

U.S. Dominican Justice Promoters Call for a Boycott of Hewlett Packard

In addition to putting pressure on the U.S. government to End U.S. military aid to Israel, we, the U.S. Dominican Justice Promoters, commit to Support the Palestinian led BDS campaign (Boycott, Divestment & Sanctions), which seeks meaningful pressure on Israel to

**End the Siege of Gaza
and
the Occupation of Palestine.**

We call for a boycott of products that benefit from the occupation of Palestine, particularly Hewlett Packard.



Why Hewlett Packard?

HP is involved in various Israeli violations of international law by providing the Israeli occupation forces with a vast range of IT services and infrastructure solutions.

This includes the operation of an ID system installed in Israeli military checkpoints in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, and the administration of the IT system of the Israeli Navy that enforces the naval blockade of Gaza and that is deeply involved in committing war crimes in the ongoing aggression on Gaza.

RESOURCES

- End the Israeli Occupation of Palestine website: <http://endtheoccupation.org/hp>
- Mondoweiss - "a news website devoted to covering American foreign policy in the Middle East, chiefly from a progressive Jewish perspective:" <http://mondoweiss.net>
- Maryknoll Middle-East Notes from the Office of Global Concerns: <http://maryknollogc.org/tag/middle-east-notes>
- IMEMC - media center developed in collaboration between Palestinian and International journalists to provide independent media coverage of Israel-Palestine: www.imemc.org

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Palestinian people have lived under Israeli Occupation since 1948. **Palestinian Citizens of Israel** live as second class citizens denied equal access to employment, housing, education, transportation and places of worship.

Palestinians in the West Bank

In 2001 Israel projected building a **wall** along the Green Line, to separate Palestinians from Israel. However, the wall is not being built on, or in most cases near the 1967 Green Line, but rather cuts deep into the West Bank, expanding Israel's taking over of Palestinian land and resources. While separating Palestinians from Israel, it also keeps Palestinian families apart and even makes farms and livestock inaccessible to farmers. In total, 85% of the Wall is located in the West Bank. When completed, the Wall and settlements will de facto annex some 46% of the West Bank, isolating communities into Bantustans, ghettos and "military zones".

In addition, Israel has constructed a '*Jewish only*' **system of highways** connecting settlements to Jerusalem and each other. Palestinians are not allowed to use these roads and are forced to pass through frequent check points within their own territory. This makes travel to work, school, visits to family members and hospitals difficult, time consuming and sometimes impossible. Israelis living in settlements have taken not only the best of Palestinian land, they have also taken control of the water. Even when the aquifers are in Palestinian territory, Israelis siphon that water to the settlements so they have plenty of water for drinking, bathing, cooking and swimming, while the Palestinians are deprived of clean drinking water and water for their crops and animals.

The Israeli Occupation Forces now have begun systematically cutting down **olive orchards** and destroying **ancient water cisterns** so necessary to farms in the Palestine desert areas. Worst of all, ordinary Palestinian men women and children increasingly experience humiliation, verbal abuse and physical violence from the settlers and the *Israeli Occupation Forces*.

Palestinians in the Gaza Strip

In addition to economic and military occupation, Gaza is under a total Israeli **Blockade** since the election of Hamas in 2005, enforced by Egypt on the southern border.

No person and no-thing can cross the **border** into or out of Gaza without the approval of Israel. Israel totally controls Gaza's borders, air space and waters.

Students who receive scholarships outside Gaza are usually not allowed to travel to those schools. People needing medical care often cannot get out of Gaza to go to a hospital in Egypt or Israel. Parents cannot go to a child's wedding in the West Bank or Israel, and many have grandchildren they've never been allowed to meet. Food, fuel, clothing, building materials, medical supplies, and electricity are all controlled by Israel. What is allowed into Gaza is the bare minimum, and Palestinians in Gaza are not allowed to export their crops or other goods.

In the past 6 years Gaza has experienced 3 **assaults** by Israel, which have left a large percentage of people homeless, with no way to get supplies to rebuild their homes, schools, roads, factories, hospitals, and water and sanitation infrastructure. "Mowing the grass" is a term used by some Israeli commanders for the repeated destruction of Gaza. The cold and wet weather this winter made life even more unbearable in the Gaza Strip, especially for those living in tents. According to the U.N. 100,000 homes were destroyed or damaged this past summer leaving 600,000 Palestinians (nearly 1 in 3 Gazans) homeless or in urgent need of humanitarian help.

Over the years the Dominican Call to Justice has supported the Palestinian people in their struggle for justice. As Americans we have a special responsibility to the Palestinian people because **the U.S. government** supports Israel's economic and military occupation. Whenever the UN has tried to hold Israel accountable, the U.S. has vetoed the attempt. When Israel needed more aid during their 50 day attack on Gaza during the summer of 2014, the U.S. provided it – in addition to the \$3 billion Israel receives each year from the U.S.

Because of its diplomatic protection of Israel and the military arms and financial support it provides, the U.S. shares responsibility for the Israeli Occupation of Palestine. While we respect the Jewish people, their lives in Israel, and the right of Israel to exist, we do not support the Israeli Occupation of Palestine, the Siege of Gaza, nor the military, financial and diplomatic support the U.S. gives to Israel.