operation. Alongside them, however, there was a weak prime minister without policies, responsibility or strategy," Lapid wrote on Twitter.*

"The citizens of Israel, in particular the citizens in the Gaza border communities, took heavy fire and, in return, received neither achievements nor change in their reality. Netanyahu's failures stretch from Mount Meron to Gaza, from the Temple Mount to Lod. The time has come for him to go." (4)

"Lapid's remarks were echoed by Gideon Sa'ar, leader of the New Hope Party, who came out on Thursday against the security cabinet's decision to approve a cease-fire with Hamas without conditions. "Ending the fighting with Hamas unilaterally deals a blow to Israel's deterrence against Hamas and not only against it," Sa'ar said Thursday night. "Ending Israel's military operations without imposing any limits on the strengthening and rearming of Hamas, and without the return of soldiers and civilians being held in Gaza, is a political failure whose price we will pay with interest in the future." (5)

It is not by chance that the masses of the workers and the poor peasants struggling against the Bonapartist regimes that the capitalists had installed using the Covid 19 excuse see the Palestinians struggle as part of their struggle because Israel is selling weapons to the most oppressive regimes. It also trains the American police against the black people and pushes for Islamophobia everywhere it can.

There are reports of growing number of Anti-Semitic incidents around the world. The problem with these reports by Zionist reactionary organizations like the *Anti-Defamation League*, is that it purposely confuses Anti-Zionism and Anti-Semitism. As the interest of the international working class is to oppose real Anti-Semitism we must differentiate between Anti-Zionism and Anti-Semitism. The hate of Zionism and Zionists and especially those who demonstrate in support of the Zionist apartheid state is progres-

sive, attacks on Jews simply because they are Jews is reactionary. Thus, beating up Zionists in the clashes between the Anti- and the Pro-Zionists is justified, while beating up Jews in a restaurant simply because they are Jews should be stopped. It is true that the Zionist repressive state is responsible for the rise in real Anti-Semitism and the closest friends of Israel are at the same time the worst Anti-Semites but this form of racist attitude is damaging to the heroic struggle of the Palestinians. The more Jews will join the struggle of the Palestinians the easier will be the elimination of Anti-Semitism in the pro-Palestinian camp.

"Pro-Palestinian activists and organizers, meanwhile, maintain that their solidarity with Palestinians does not amount to anti-Semitism. After a man was capture on video blasting anti-Semitic language through a megaphone at a weekend pro-Palestine march in Britain, the demonstration's organizers released a video strongly condemning anti-Semitism, saying: "There is no place in the Palestinian freedom movement for any type of hate crimes." (6)

Footnotes

- 1) <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/5/20/death-destruction-in-gaza-as-israel-defies-truce-call-live>
- 2) <https://www.jpost.com/arab-israeli-conflict/rocket-strikes-ashkelon-house-leaving-26-year-old-with-light-injuries-668657>
- 3) Ibid
- 4) <https://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/lapid-sa-ar-slam-netanyahu-over-gaza-operation-outcomes-1.9830508>
- 5) Ibid
- 6) <https://www.forbes.com/sites/jemimamcevoy/2021/05/20/synagogue-attacks-and-slurs-jewish-community-rocked-by-rise-in-anti-semitism-amid-israel-gaza-fighting/?sh=f02c49922627>

Vienna/Austria: Mass Demonstration in Solidarity with Palestine

Report (with Pictures and Videos) from a Demonstration in Vienna on 12 May 2021, Austrian Section of the RCIT

Several thousand people – nearly all from the large Arab and Muslim migrant communities in Vienna – marched in the centre of Austria's capital to show their support for the Palestinian people. In contrast to the conservative-green coalition government, which stands on the side of Israel like all other imperialist governments, people strongly protested the unlimited Israeli state terrorism against the Palestinians.

The demonstration reflected the international solidarity of the oppressed. There was a large and very visible presence of Syrian migrants supporting the revolution against the tyrant Assad and waving the famous flags of the Syrian Revolution. Likewise, Chechen migrants, supporting independence of their country from Russian imperialism, participated in the demonstration with their flags.

Comrades of the Austrian section of the RCIT participated in the demonstration. Our comrade Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the RCIT, gave interview to five international news agencies as he is since many years a well-known activist in solidarity with the Palestinian liberation struggle and the Arab Revolution (see pictures below as well as our link to media). He also addressed young Arab and Muslim demonstrators in a short speech (see the video below).

View the video of the speech of Michael Pröbsting here: https://www.thecomunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/the-fourth-gaza-war-has-begun/#anker_3



Michael Pröbsting at the rally in Vienna (12.5.2021)

General Strike in All Parts of Historic Palestine!

Strike actions to take place on 18 May in an unprecedented show of unity

By Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 17 May 2021

The Third Intifada – fighting against the new wave of Zionist aggression against Al-Aqsa, against Sheikh Jarrah and against Gaza – has mobilized all sectors of the Palestinian popular masses. This great event has resulted in an unprecedented show of unity – uniting the Palestinian masses in joint actions in all parts of Historic Palestine.

Palestinian trade unions, student unions and popular organizations have called for a general strike in the West Bank, East Jerusalem and the parts of historic Palestine which have been occupied since 1948 (i.e. the territory of the Israeli Apartheid State). Fatah's youth movement declared its support for this action. Hamas has called for the Third Intifada already since some time. The *High Follow-Up Committee for Arab Citizens of Israel* endorsed the strike action and called on Palestinian citizens of Israel to take part. Shops and commercial stores in Ramallah have been closed already since Saturday. (1)

The Liaison Committee of the *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) and *Convergencia Socialista* (Argentina) strongly welcomes this initiative!

It is crucial to build an international solidarity movement in order to support the Palestinian Third Intifada, to defend Gaza and to defeat the Zionist enemy! Such a movement must call for a massive boycott campaign against Israel. Wherever possible, it should organize sabotage actions against arms shipments to Israel (as it has been done

recently by militant unionists at the port of Livorno/Italy). (2)

We strongly welcome attempts of militants in Jordan and Lebanon to attack Israeli border posts (one was already set on fire by Jordanian demonstrators) and to cross the border to Israel in order to weaken the Israeli state.

We combine such support with a socialist perspective which includes linking the current mass struggles with other important struggles of the Arab Revolution (like the Syrian Revolution, the mass protests in Iraq and Lebanon etc.). Likewise, it is crucial to link these struggles in the Arab world with other revolutionary uprisings of the masses like those in Myanmar and in Colombia.

We call all organizations and activists who share such a perspective to contact our Liaison Committee of *Convergencia Socialista* and RCIT in order to work together in building a *Revolutionary World Party!*

Footnotes

1) Palestinians in West Bank, Israel declare general strike in unprecedented show of unity, 17 May, 2021 <https://english.alaraby.co.uk/english/news/2021/5/17/palestinians-in-west-bank-israel-declare-general-strike>

2) Pro-Palestine Italian port workers refuse to load arms shipment destined for Israel, 15 May, 2021 <https://english.alaraby.co.uk/english/news/2021/5/15/pro-palestine-italian-port-workers-refuse-arms-shipment-to-israel>

Books of the RCIT

Yossi Schwartz: Palestine and Zionism

The History of Oppression of the Palestinian People.

A Critical Account of the Myths of Zionism

In *Palestine and Zionism* Yossi Schwartz provides a critical analysis of numerous Zionist myths about the Jews as well as about the Palestinians. He demonstrates that the Zionist claim that Palestine is the historic homeland of the Jews lacks any serious basis. *Palestine and Zionism* shows that the history of Zionism in the 20th century is a history of colonialism in the service of the Great Powers and directed against the native population – the Arabs. In *Palestine and Zionism* Yossi Schwartz deals with key events – the “Nakba” in 1948, the wars in 1956, 1967 and 1973, more recent events like the Lebanon War, etc. – which were decisive for the expulsion of most Palestinians from their homeland.

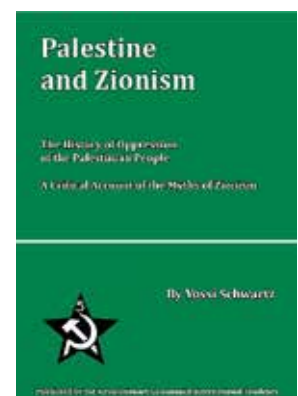
Yossi Schwartz also shows that the Palestinian people have heroically resisted against the occupation resulting in two Intifadas as well as the successful defense of Gaza against the Israeli aggression in three wars (2008/09, 2012, 2014). The author also analysis the shameful betrayal by the PLO leadership by signing the Oslo Agreement in 1993.

In *Palestine and Zionism* Yossi Schwartz defends the right of national self-determination for the Palestinian people and outlines

a socialist perspective. He emphasizes that the only solution is the right of millions of Palestinian refugees to return to their homeland and to replace the Zionist entity with one democratic state from the river to the sea – a *Free Red Palestine* with equal civil rights to the Arabs and the Israeli Jews.

The book contains an introduction and 7 chapters (112 pages) and includes 7 Tables and 3 Maps. The author of the book is Yossi Schwartz, a leading member of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency and its section in Israel / Occupied Palestine..

You can find the contents and download the book for free at <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/palestine-and-zionism/>



Netanyahu, the capitalists, and the mad fireman law

By *Damián Quevedo, Convergencia Socialista (Argentina), May 2021*

The new offensive of the Zionist State of Israel on the Palestinian people seems to mark a reactionary trend, a kind of repressive advance on the mass movement, seeking to stop the ongoing struggles. This appears to be the continuity of the course begun after the coup in Myanmar and the savage repression against the Colombian people, as classic ways of unloading the crisis of capitalism on the workers.

But, we insist, that these terrible events, only in their forms or appearances, are showing the existence of strong states and bourgeoisies that know where they are going. The criminal offensive against the Palestinian people is not new, in fact the evictions of residents from their homes are commonplace in occupied Palestine. However, in recent days they gave rise to a response from the mass movement that predicts the beginning of a Third Intifada, which does not happen on a daily basis.

Something changed in Palestine, but it is not a particular modification, but it has to do with the context, with the world situation, since in general terms we are entering, after the defeat of what we have called "Covid Counter-revolution", to a new revolutionary situation, far superior to the one that took place after the fall of the Lehman Brothers and the explosion of the fabulous Arab Spring between 2008 and 2010.

The reaction of Netanyahu and the Israeli bourgeoisie is the dream of capitalists around the world, who want to crush - as in Syria, Nicaragua or Venezuela - the masses. The owners of the world, the great imperialists, need to perpetrate a massacre - as in the two world wars - in order to rebuild a new "virtuous" cycle, which after destroying competitors and productive forces will allow them to have a market to sell their products, emerging from the current crisis of over-production.

But Netanyahu and the capitalists, in general, know that this objective is not easy to achieve in the current circumstances, because the mass movement is regaining the initiative, returning to the ring with more forces and levels of radicalization than ever before in its history. Therefore, the offensive on Palestine is nothing more than a desperate act, driven more than by the intelligence of the Zionist leaders, by the deep and lethal crisis of the Israeli regime, which seeks with this new War against Gaza to achieve a certain cohesion, relying on the most reactionary sectors of Israel.

In a framework such as the current one, this type of offensive only manages to fan the flames of rebellion throughout the world, acting as what Nahuel Moreno called the 'mad fireman's law', a situation in which an attempt is made to extinguish the fire with gasoline -High octane- which means that each and every one of the measures used by those above to try to crush or stop the mass movement is turned against it. The bombs dropped against the civilian population of Gaza instead of privacy! their occupants, they emboldened them, but they also provoked the irruption of a gigantic movement of solidarity towards Palestine, which is winning the streets of the whole world!

The whole world, despite the propaganda of Zionism, is sensitized and expresses its solidarity with the Palestinian people, every time Zionism attempts a new massacre. It is that Palestine represents, today, one of the most powerful symbols - perhaps the greatest - of the fight against oppression, much greater than the one that Vietnam represented decades ago. It will be difficult for the Zionists, rather impossible, to defeat the Palestinian people, because it is a cause embraced by all the oppressed and oppressed in the world!

The new Intifada under way exploded, not coincidentally, in the Middle East, the region of the world in which the global revolutionary process began after the great crisis of 2008, through the Arab Spring. However, this new revolutionary wave will not be the same as the previous one, but much superior, since it happens in a context in which the bourgeoisie has already exhausted all its options.

This is a historic opportunity for the revolutionary left, but also an enormous responsibility, because there are unprecedented conditions to build a new revolutionary leadership, uniting the organizations - or fractions of them - that rise to the occasion. The current crisis has only two possible ways out, barbarism, if capitalism defeats the mass movement, or socialism, if the working class achieves the unity and organization necessary to destroy capitalism.

From the Liaison Committee, which we began to build weeks ago with the comrades of the International Revolutionary Communist Current, we are contributing what is ours for the implementation of this, increasingly necessary, Socialist General Staff, without which there will be no triumphant revolution.



Publications of the RCIT

The Origins of the Jews

By *Yossi Schwartz, July 2015*

Chapter I: What are the origins of the Jews?

Chapter II: The Rise of Anti-Semitism

Chapter III: Anti-Semitism and Zionism

Chapter IV: The Russian Revolution:

Bolshevism, the Bund, and Stalinism

The Zionist War Criminals and Their Friends

By Yossi Schwartz, *Internationalist Socialist League (RCIT Section in Israel / Occupied Palestine)*, 15 May 2021

Today in 1948, the Zionists removed by way of massacres most of the native Palestinians from Palestine in order to form the Zionist state. On this day, this year the Zionists are committing a new massive crime against the Palestinian refugees in Gaza.

So far, the Zionist criminal army has killed 140 people among them 39 children in the intensive bombing of Gaza, and 950 others have been wounded. In the occupied West Bank, Israeli forces have killed at least 13 Palestinians and injured at least 29 Palestinians. The Israeli criminals are saying that the Zionist army shoots only at Hamas fighters, as an excuse. The Zionist air force flattens Gaza buildings that houses the reporters that now find it more difficult to report on the crimes.

The Associated Press President and CEO Gary Pruitt said in a statement that they are “shocked and horrified” that the Israeli military destroyed the building housing news organizations. “They have long known the location of our bureau and knew journalists were there. We received a warning that the building would be hit,”

The Zionist propaganda is that Hamas’s fighters are hiding behind the civilian population, but this is another lie. Tamara Alrifai, director of strategic communications and spokeswoman at the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), said the agency was ““extremely shocked and devastated” at the news of the bombardment of the Shati refugee camp. “We are extremely distressed about that development, just like we are distressed about the entire situation in Gaza and actually the entire situation of the occupied Palestinian territory,” she told Al Jazeera. “What’s happening in Gaza cannot be disassociated with what’s happening in the West Bank, the protests and the indiscriminate use of force by the Israeli security forces that were the trigger for the events in Gaza and for what is now a humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza.” Israel has said its forces are not targeting civilians, but that Hamas fighters have been hiding among them. Alrifai rejected that Hamas members have been sheltering in UN refugee camps and facilities such as Shati camp. This is total disinformation, that Hamas [is] hid-

ing in UN camps and that being the reason for striking either extremely densely populated refugee camps or causing excessive damage to (the UNRWA headquarters, like what happened two days ago.”” (2)

On Saturday hundreds of Palestinians and Jews protested in Jaffa over the firebomb attack that severely wounded a 12-year-old Arab boy in the area on Friday night. “The boy was left in serious condition when a firebomb was thrown at his house. No suspects have been apprehended, and police say they are investigating whether the attack was committed by Jews or by Arabs who were mistaken about who lived in the house in the largely Arab neighborhood of Ajami. The boy is in a medical coma with burns on his upper body.” (3)

The protests were a step in the right direction. The ISL, the section of the RCIT in Israel (Occupied Palestine), is calling for further solidarity action of the working-class organizations in the world, on all oppressed people in the world, on all the Arab and Muslim masses to stand in every way possible with the oppressed Palestinians. We denounce the US President, the majority of the American Democratic and Republican parties, that support the Zionist crimes. We also denounce Austria Chancellor Sebastian Kurz’s government that had flown the Israeli flag in Vienna, and the French government that forbids pro-Palestinian demonstrations. They are all partner to the Zionist crime!

As long as the Zionist state exists it will continue to commit massacres, the only solution is a red democratic Palestinian state from the river to the sea. Only such a state will grant the return of the Palestinian refugee and equal rights to the Israeli Jews. Israel is not only a criminal state against the Arabs but a death trap for the Israeli Jews.

Footnotes

- 1) <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/5/15/palestinian-death-toll-in-gaza-occupied-west-bank-mounts-live-news>
- 2) Ibid
- 3) <https://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/premium-hundreds-protest-in-jaffa-after-12-year-old-arab-boy-seriously-wounded-by-firebomb-1.9811545>

London/UK: Mass Demonstration in Support of the Palestine

Report (with Pictures) from a Demonstration in London on 22 May 2021, RCIT Britain

About 30,000 Palestinians and their supporters marched from The Embankment in London to Hyde Park. There were thousands of Palestinians draped in the Palestinian flag together with many Arab and Muslim supporters.

They chanted slogans like “Free, Free Palestine”, “We are all Palestinians here”, “From the River to the sea - Palestine will be free”. There were placards saying “Victory to Palestine”, “Free Gaza”, etc.

Comrades from the RCIT Britain distributed our leaflet and sold the latest issue of our journal *Revolutionary Liberation*.

This successful mass demonstration showed the determination of all Palestinians and their supporters to fight for the liberation of Palestine and the defeat of the Zionist enemy!



The Gaza War Has Begun! Defend Palestine – Defeat Israel!

Zionists wage new war after failure to conquer the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem

Joint Statement of the RCIT and Convergencia Socialista (Argentina), 11 May 2021 (UTC: 8.00)

Comrades, brothers, and sisters! Yesterday, the Zionist state suffered a humiliating defeat. Despite mobilizing thousands of police and army, they failed to conquer the Al-Aqsa Mosque. Thousands of Palestinians, mostly youth, heroically defended this holy symbol of the Palestinian people, the Arab world as well as the global Muslim umma. Despite hundreds of injured and hospitalized, the heroic youth successfully stood their ground.

Even worse for the Israeli state, they had first to reroute and finally to cancel the notorious fascist *Flag March* where thousands of Zionist fanatics annually march through the historic Muslim quarters in East Jerusalem and chant “*Death to the Arabs!*” This was a historic victory achieved by the Palestinian youth in Al-Quds/Jerusalem as well as the resistance factions in Gaza.

In response to this humiliating defeat, the Israeli army has waged another barbarous war campaign against Gaza which they call Operation “*Guardian of the Walls*”. They send their most modern warplanes and missiles against the small Mediterranean enclave. Within a few hours, at least 24 Palestinians, among them 9 children, have been murdered. In response, the Palestinian resistance has launched legitimate acts of self-defense.

There are strong indications that in these hours both the fourth Gaza war as well as the Third Intifada have begun. In several major cities the Palestinian masses have entered the streets in support of the heroic militants in the Al-Aqsa Mosque as well as in Gaza. Minutes ago, the Arab students have launched a solidarity strike. In al-Lydd near Tel Aviv many youths demonstrated on the streets.

In a highly symbolical scene captured in a video clip circulating in social media, activists in al-Lydd took down the

Israeli flag at a square and replaced it with the Palestinian flag. Likewise, youth raised the flag of Hamas at the top of the Al-Aqsa Mosque after the resistance movement in Gaza had issued an ultimatum to the Israeli government.

These two actions symbolize that the seemingly almighty power of the Zionist state is challenged more than ever by the insurrectional Palestinian people!

The Zionist state is a wounded animal. The ruling class is deeply divided and unable to form a stable government since more than two years. Prime Minister Netanyahu is doing everything in his power to stop his corruption trial. However, despite provoking four elections within 25 months, Netanyahu is still unable to get a parliamentary majority in the Knesset. He as well as his rivals try to outdo each other by escalating the racist rhetoric as well as terrorist actions against the Palestinians – the native population which has been expelled and oppressed by the Zionist settlers since the foundation of the Israeli state in 1948.

But despite all this escalation, despite all attempts to build alliances with arch-reactionary Arab rulers – first and foremost the tyrants of the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia – the Zionist state is incapable to pacify and defeat the Palestinian people!

In our yesterday’s statement, the *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT)* and *Convergencia Socialista (Argentina)* already expressed their full and unconditional support for the liberation struggle of the heroic Palestinian people. All socialists, all opponents of colonial oppression, all righteous people must rally in defense of our Palestinian brothers and sisters! With a single voice we say: Defend the Palestinian people – defeat Israel!

We send our greetings to our courageous comrades of the

Victory for the Palestinians! Time To Go Forward!

By Yossi Schwartz, Internationalist Socialist League (RCIT Section in Israel / Occupied Palestine), 10 May 2021 (UTC 15.00)

On Monday morning Zionist police forces stormed the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound. Using rubber-coated bullets, tear gas, and sound bombs against the Palestinian worshippers they wounded hundreds.

This was in preparation for the annual Jerusalem Day Flag March marking the occupation of East Jerusalem. 35,000 Zionist right wingers protected by the same thugs in uniforms were expected to march in the old city chanting “*Death to the Arabs*”.

For months the Anti-Bibi camp complained that Netanyahu and his minister of police Ohana have used the police against them and yet when the police protect the racist hooligans they have not formed any counter force to block the March.

Ironically, Netanyahu has been using this march to split the Anti-Bibi camp. The leaders of the Arab Joined List that for months have called on the same thugs in uniform to protect the Palestinians citizen of Israel and who recommended Yair Lapid as a prime minister have been forced

to condemn the police and retreat from their support of Lapid in order not to lose all the remaining support.

Israel has been under a lot of pressure in the last few days because of its vandalism against Al-Aqsa Mosque and the violence used against the Palestinians in Sheikh Jarrah.

Out of fear the Israeli police have changed the route of a contentious march by Jewish ultranationalists in Jerusalem, in an apparent attempt to avoid confrontations with Palestinian protesters. The original route had planned to go through Damascus Gate and into the Muslim Quarter of the Old City and on to the Western Wall, the holiest place where Jews can pray. Instead, the route has been changed to reach the Western Wall, in the Jewish Quarter, in a more roundabout way. Monday’s decision came hours after intense clashes between Israeli police and Muslim protesters at the nearby Al-Aqsa Mosque.

This is a victory for the oppressed Palestinians! It is the time to continue and deepen the struggle against the Zionist Apartheid!

Internationalist Socialist League (RCIT Section in Israel / Occupied Palestine) who raise the banner of Antizionism and solidarity with the Palestinian liberation struggle under the most difficult circumstances.

We call for the formation of popular assemblies and militias so that the Palestinian people can organize and defend their struggle for liberation!

The treacherous Palestinian Administration Mahmoud Abbas must immediately stop its collaboration with the Israeli state and distribute weapons to the people so that they can defend themselves against the Zionist killers.

It is the urgent duty of the international workers and popular movement to mobilize all over the world in solidarity with the Palestinian people. Yesterday's night spontaneous mass demonstration of thousands of people in Istanbul is an example which should be repeated all over the world.

All activities of boycott against the Zionist state and all forms of sabotage of arms shipments to Israel are important and legitimate acts of solidarity.

In the imperialist metropolises – first and foremost in North America and Western Europe – socialists should support all activities which undermine the shameful support of the imperialist governments for the Zionist Apartheid state. From our Liaison Committee of RCIT and CS we strongly

ly denounce those treacherous "left-wing" parties which give legitimacy to the Zionist entity by supporting a two-state solution (e.g. the Stalinist and reformist parties). We also condemn those "left-wing" forces which scandalously slander Antizionism as "Antisemitism" (e.g. the German LINKE or also the Argentinian "Trotskyist" FIT deputies in the regional assembly of Buenos Aires in June 2020).

All Arab and Muslim governments which claim to stand by the Palestinian people must immediately break off all political, economic, and military relations with the Zionist state. They must send the Palestinian people everything they need – from medical to military aid.

We repeat: As long as the Zionist state exists, the Palestinians will continue suffering from state terrorism! This is why we stand for the socialist perspective of a democratic and red Palestine. We support the struggle for the destruction of the Zionist state and the right to return for all Palestinian refugees.

Comrades, brothers and sisters! Do not hesitate! Rally in support of the heroic Palestinian people!

We call all organizations and activists who share such a perspective to contact our Liaison Committee of *Convergencia Socialista* and RCIT in order to work together in building a *Revolutionary World Party!*

Interview with Michael Pröbsting on Arab Satellite Channel WATAN TV

Report by the RCIT, 16 May 2021

Michael Pröbsting, the RCIT's International Secretary, was invited to speak at a TV-Show on the Arab-language channel WATAN TV. WATAN TV is a prominent satellite TV channel which airs its shows in many countries. The show was dedicated to the liberation struggle of the Palestinian people and had a number of prominent speakers from Arab and Muslim countries. Michael Pröbsting spoke in English language and his answers were translated in Arab language. The interview lasted for 10 minutes. Watch the interview here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TUq9Vb1Kc7s>



Publications of the RCIT in Arab Language

The collage features several key elements:

- A red banner at the top with white Arabic text: "الثورة والثورة المضادة في العالم العربي: اختبار للثوريين" (Revolution and counter-revolution in the Arab world: a test for revolutionaries).
- Another red banner below it: "البيان الشيوعي الثوري" (The revolutionary communist manifesto).
- A poster for "ثورة" (Revolution) by AWRA, featuring a red star and the text "الثورة المضادة للثورة" (Counter-revolution against revolution).
- An image of a woman wearing a black headscarf and a red and white headscarf, looking forward.
- An image of a man in a military-style jacket and cap, looking to the side.
- At the bottom, a red banner with the text "الشيوعي الثوري الدولي" (International revolutionary communist).

Occupied Palestine: Stand with our Brothers and Sisters in Jerusalem!

**Forward to the Third Intifada! Down with the Zionist State!
Long live the Struggle for a Free Palestine!**

Emergency Statement of the RCIT and Convergencia Socialista (Argentina), 10 May 2021 (UTC 10.00)

Comrades, brothers and sisters!
In these hours, Israeli forces are invading the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem – one of the most important symbols of the Palestinian people, the Arab world as well as the Muslim umma. They fire tear gas and sound bombs against thousands of brothers and sisters who are heroically defending the compound.

According to first reports, hundreds of Palestinian youths have already been injured. About 50 have been hospitalized and several of them are in critical conditions.

In addition, Israeli warplanes are bombarding the Palestinian people in Gaza since three days. This is another state terrorist assault against the heroic people of Gaza! For years, they are suffering from the barbarous blockade by the Zionist state. Nevertheless, the Palestinian resistance has successfully defended the enclave against the Israeli army in three wars.

Today, Jewish fascist settlers plan to march close to the Al-Aqsa Mosque, chanting “Death to the Arabs!” and demonstrating their claim to expel the Arabs from Jerusalem and to destroy the Holy Place of the Muslims.

About 8,000 Palestinians, mostly youth, have barricaded themselves within the yards of the Al-Aqsa Mosque in order to prevent the Jewish fascist attack.

Today, it is more important than ever to stand up with our Palestinian brothers and sisters! The international workers and popular movement must mobilize all over the world in solidarity with the Palestinian people!

The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT)* and *Convergencia Socialista (Argentina)* unconditionally support the liberation struggle of the Palestinian people! As long as the Zionist state exists, the Palestinians will continue suffering from state terrorism!

We stand for the socialist perspective of a democratic and red Palestine. We support the struggle for the destruction of the Zionist state and the right to return for all Palestinian refugees.

Comrades, brothers and sisters! Do not hesitate! Stand up in support of the heroic Palestinian youth!

Forward to the Third Intifada!

Down with the Zionist State!

Long live the Struggle for a Free Palestine!

Argentina: Defend Juan Carlos Giordano against Zionist Attacks!

Statement of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 22 May 2021

Juan Carlos Giordano, a parliamentary deputy of *Izquierda Socialista (UIT-CI)* and the left-wing alliance FIT, has been attacked by supporters of Israel as “Nazi” and “Anti-Semite” because of his solidarity with the Palestinian people. In a recent speech in parliament, he called for the abolition of the Zionist state and the creation of a single state in the entire territory of Palestine on a secular, non-racist and democratic basis.

Comrade Giordano is facing now vicious attacks by pro-Zionist forces for his principled and anti-imperialist position.

The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT)* strongly denounces this reactionary slander and calls for the defense of comrade Giordano and his comrades in the IS/UIT. We fully share the statement published by our comrades of *Convergencia Socialista (Argentina)* who immediately expressed their solidarity with comrade Giordano.

Our comrades faced a similar situation in 2009 when Juan Carlos Beica – leader of *Convergencia Socialista* – was attacked by the Israeli embassy and the Kirchner government for the same reasons and was being sentenced to 6 months in prison in the first instance trial. Thanks to a huge national and international campaign, he ended up being acquitted.

* *Hands off Juan Carlos Giordano!*

* *Defend democratic rights!*

* *Down with Zionism!*

* *For a red democratic Palestine from the river to the sea!*



Juan Carlos Giordano, parliamentary deputy of IS/UIT-CI and FIT

Israel Hands Off Sheikh Jarrah and Out of Al Aqsa!

Statement by the Internationalist Socialist League (RCIT Section in Israel / Occupied Palestine), 8 May 2021

The struggle of the Palestinian residents of Sheikh Jarrah district near Jerusalem's Old City, the home to 3,000 Palestinians, against the eviction of four Palestinian families continues. On Monday, at least 20 Palestinians were injured in a brawl after Israeli police stormed a solidarity demonstration with the residents of Sheikh Jarrah. While the police are using extreme violence against the protesters, armed Jewish settlers protected by the police walk around to provoke more police oppression. Israeli border police have attacked the sit-ins using skunk water, tear gas, rubber-coated bullets and shock grenades over the past few days.

"Jewish settler organizations filed a lawsuit in the 1970s claiming the area belonged to Jews originally, asking for the expulsion of Palestinian families living there since 1956. These families, refugees from the 1948 Nakba, eventually settled in Sheikh Jarrah under an agreement between Jordan and the UN refugee agency." (1)

The refugees, 28 families displaced from their homes by Israel in 1948, were able to relocate to Sheikh Jarrah in 1956 after Jordan, which had a mandate over the eastern part of Jerusalem, built housing projects for them there. An agreement between the United Nations and Jordan stipulated that the families would receive the houses in return for renouncing their refugee status with the UN refugee agency and that after three years the Jordanian government would transfer ownership titles to the families. However, that did not happen and by 1967, Israel had captured East Jerusalem.

Zionist Brutality

The Zionist district court part of oppressing apparatus of the Zionist state *"ruled that four families – al-Kurd, Iskafi, Qassim and Jaouni – must leave their homes for settlers to take over, or reach an agreement with these settler organizations by paying rent and recognizing them as landlords."* (2)

"In October, the Israeli magistrate court of Jerusalem ruled to evict 12 of the 24 Palestinian families in Sheikh Jarrah and to

give their homes to Israeli Jewish settlers. The court also ruled that each family must pay 70,000 shekels (\$20,000) in fees to cover the settlers' legal expenses." (3)

Al-Kurd was just 11 years old when Jewish settlers forcibly took over half of his home in November 2009 and described sharing it with "squatters with Brooklyn accents" as "insufferable, intolerable [and] terrible. They are just sitting in our home, tormenting us, harassing us, doing everything they can to not only force us to leave the second half of our home but also harassing our neighbors into leaving their homes as part of an effort to completely annihilate the presence of Palestinians from Jerusalem," he said." (4)

Dozens of Palestinians have been arrested, the struggle over Sheikh Jarrah is not only against the Zionist policy of turning east Jerusalem to a city with Jewish majority but another step in the policy of preventing a Palestinian state in the lands occupied in 1967 and the establishment of a Zionist apartheid state from the river to the sea.

"Since the 1970s, the Israeli government has been working on implementing a "demographic balance" in Jerusalem at a 70-30 ratio, limiting the Palestinian population in the city to 30 percent or less. This urban planning has been executed by a number of policies such as land confiscation, displacement, and colonization of Palestinian neighborhoods. This is part of the "silent transfer" – an intricate system that targets Palestinians in occupied East Jerusalem with residency revocation, displacement through house demolitions, barriers in obtaining building permits, and high taxes." (5)

"Social media users from the ground and around the world have uploaded and shared video content and images about the police attacks, using both English and Arabic. However, many have complained that their accounts have been censored, limited, or shut down altogether. Social media companies are silencing Palestinian voices while they're fighting for their survival on the ground," Marwa Fatafta, a policy member of the think tank Al Shabaka, told Al Jazeera. This is not a one-off incident, it's a sequel to wider systematic censorship and discrimination targeting mainly those who are marginalized and oppressed, often at the behest of oppressive regimes." (6)

Nottingham/UK: Rally in Solidarity with Palestine

Report (with Pictures) from a Rally in Nottingham on 15 May 2021, RCIT Britain

Over 2,000 Palestinians and Arab people dominated the main square in Nottingham today. They brought Palestinian flags and placards, including homemade ones saying *"Free Palestine"*, *"One Democratic State from the River to the Sea"*, *"Nabka – Exist, Resist, Return"*, etc.

People were chanting slogans like *"Free Palestine"*, *"Enough is Enough"*, *"No Justice no Peace"*, *"We are not giving up stop this now"*, and others. One Palestinian climbed to the top of a building and planted a Palestinian flag on the top showing their determination.

There was a warm response from many Palestinians and Arabs to the RCIT leaflet that was distributed.



"The complicity between Israel and social media companies in regulating and censoring Palestinian content and accounts is well documented. Following a visit by a Facebook delegation in 2016, Israel's justice minister at the time stated that Facebook, Google and YouTube were "complying with up to 95 percent of Israeli requests to delete content" – almost all of it Palestinian. The Arab Center for Social Media Advancement, published a study in 2017 that found every 46 seconds Israelis post a racist or inciting comment against Palestinians and Arabs. Yet there has been little action taken against these accounts." (7)

"On Thursday night, at least 30 people were wounded and 15 arrested. Videos emerged showing Israeli settlers deliberately provoking a Palestinian communal Iftar meal set up outside one of the houses, including using pepper spray. Palestinians responded by throwing chairs at the settlers. On Friday, tens of thousands of Palestinian worshippers packed into the mosque on the final Friday of Ramadan and many stayed on to protest in support of Palestinians facing eviction from their homes on Israeli-occupied land claimed by Jewish settlers. At the same time tens of thousands of Moslem worshipers have clashed with the police in Al-Aqsa Mosque. More than 190 Palestinians have been injured after Israeli police stormed the Mosque and dispersed worshippers elsewhere in occupied East Jerusalem, as weeks-long tensions between the Zionist state and the Palestinians over Jerusalem soared again. Sheikh Omar al-Kiswani, the director of Al-Aqsa Mosque, called on Israeli police to halt their attacks and withdraw from the mosque courtyard. "Police must immediately stop firing stun grenades at worshippers, and the youth must calm down and be quiet!" (8)

"By Friday night at least 205 Palestinians and 17 officers were injured in the night-time clashes at Islam's third-holiest site and around East Jerusalem, Palestinian medics and Israeli police said, as thousands of Palestinians faced off with several hundred Israeli police in riot gear." (9)

Beginning of a New Intifada?

This could be the beginning of a new Intifada in the heroic struggle of the oppressed Palestinians against the state of the settler colonialists. Once again, the battle cry of the oppressed is heard: *"With blood and fire we will redeem Palestine. "With our soul, with our blood, we will redeem you, oh Aqsa."*

A new Intifada is a possibility, especially as on Monday, there is what Israelis call the Jerusalem Day, when the right-wing Zionists protected by the police marched in the old city chanting "death to the Arabs". It coincides with Laylat-ul-Qadar, which is the holiest night during Ramadan.

As could be expected the Zionist's apartheid foreign ministry said on Friday that Palestinians were *"presenting a real-estate dispute between private parties as a nationalist cause in order to incite violence in Jerusalem"*.

Some MK from the predominantly Arab Joint List and the Zionist left-wing Meretz party attended the protests in Sheikh Jarrah.

Coward Leaders

While we have some respect for Offer Cassif, the only Jewish MK in the Joint List who speaks the truth about the role of the police, we harshly criticize Hadash and Tibi's position of recommending Lapid as a Prime Minister together with two right wing parties and for calling on the Zionist police to defend the Palestinians citizens of Israel. The only party that has the correct position is Balad led by Sami Abu Shehadeh, that refused to endorse the two Zionist blocks, but even he has still illusions in the UN and the EU.

Fearing a new Intifada Palestinian president Mahmud Abbas, the collaborator with Israel, who cancelled the scheduled national elections said in a televised statement that the Israeli government is fully responsible for the recent incidents in Jerusalem, as well as any repercussions that result from the continuing escalation.

Hamas's military wing leader Mohammed Deif warned Israel will pay a heavy price if attacks against Sheikh Jarrah continue. In any clash with Israel the interest of the international working class is to see a defeat for Israel without giving Hamas political support.

Fear of Rulers in the Region

King Abdulla of Jordan is worried of an uprising warranted Israel from escalation of the tense situation. He is not alone. *"Turkey condemns Israeli raid on Al-Aqsa Mosque:*

RCIT's media work during the Fourth Gaza War

Interviews

Interview with Michael Pröbsting on Arab Satellite Channel WATAN TV

[English](#) [Arabic](#) [Deutsch](#)

Al-Mayadeen: Video with Interview with Michael Pröbsting starting at minute 1:25, <https://www.almayadeen.net/Preview/1479744/>

Dailymotion: Video with Interview with Michael Pröbsting starting at minute 2:40, <https://www.dailymotion.com/video/x818vqh>

Press TV: Video with Interview with Michael Pröbsting starting at minute 1:10, <https://www.presstv.com/Detail/2021/05/13/652546/Thousands-take-part-in-anti-Israeli-demo-Vienna>

Aswan Today: Video with Interview with Michael Pröbsting starting at minute 1:58, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ijVGJLzshNM>

Reports

<https://www.aa.com.tr/tr/dunya/avusturya-da-israil-in-filistin-e-yonelik-saldirilari-protesto-edildi/2239415>

<https://www.haberjournal.at/viyana/viyanada-filistine-destek-yuruyusu-h19266.html>

<https://www.haberler.com/avusturya-da-israil-in-filistin-e-yonelik-14129349-haberi/>

<https://havadis.at/haber/avusturyada-israilin-filistine-yonelik-saldirilari-protesto-edildi-h19614.html>

<https://cengizadabag.org/avusturyada-israilin-filistine-yonelik-saldirilari-protesto-edildi/>

<https://www.partihaber.com/dunya/avusturyada-israilin-filistine-yonelik-hucumlari-protesto-edildi-4087.html>

<https://www.haberci-gazete.de/avusturyada-israilin-filistine-yonelik-saldirilari-protesto-edildi/>

<https://www.yeniakit.com.tr/video/avusturyada-israilin-filistine-yonelik-saldirilari-protesto-edildi-54575.html>

Several senior Turkish officials condemned the raid by Israeli police on the Al-Aqsa Mosque in occupied East Jerusalem. Turkey called on Israel to abandon its policy of building illegal settlements in East Jerusalem. Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei called in a televised address for continuing armed "resistance" in the Palestinian territories and urged Muslim nations support it." (10)

Even the U.S that provides Israel the most sophisticated weapons to kill the Palestinians, "called for de-escalation in occupied East Jerusalem, and warned against carrying out a threatened eviction of Palestinian families. "We're deeply concerned about the heightened tensions in Jerusalem," said Deputy State Department spokeswoman Jalina Porter. She said it was "critical" to "de-escalate tensions" and avoid any unilateral steps that could worsen the situation – such as "evictions, settlement activity and demolition." (11)

"The spokesman for the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights said the evictions, "if ordered and implemented, would violate Israel's obligations under international law" on East Jerusalem territory it captured and occupied in the 1967 Middle East war. "We call on Israel to immediately halt all forced evictions, including those in Sheikh Jarrah, and to cease any activity that would further contribute to a coercive environment and lead to a risk of forcible transfer," spokesman Rupert Colville said." (12)

Down with Zionism!

These are all empty words without any deeds. This is the time to organize self-defense of the Palestinians in every village and every district. The place of any Israeli Jew who supports democracy or socialism is with the Palestinians against the Zionist state.

We of the ISL the section of the RCIT in Israel (Occupied Palestine) stand from the very beginning without any conditions on the side of the heroic struggle of the Palestin-

ians. We call for a red democratic Palestine from the river to the sea, a state to which the Palestinian refugees will return and the Israeli Jews will have equal rights but not the right to form a new Zionist state.

For this a real working-class revolutionary party composed mostly of Palestinians is required fighting for a victory of the Arab revolution.

Down with Zionism!

Break the fascists who march on the "Jerusalem day"!

Israel hands off Sheikh Jarrah and Al Aqsa!

For a Red Democratic state in Palestine from the River to the Sea!

Footnotes

- 1) <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/5/7/al-aqsa-worshippers-protest-palestinian-evictions-in-jerusalem>
- 2) Ibid
- 3) Al Jazeera, 8 May 2021
- 4) Linah Alsaafin, Al Jazeera, 29 Nov 2020, <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/11/29/eviction-of-palestinians-in-sheikh-jarrah-part-of-israeli-policy>
- 5) <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/4/9/video-shows-police-beating-israeli-politician-in-jerusalem>
- 6) Al Jazeera, May 7 2021, <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/5/7/palestinians-criticise-social-media-censorship-over-sheikh-jarrah>
- 7) Ibid
- 8) Al Jazeera May 8, 2021 <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/5/7/al-aqsa-worshippers-protest-palestinian-evictions-in-jerusalem>
- 9) <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/5/7/al-aqsa-worshippers-protest-palestinian-evictions-in-jerusalem>
- 10) <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/5/7/jerusalem-dozens-of-palestinians-hurt-in-al-aqsa-clashes>
- 11) Al Jazeera, 8 May 2021, <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/5/7/jerusalem-dozens-of-palestinians-hurt-in-al-aqsa-clashes>
- 12) Ibid

Books of the RCIT

Yossi Schwartz: The Zionist Wars

A History of the Zionist Movement and Imperialist Wars

In *The Zionist Wars* Yossi Schwartz gives an overview about the process of Zionist colonialization of Palestine as well as the resistance of the indigenous Arab population. He deals in detail with the popular struggles of the Palestinians against their expulsion by the Zionists. *The Zionist Wars* elaborates in detail the character of Israel's military campaigns in 1948 and the following decades which resulted in the expulsion of large parts of the Palestinian population. These wars were also crucial to implement the imperialist subjugation of the Arab countries.

However, as Yossi Schwartz elaborates, the Zionist state has passed its peak already some time ago which has been demonstrated by its failed military campaigns in Lebanon as well as in Gaza.

In *The Zionist Wars* the author also discusses in much detail the program of the communist movement on the Palestinian question. He shows the adaptation and finally capitulation of Stalinism to the Zionist project – culminating in massive arms shipments for the Israeli forces during the War of 1948.

In this book Yossi Schwartz elaborates the analyses and conclusions of Leon Trotsky and the Fourth International for the libera-

tion of Palestine. He also discusses the strength and weakness of his successors in dealing with the Zionist state and the Arab liberation struggle against it.

In *The Zionist Wars* Yossi Schwartz defends the national liberation struggle of the Palestinian people and outlines a socialist perspective.

The book contains an introduction and 20 chapters (136 pages) and includes 2 Tables and 4 Maps. The author of the book is Yossi Schwartz, a leading member of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency and its section in Israel / Occupied Palestine..

You can find the contents and download the book for free at <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/the-zionist-wars/>



Fourth Gaza War: European Governments Try to Suppress Pro-Palestine Protests

Another expression of the global tendency of the ruling class towards chauvinist state bonapartism

By Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 14 May 2021

The dramatic upswing of the glorious Palestinian liberation struggle – expressed in the heroic defence of the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Al-Quds/Jerusalem, the beginning of the Third Intifada and the Fourth Gaza War – is one of the most important global events in recent times. ¹

All over the world, masses are demonstrating on the streets to show their support for the Palestinian people. Europe is no exception from this global trend. Even Austria, a country not known for a high level of class struggle, saw already a demonstration with several thousand people and there can be no doubt that more such events will follow in the next days. ²

Tradition of Islamophobia and support for Zionism

European governments react with fear, slander and repression. In France, police dispersed a pro-Palestinian demonstration in Paris on Wednesday. ³ The interior minister even instructed police to ban a planned large pro-Palestinian protest in Paris this weekend. Authorities even arrested Bertrand Heilbronn, the president of Palestinian solidarity group *Association France-Palestine Solidarite*, after he attended a meeting at the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs together with members of parliament and union representatives! ⁴

Such repression reflects the support of the French government for Israeli state terrorism and its hatred against the oppressed people in Palestine and the Muslim world. This is hardly surprising since the ruling class has shown a rabid Islamophobic stance for years. Just remember the ban of hijab in public institutions, the public praise for the ultra-racist magazine *Charlie Hebdo* ⁵ and for the racist provocateur Samuel Paty, the numerous raids against Muslim institutions ⁶, the Anti-Muslim “Separatism Law” recently

adopted by the parliament ⁷, the planned “Police State” Law ⁸ – all these events express the same tendency: a massive acceleration of the domestic oppression of Muslim migrants combined with an aggressive imperialist foreign policy against people and states with Muslim population (e.g. France military intervention in Mali and other African countries ⁹, anti-Turkey campaign as pretext to control the gas reserves in the Eastern Mediterranean ¹⁰, attempts to take control of Lebanon, etc.)

In Germany, police also dispersed a pro-Palestine demonstration two days ago. ¹¹ A demonstration in Bremen was only allowed under the condition that no slogans must be shouted which deny Israel’s “right to exist”! ¹² The German government stated its support for Israel and Chancellor Angela Merkel’s spokesman said: “Germany won’t tolerate anti-Semitic demonstrations amid tensions in the Middle East.” ¹³

Austria’s government – a coalition of the Conservative and the Green party – publicly demonstrated its “solidarity with Israel” by raising the Zionist flag at the Office of the Federal Chancellor today. And Chancellor Sebastian Kurz tweeted, with a picture of the Israeli flag: “Gemeinsam stehen wir an der Seite Israels” (Together, we stand on the side of Israel”). ¹⁴ The Minister for Interior, Karl Nehammer – claimed under the impression of the large demonstration on 12 May – that there exists „a danger for our democracy” if such demonstrations are “misused for anti-Israeli and anti-Semitic slogans”. ¹⁵

Here again, we see a continuation of the imperialist and pro-Zionist line of Austria’s government. In November 2020, police raided 60 houses and arrested more than 30 Muslim migrants, accusing them of sympathies for “radical, extremist ideologies”. ¹⁶

Buenos Aires/Argentina: Rally in Solidarity with Palestine

Report (with Videos) by *Convergencia Socialista* (Argentina), 17. May 2021

Today a new rally was held in front of the Israeli embassy. Last Thursday, we promoted the holding of an open microphone event, in front of the Israeli embassy, to condemn the criminal attacks of the Zionist army against the Palestinian people. Its realization was a step forward, since several left-wing organizations and representatives of the Palestinian people participated. Today, promoted by comrades of the Nuevo MAS and Altamira’s PO (Tendency), another action of similar character took place. Among the speakers was Juan Giglio, leader of *Convergencia Socialista*. Among other speakers was also Jorge Altamira. In our point of view, this rally should be the starting point for the convocation of a great national day in solidarity with the heroic Palestinian people.

For more pictures of the rally see: https://convergenciadecombate.blogspot.com/2021/05/hoy-se-realizo-un-nuevo-acto-unitario.html?fbclid=IwAR2mI0e9UcmxNwEOYHnywsFmfZ4yzJ5hkErDESoixXWSIIVW0qYSMFr1_dw and https://youtu.be/yzgz0QeWFz_o



Tendency towards Chauvinist State Bonapartism

In other words, the current threats and repression against the growing pro-Palestine movement in Europe are continuation and acceleration of a longer existing trend. This trend is characterized by:

- * oppression of Muslim migrants and Islamophobia,
- * support for the Apartheid state Israel,
- * imperialist-militarist foreign policy,
- * expansion of the police and surveillance state

These developments, in turn, are part of a more general tendency. The current state campaign and repression against the pro-Palestine movement in imperialist Europe reflects a general trend of the ruling class towards chauvinist state bonapartism. By this we mean the growing number of attacks on democratic rights and the process of transformation from bourgeois democracy to authoritarian forms of capitalist rule.

This tendency has become manifest not only in the above-mentioned developments but – on a much larger scale – in the last 14 months when the ruling class in nearly all countries around the globe exploited the COVID-19 pandemic as a pretext to launch a counterrevolutionary offensive, to impose mass curfews against the population, expanding the police and surveillance state, introducing surveillance apps etc.¹⁷ To a certain degree, the Stalinist-capitalist dictatorship in imperialist China is the model for such a form of bourgeois regime.¹⁸

Let us conclude this article by pointing out that this is not a one-sided process. In fact, we have seen an acceleration of two, contradictory and inter-related tendencies – both a tendency towards chauvinist state bonapartism *as well as* an intensification of massive struggles in defence of democratic rights. More generally, we have seen a dramatic upswing of the global class struggle on democratic as well as on economic issues in autumn 2019 when a global wave of popular uprisings took place – from Hong Kong to Iraq, from Lebanon to Chile, from India to Catalonia.¹⁹

This wave was interrupted by the beginning of the COVID-19 Counterrevolution in spring 2020. But already in summer of the same year, the George Floyd uprising took place in the U.S. which was crucial to bring down Trump.²⁰ And the current Intifada in Palestine is creating a global pro-Palestine mass movement and has the potential to ignite a new revolutionary upswing in the Arab world and even globally.

Revolutionaries must understand the character of the current historic events and take an unambiguous Marxist stance.

** Unconditional solidarity with the Palestinian liberation struggle!*

** Defeat the Zionist enemy!*

** Solidarity with Muslim migrants against racist oppression!*

** Down with the COVID-19 Counterrevolution! Defeat Chauvinist State Bonapartism!*

** Spread the Intifada from Palestine to the Arab world and around the globe!*

This is what the RCIT and our comrades in *Convergencia Socialista* (Argentina) are fighting for!

Footnotes

1 The RCIT, jointly with our comrades of CS (Argentina), has published a number of documents on the Fourth Gaza War

which compiled on a special sub-page on our website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/collection-of-articles-on-fourth-gaza-war/>

2 See the report of our Austrian section: Vienna/Austria: Mass Demonstration in Solidarity with Palestine, 12 May 2021, https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/the-fourth-gaza-war-has-begun/#anker_3

3 See e.g. Yusuf Özcan: French police disperse demonstration in support of Palestine, 13.05.2021, <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/europe/french-police-disperse-demonstration-in-support-of-palestine/2239670>

4 France asks police to ban pro-Palestinian protest in Paris, 13 May 2021, <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/5/13/france-asks-police-to-ban-pro-palestinian-protest-in-paris>

5 See on this e.g. RCIT: France after the Attacks in Paris: Defend the Muslim People against Imperialist Wars, Chauvinist Hatemongering, and State Repression! 9.1.2015, <http://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/europe/statement-paris-attacks/>; Michael Pröbsting: The Racist Character of Charlie Hebdo and the pro-imperialist campaign “Je Suis Charlie”. Solidarity with Muslim People! NOT Solidarity with Charlie Hebdo! 17.1.2015, <http://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/europe/racist-charlie-hebdo/>

6 See on this e.g. RCIT: Boycott Imperialist and Islamophobic France! Solidarity with the Muslim migrants! Drive out the French occupiers from Mali and other countries!, 26.10.2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/europe/boycott-imperialist-and-islamophobic-france/>

7 See on this e.g. Michael Pröbsting: France: The Parliamentary “Left” Fails to Oppose Macron’s Anti-Muslim “Separatism Law”, 14 February 2021, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/europe/france-the-parliamentary-left-fails-to-oppose-macrons-anti-muslim-separatism-law/>

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9 See on this e.g. RCIT: Expel French Imperialism from West Africa! Macron and his G5 Lackeys plan to intensify their colonialist “Operation Barkhane”, 15 January 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/expel-french-imperialism-from-west-africa/>

10 See on this RCIT: War Clouds in Eastern Mediterranean. Down with the imperialist aggression of the EU, Israel and Arab tyrants against Turkey! Support the ongoing Arab Revolution! 14 September 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/war-clouds-in-eastern-mediterranean/>;

RCIT: Turkey and the Growing Tensions in Eastern Mediterranean. Theses on the complex contradictions between imperialist and regional powers, the Arab Revolution and the consequential tactics of Marxists, 28 August 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/turkey-and-the-growing-tensions-in-eastern-mediterranean/>

11 Nils Rode: Antisemitische Sprechchöre vor Synagoge in Gelsenkirchen, 13.05.2021, <https://www1.wdr.de/nachrichten/rheinland/antisemitische-demo-gelsenkirchen-100.html>

12 Joerg Helge Wagner: 1500 Teilnehmer bei Palästinenser-Demo auf dem Domshof, 13.05.2021, <https://www.weser-kurier.de/bremen/stadtteil-mitte/1500-teilnehmer-bei-palaestinenser-demonstration-in-bremen-doc7frjktz4nsi1li5wva0c>

13 Germany’s Merkel condemns anti-Israel protests, 14.5.2021, <https://apnews.com/article/israel-middle-east-gaza-454c29e273d195c7de8aeec5a146c12c>

14 ORF: Israel dementiert Bodentruppen in Gaza, <https://orf.at/stories/3212967/>

15 ORF: Ermittlungen nach Anti-Israel-Demo in Wien, 13.5.2021, <https://wien.orf.at/stories/3103710/>

16 See on this e.g. RKO LIBERATION: Austria: Hands

Off Muslim Brotherhood and Hamas! The Austrian government aids the state terrorist regimes in Israel and Egypt! 9. November 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/europe/austria-hands-off-muslim-brotherhood-and-hamas/>; RKO LIBERATION: Austria: Scandalous Bann of a Rally against Islamophobe Racism! Minister for Interior suppresses freedom of speech ... in the name of freedom of speech, 9. November 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/europe/austria-scandalous-bann-of-a-rally-against-islamophobe-racism/>; RKO LIBERATION: Austria: Daesh is the Bullet but Macron is the Political Assassin! The terrorist attack is the inevitable result of imperialist wars and racist oppression, 3 November 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/europe/austria-daesh-is-the-bullet-but-macron-is-the-political-assassin/>

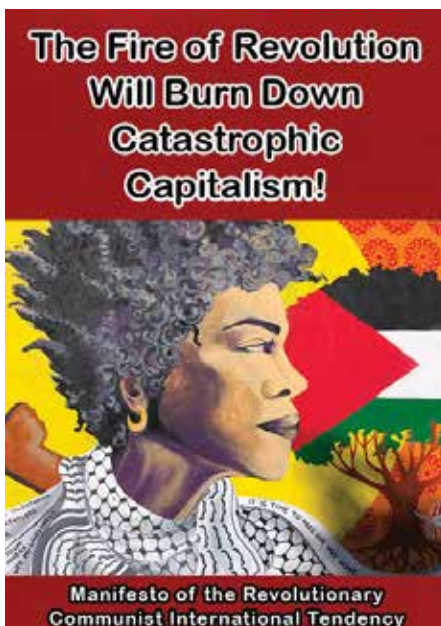
17 All RCIT documents on the COVID-19 crisis are compiled at a special sub-page on our website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/collection-of-articles-on-the-2019-corona-virus/>. In particular we refer readers to the RCIT Manifesto: COVID-19: A Cover for a Major Global Counterrevolutionary Offensive. We are at a turning point in the world situation as the ruling classes provoke a war-like atmosphere in order to legitimize the build-up of chauvinist state-bonapartist regimes, 21 March 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/covid-19-a-cover-for-a-major-global-counterrevolutionary-offensive/>. In addition, we draw attention to our book by Michael Pröbsting: The COVID-19 Global Counterrevolution: What It Is and How to Fight It. A Marxist analysis and strategy for the revolutionary struggle, RCIT Books, April 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/the-covid-19-global-counterrevolution/>. See also by the same author: How the Ruling Class Prepared for COVID-19. A number of events before and after the beginning of the pandemic demonstrate the political nature of the COVID-19 Counterrevolution, 3 December 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/how-the-ruling-class-prepared-for-covid-19/>; The Second Wave of the COVID-19 Counterrevolution. On the ruling class strategy in the current conjuncture, its inner contradictions and the perspectives of the workers and popular resistance, 20 July 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/the-second-wave-of-the-covid-19-counterrevolution/>; The Police and Surveillance State in

the Post-Lockdown Phase. A global review of the ruling class's plans of expanding the bonapartist state machinery amidst the COVID-19 crisis, 21 May 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/police-and-surveillance-state-in-post-lockdown-phase/>. See also our joint statement with *Convergencia Socialista* (Argentina) No to the Lockdown Policy! 20.4.2021, https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/rcit-y-convergencia-socialista-declaracion-primero-de-mayo/#anker_2

18 On China's rise as an imperialist power see e.g. Michael Pröbsting: Chinese Imperialism and the World Economy. An Essay published in the second edition of *The Palgrave Encyclopedia of Imperialism and Anti-Imperialism* (edited by Immanuel Ness and Zak Cope), Palgrave Macmillan, Cham, 2020, https://link.springer.com/referenceworkentry/10.1007%2F978-3-319-91206-6_179-1; see also by the same author: China's transformation into an imperialist power. A study of the economic, political and military aspects of China as a Great Power, in: *Revolutionary Communism* (English-language Journal of the RCIT) No. 4, <http://www.thecommunists.net/publications/revcom-number-4>

19 For an overview and a characterization of these events see, in addition the relevant statements on the individual countries, Michael Pröbsting: Are We Nearing a New "68 Moment"? A massive upsurge of global class struggle in the midst of a dramatic shift in the world situation 22 October 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/are-we-nearing-a-new-68-moment/>; See also by the same author: Confirmation by the Class Enemy. A new IMF report discusses the global class struggle and its relationship to the COVID-19 crisis, 14 October 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/confirmation-by-the-class-enemy-imf-report-on-global-class-struggle-and-covid-19-crisis/>; A Powerful Confirmation. A bourgeois study on the revolutionary character of the current historic period, 12 March 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/confirmation-of-revolutionary-character-of-historic-period/>.

20 All RCIT documents on the George Floyd uprising are compiled at a special sub-page on our website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/north-america/articles-on-uprising-after-murder-of-george-floyd/>



New Program of the RCIT

Manifesto for the Liberation Struggle

Adopted at the III. World Congress of the RCIT in April 2021

- * Introductory Note
- * A New Era of Counterrevolutionary Offensive and Revolutionary Upheavals
- * The Capitalist State Monster Attacks Democracy!
Defeat Chauvinism and Bonapartism!
- * Great Power Rivalry and Imperialist Aggression in the South:
Turn the Guns against the Lords of Power and Money!
- * Crisis of Revolutionary Leadership: How to Organize and How to Fight?

A RCIT Pamphlet, 24 pages, A5 Format

Israel: Anti-Netanyahu Protesters blame PM for Gaza Escalation

Statement by the Internationalist Socialist League (RCIT Section in Israel / Occupied Palestine), 24 May 2021

In a new provocation, aimed at showing the Zionist public that Israel won the war, Netanyahu's government decided to open 'al-Haram al-Šarif', "the Noble Sanctuary", (Al Aqsa) or as the Zionists call it "Temple Mount" complex to Jews beginning on Sunday amid simmering tensions at the holy site that led to clashes across Israel and the war with Gaza. "Some 50 Jewish settlers, flanked by heavily armed Israeli special forces, stormed the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in occupied East Jerusalem in the early morning, hours after Palestinian worshippers were beaten and assaulted by Israeli police, according to the Islamic authority overseeing the site." (1)

On Saturday night, the head of the ultra-Orthodox United Torah Judaism party, Moshe Gafni, urged Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu not to reopen the Temple Mount to Jewish visitors. "Not ascending to the Temple Mount is the deepest proof of our belonging to this holy place to which we direct our prayers," said UTJ chairman Moshe Gafni, a close ally of the prime minister. "I ask you to keep the Temple Mount closed to Jews!"

Expel the Zionist Ambassadors

In Ireland a motion to expel Israel's ambassador from Ireland is expected to come to a vote in Ireland's parliament this week. Eleven legislators from four parties submitted the motion early last week. The motion states that "over 60 children have been murdered by the [IDF,]" and that "the current escalation of violence was instigated by the attempt to ethnically cleanse 28 Palestinian families from the Sheikh Jarrah area of Jerusalem."

We do not know of course whether this motion will pass but one of the demands of the pro-Palestinian camp must be the expelling of the Zionists ambassadors and other operators from all Arab countries and all other non-imperialist countries. We also do not object to sanctions on Israel even by imperialist countries, as they were forced to at the end of the South Africa's apartheid regime.

The Zionist Liberal Nonsense

The liberal Jews say that their hearts are bleeding for Goldin and the other missing bodies that are in the hands of Hamas. But the color of their blood is not red but blue and white. Tzur Goldin, the brother of Hadar Goldin, a soldier who was killed and whose body was taken by Hamas during "Operation Protective Edge" in 2014 that killed more than 2,000 Palestinians, demands Hamas disarmament, breaking Hamas's spirit, and returning the missing bodies held by Hamas in the Gaza Strip. Hamas is willing to return the bodies but has its own demands: releasing the political prisoners and the fishermen Israel kidnapped. Israel is not ready for a prisoner's exchange. On 11 December 2012, the office of then Prime Minister Salam Fayyad in the West Bank stated that since 1967, 800,000 Palestinians, or roughly 20% of the total population and 40% of the male population, had been imprisoned by Israel at one point in time. About 100,000 had been held in administrative detention.

One of the proofs that the Palestinians have won in this round is the fact that there is an Arab-Jewish protest movement against the Israeli government. Thousands of people demonstrated in central Tel Aviv on Saturday night, calling for Jewish and Arab coexistence and a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Chanting "This is all of our homes," "We stand together without hatred and without fear," and "The answer to the Right is Israel and Palestine," the demonstrators marched from Tel Aviv's Rabin Square to the Habima Theater Square. There, the crowd heard speeches from Itamar Avnery and Sally Abed, as well as from author David Grossman and Joint List leader Ayman Odeh.

We tell these people: Grossman is a liberal Zionist who laments the war's toll on children, Israelis and Palestinians. He said: "Allow me to dedicate my words this evening to the children of the Gaza border [communities in Israel] and to the children of Gaza," he said. "We are the hostages of the various extremists. We sit with mouths agape and watch how human beings become targets, how mothers lie on top of their children on the street to protect them, how multistory buildings fall like a house of cards and whole families disappear in the blink of an eye," said Grossman, whose son was killed in Second Lebanon War in 2006 during his military service." (2)

While it is of course a better line than lamenting only the Israeli children, it is a truly bourgeois pacifist line leading to nowhere as it equates Hamas, an organization of the oppressed people, with the Netanyahu's government of the imperialist settler-colonialists' oppressors. Not to speak of the fact that while Hamas killed 2 children, Israel killed at least 63 children.

Sally Abed, who together with Avnery heads the organization "Omdim Beyachad" (We Stand Together) financed by the New Israel Fund a liberal Zionist organization, said "I am Sally, a Palestinian citizen of Israel. I refuse to return to the routine of institutional discrimination, of police violence and political arrests. I refuse to have second-class citizenship, and a racist government that is threatening all our lives for the benefit of an economic and settler elite. This government has no interest in serving our interests." (3)

It is an even better speech but without any programmatic conclusion, while at the same time the pro Palestinians demonstrations around the world called for: "Palestine free from the river to the sea".

The Stalinist Front – The Same Reformist Garbage

MK Ayman Odeh, chairman of the predominantly Arab Joint List party in the Knesset, said: "People are speaking about the darkness that is descending on this country," he said. "I see light. I see a strong light. Jews and Arabs together will dispel the darkness. You are the light. We do not accept the dichotomy of nationalism. Our path forward is together. Jews and Arabs together... There are two nations here. Both of them have a right to self-determination. Both deserve peace and equality. We respect the national identity of the Jews and the national identity of the Arabs, we respect both nations. We have a path forward," he said." (4)

Once again like the liberal Zionists, Odeh puts on the

same level the nationalism of the oppressed fighting for their freedom and the nationalism of the oppressors that fight for an apartheid state from the river to the sea. Only social-imperialists support the right of self-determination for the oppressors!

Not surprisingly in his speech he did not call for the right of return of the Palestinian refugees, nor to the destruction of the walls around Gaza, nor for self-defense of the Palestinians and neither for the end of the law of return for the Jews. With his line, *Hadash* still may support a government led by Lapid and his partners from the right-wing parties who supported the police and the army against the Palestinians including during the last two weeks.

Odeh and *Hadash*, a Stalinist front, have learned nothing from their betrayals of the Palestinian cause, from helping the Zionists in 1948 to the supporting the illusion that an Arab-Jewish solidarity can be achieved in the framework of the existing Apartheid state. A mini-Palestinian state on less than 20% of Palestine is the nature of the Apartheid system, similar to the Bantustans in South Africa during the Apartheid.

Most Palestinians today stand for a Palestine free from the river to the sea – not for the phony line of two states, which is a pie in the sky, used by the Zionists to steal more land and build more Zionist settlements in the West Bank. A program that has turned the Palestinian Administration of Abbas into a collaborator with the Zionist armed forces.

Odeh has not learned also from the fact that protestors in Al Aqsa shouting slogans in support of Hamas, denounced the Palestinian Mufti of Jerusalem, Sheikh Mohammed Hussein, for his affiliation with the Palestinian Authority. *Hadash* cannot lead the struggle of the Palestinians as it is a pro-Zionist fraction like Sheikh Mohammed Hussein.

The Road to Jewish-Palestinian Solidarity

For the Israeli Jews to live as brothers and sisters with the Palestinians a state that does not define itself as a Jewish state is necessary.

A state that welcomes the Palestinian refugees driven away from their country by ethnic cleansing.

A state that its national anthem is not:

"As long as in the heart within,

*The Jewish soul yearns,
And toward the eastern edges, onward,
An eye gazes toward Zion.
Our hope is not yet lost,
The hope that is two-thousand years old,
To be a free nation in our land,
The Land of Zion and Jerusalem."*

A state that its police and army defend the workers and the oppressed not the filthy racist capitalists and their friends.

A state that all places of work will be open to all workers and controlled by the workers that today are the most exploited.

Yet this vision of Red Democratic Palestine from the river to the sea is unacceptable to the Zionists whether they are right-wing or left-wing Zionists. That is why they do not support equal rights but a racist state. That is why their vision of co-existence is no more than an illusion, a pie in the sky.

Now that there is a cease fire Israel has returned to the flea circus, namely what right-wing block will form the next racist government, the one led by Lapid or the one led by Netanyahu, which government will drag Israel to a possible war with Iran faster.

The *Internationalist Socialist League (RCIT Section in Israel / Occupied Palestine)* fights for:

- * Support the right of return of the Palestinian refugees!
- * Smash the walls around Gaza!
- * Organize self-defense of the Palestinians against the police and the settlers!
- * Expel the Zionist ambassadors!
- * Israel hands off the Noble Sanctuary Al Haram Al Sharif and al Aqsa!
- * Israel hands off Sheikh Jarrah!
- * For a free Red Palestine from the river to the sea!

Footnotes

- 1) <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/5/23/backed-by-israeli-police-jewish-settlers-storm-al-aqsa-compound>
- 2) <https://www.timesofisrael.com/dispel-the-darkness-thousands-of-jews-and-arabs-rally-for-coexistence/>
- 3) Ibid
- 4) Ibid

Vienna/Austria: Rally in Solidarity with the Palestinian Intifada

Report (with Pictures and Video) from a Demonstration in Vienna on 21 May 2021, Austrian Section of the RCIT

About 500 people – mostly Arab and Muslim migrants – assembled in the centre of Austria's capital to show their support for the Palestinian Intifada. This was a remarkable event since the rally has been banned by police – reflecting the extreme pro-Zionist position of the Austrian government.

This ban came after similar bans in the past days. In fact, the pro-Zionist government wants to suppress all mobilizations for Palestine – especially when it is done by migrants!

Comrades of the Austrian section of the RCIT participated in the demonstration and distributed leaflets. Our comrade Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the RCIT, gave a speech in which he denounced the govern-

ment and called for an international solidarity movement for the boycott of Israel (see the video below).

View the video of the speech of Michael Pröbsting here: https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/the-fourth-gaza-war-has-begun/#anker_14



