

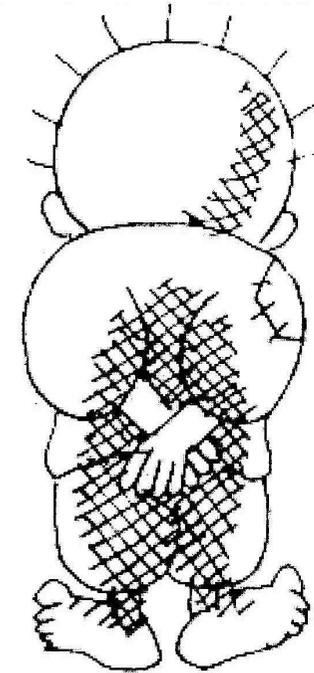
The campaign for Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) based on the Palestinian call issued in 2004, has the Zionists on the run. Even so the situation for Palestinians – refugees, citizens of Israel, and those in the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem – is getting graver by the day. More than ever they need a strong and united anti-racist solidarity campaign, building a mass BDS movement to end Israel's ability to act with impunity.

Israel is hurting, lashing out in any way it can to “delegitimise the delegitimisers”, investing massively in a global “Brand Israel” (hasbara) campaign of propaganda, painting Israel as a civilised friend of democracy fighting for survival against the barbarian hordes of militant Islam, an ally of the West in the “war on terror”. They have recruited a wide range of supporters, including from among the 40 million Christian Zionists in the US, to join them in disrupting pro-Palestinian activism wherever it appears and branding it racist. Just a few recent examples:

- Getting musicians suspended from the London Philharmonic Orchestra for protesting to the BBC for inviting the Israel Philharmonic to the Proms
- Dragging French activists through the courts for boycott actions against Israeli agricultural produce
- Banning North London schools from joining a writing competition about human rights because Palestine solidarity activists were involved
- Demanding that the Universities and Colleges Union (UCU) be derecognised because it refuses to treat opposition to Israel as intrinsically antisemitic

Palestine solidarity is an anti-racist cause. Antisemitism inside the movement is not just wrong. It hands ammunition to supporters of Israeli apartheid and harms the movement for Palestinian liberation. See inside this leaflet for examples of how the writings of Gilad Atzmon reinforce the Zionist narrative, contradicting the views of the BDS campaign as expressed in a letter from the Palestinian Boycott National Committee (BNC) quoted on the front of this leaflet. In June 2011, BNC wrote to the German Die Linke party which had barred members from supporting BDS on the grounds that to do so was antisemitic.

The Palestine Solidarity Movement is Fundamentally



Anti-Racist

"The characterisation of a boycott of Israel as antisemitic is clearly deceptive, since it conflates legitimate criticism and opposition to Israel's policies with racism against all Jews, thus equating Israel and world Jewry, reducing the latter to a monolithic sum that all thinks the same. That equation is itself antisemitic. The BDS movement calls for the three fundamental, UN-stipulated rights of the Palestinian people to be implemented, and targets Israel because of its denial of those rights, not because of the religious identity of most of its citizens. Calls for the international boycott of apartheid South Africa were directed against the white-only, racist character of the state, not against whites for their colour per se. Likewise, calls for the boycott of Israel are not directed against Israeli Jews qua Jews, but against occupation and apartheid."

Palestinian Boycott National Committee (BNC) - June 2011

The Palestinian BDS Campaign Says	Zionists Say	The Writings of Gilad Atzmon Say
Isolate Israel through Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions. Treat it like Apartheid South Africa and other colonial settler states. Build a unified, global campaign, involving all who support Palestinian rights and justice under international law.	Anyone who supports BDS is "delegitimising" Israel and is an antisemite. Jews who support boycott are self-hating traitors.	BDS does not work "because Israel is not a colonial entity". Its power rests on the strength of Jewish lobbies around the world. Jews who support BDS are crypto-zionists and Jewish tribal supremacists.
Expose Israel as an abnormal state, an imperialist outpost in the Middle East, serving the interests of global oil and arms industries and harming the interests of all people in the region, regardless of faith or ethnicity.	Israel is an expression of Jewish identity. To oppose it is antisemitic and a threat to all Jews	Israel is the ultimate expression of Jewishness. Opposing it means confronting global J-power. "To be a Zionist means to accept that, more than anything else, one is primarily a Jew."
The Nazi slaughter of Jews, and many other victims, is cynically exploited by Israel to justify making Palestinians pay the price for European and US antisemitism.	The Nazi slaughter of Jews is unique and entitles Israel to use any force it deems necessary to protect the Jewish nation.	The Nazi slaughter of Jews has been exaggerated and is used to cover up the Jewish supremacist ideology that provoked it.
Jews are a social group who have, like countless other minorities, suffered discrimination and persecution in the past. The racist ideology of Zionism, far from protecting them, feeds on antisemitism and helps to spread it.	Jews are a unique and distinct group, eternal victims of irrational hatred by non-Jews. The existence of Israel as a Jewish state is essential to their survival.	Jews are a unique and distinct group imbued with a tribalist mind-set and hatred of non-Jews. Antisemitism ceased to exist after World War Two, so there are now no antisemites.
Zionists claim a God-given right to the land, entitling world Jewry to settle and plant the Israeli flag anywhere in Palestine. This reflects a colonising, settler mentality that belongs to the 19th century and has no place in the modern world. It has faced vociferous Jewish opposition since its inception.	Jews everywhere are proud of the Israeli flag and other symbols that tie the whole Jewish people to the state and the land, in fulfilment of God's promise.	Israel uses symbols of Judaism, such as the Star of David on its warplanes, therefore the whole of Jewry must be held responsible for the crimes committed by the state.
The pro-Israel lobby combines powerful Jewish and non-Jewish - especially Christian Zionist - elements from the Western elites that determine international foreign policies. Targeting only the Jews among these elites is a) racist and b) exonerates the rest.	Any suggestion that Zionists collaborate to limit dissent within Jewish communities, to shut down discussion of Israel/Palestine or to promote Israeli interests is an antisemitic libel.	The power of the Israel lobby shows that Jews operate as an international conspiracy wielding financial and political power for their own selfish goals.

<http://jews4big.wordpress.com>