**Call on President Biden to Condemn Israeli Aggression in Jenin**

*3 juli 2023.*

Last month, Israel used helicopter gunships and drone strikes in a military operation that led to a massacre of seven in Jenin. Despite the asymmetrical warfare deploying the most advanced military hardware in the world, Israeli forces were surprised by Jenin’s resistance. Israel's last invasion only boosted the morale and determination of Jenin's defenders. Realizing its failure, Israel decided to escalate the level of violence. Last night, the Israeli military launched yet another major attack on Jenin, the largest since the second intifada in 2002. Airstrikes, drone strikes, and a massive ground invasion killed at least ten Palestinians and wounded dozens more.

Israel is changing the rules of engagement in the West Bank. On top of home demolitions, settler pogroms, assassinations, settlement expansion, and mass incarceration, the occupation now seeks to suffocate the growing and popular resistance in Jenin with massive shows of force. The entire camp’s water, power, and telecommunications were cut in the lead-up to last night’s invasion of Jenin, leaving thousands of residents in the dark, thirsty, and with no way to call for help as their neighborhoods were being bombed– a sick and twisted display of collective punishment.

And you guessed it right: the planes, missiles, technology, guns, and bullets used in last night’s massacre were all generously furnished by the government of the United States through our tax dollars.

**We urgently call on the Biden Administration to publicly condemn these actions by the Israeli government. American taxpayers' money should not be used to fund acts potentially breaching international and U.S. laws. The use of U.S.-manufactured military equipment in such episodes of extreme violence and violation of human rights must be investigated thoroughly.**

This brutal assault is another reason to demand a shift in U.S. policy toward Israel. It is long overdue for Israel’s settler-colonial violence to end, and to uphold the principles of justice as guaranteed under international law. Palestinians deserve to live free from fear and the violence that threatens their lives and livelihoods every day.

**IsraËlische leger zaait opnieuw dood en verderf in Jenin.**

*3 juli 2023.*

Israëlische bezettingstroepen voeren een grootschalige aanval uit op het Palestijnse vluchtelingenkamp van Jenin. Tot dusver zijn acht Palestijnse doden en vijftig gewonden gemeld. De aanval duurt nog voort.

Opnieuw voert Israël een zware aanval uit op het vluchtelingenkamp van de Palestijnse stad Jenin in het noorden van de Westelijke Jordaanoever. De aanval begon even na middernacht toen een militair konvooi van tientallen gepantserde voertuigen,

waaronder bulldozers, het kamp hermetisch afsloot. Naar verluidt werd het kamp vanuit de lucht met raketten beschoten waarna duizend Israëlische militairen de stad binnentrokken.

**Doden en gewonden**

Volgens mediaberichten zijn talloze woningen en infrastructuur vernietigd en stijgen dikke rookwolken op uit de stad. De water- en elektriciteitsvoorziening is afgesloten of vernietigd.

Tot dusver is de dood bevestigd van acht Palestijnen, onder wie drie kinderen. Het aantal gewonden bedraagt vijftig. *Al-Jazeera* beschrijft hoe een jonge vrouw in haar badkamer werd geraakt door een kogel die door de gesloten voordeur werd geschoten. Ooggetuigen spreken van de zwaarste aanval sinds 2002, toen Israël een deel van de stad verwoestte. Daarbij vielen 53 Palestijnse en 23 Israëlische doden.

Het Israëlische leger is naar eigen zeggen van plan de aanval 48 uur vol te houden. Deze namiddag maken Israëlische troepen zich naar verluidt op de moskee van het vluchtelingenkamp te bestormen. Online-medium Middie East Eye houdt een liveblog bij van de gebeurtenissen.

**Bolwerk van verzet**

Jenin geldt van oudsher als bolwerk van verzet tegen de Israëlische bezetting. In een poging dat uit te roeien valt Israël de stad met grote regelmaat binnen. Op 19 juni werden daarbij vijf Palestijnen gedood en raakten er 91 gewond. Op 16 maart was Jenin het toneel van een standrechtelijke executie door Israëlische militairen. Op 26 januari vielen negen Palestijnse doden bij wat een 'slachtin' werd genoemd. Op 11 mei 2022 werd de Palestijns-Amerikaanse journaliste Shireen Abu Akleh door een Israëlische militair gedood terwijl zij verslag deed van een Israëlische inval in het vluchtelingenkamp.

De voortgaande Israëlische aanval maakt opnieuw pijnlijk duidelijk dat de Palestijnse 'regering', de Palestijnse Autoriteit (PA), zijn burgers niet kan of wil beschermen tegen het geweld van de bezetter. Op 21 juni werd de Palestijnse premier Mohammad Shtayyeh zwaar bekritiseerd nadat Israëlische burgermilities met hulp van het leger een pogrom uitvoerden op het dorp Turmus Aya zonder dat de PA ingreep. De frustratie onder de Palestijnen die zonder enige bescherming van hun regering elke dag blootstaan aan Israëlisch geweld is een van de redenen dat de PA zijn krediet heeft verspeeld.

*3 juli 2023.*

**Palestinian territories**

**Israel attacks Jenin in biggest West Bank incursion in 20 years**

**At least eight Palestinians killed and dozens injured as major Israeli offensive targets city of Jenin**

**Bethan McKernan *in Jenin and* Peter Beaumont**

Israël has launched a major aerial and ground offensive into the occupied West Bank city of Jenin, its biggest military operation in the Palestinian territory in years, in what it described as an "extensive counter-terrorism effort”.

At least eight Palestinians were killed and 50 injured, 10 seriously, in the attack that began at about 1.00 am on Monday, and the death toll is likely to rise, according to the Palestinian health ministry.

On Monday afternoon, Israëli sources suggested they would need at least another 24 hours to complete the operation.

Launching at least 10 drone strikes on buildings, a brigade of Israeli troops - suggesting between 1,000 and 2,000 soldiers - backed by armoured bulldozers and snipers on rooftops entered the city and its refugee camp, encountering fire from Palestinians, after Israel informed the White House of its plans.

The streets of Jenin were deserted on Monday except for crowds of people outside the nearest hospital, watching the gun battles at the main entrance to the camp at the end of the street. Black smoke from burning tyres and teargas filled the air.

Ambulances struggled to cross impromptu Israeli checkpoints.

As explosions echoed around the city, calls to support the fighters rang out from loudspeakers in mosques.

The White House said it defended Israel's right to security and was monitoring the situation on the West Bank closely. "We have seen the reports and are monitoring the situation closely," a White House spokesperson said". "We support Israel's security and right to defend its people against Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad and other terrorist groups.”

Britain's prime minster, Rishi Sunak, called on the Israeli military to exercise restraint.

"While we support Israel's right to selfdefence, the protection of civilians must be prioritised," a spokesperson said. "In any military operation, we would urge the Israel Defence Forces to demonstrate restraint in its operations and for all parties to

avoid further escalation in the West Bank and Gaza.”

A spokesperson for the Palestinian president, Mahmoud Abbas, called the operation "a new war crime against our defenceless people”, while the Gaza-based militant group Hamas called on young men in the West Bank to join the fighting.

Lynn Hastings, the UN's resident humanitarian coordinator, expressed alarm at the scale of Israeli forces operation in Jenin, adding on Twitter："Airstrikes were used in the densely populated refugee camp. Several dead and critically wounded. Access

to all injured must be ensured.”

*Alarmed by scale of Israeli forces operation in #Jenin, occupied #WestBank. Airstrikes were used in the densely populated refugee camp. Several dead and critically wounded. Access to all injured must be ensured. @ochaopt is mobilising #humanitarian partners to provide assistance*

In a joint statement, the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) and the domestic intelligence service, Shin Bet, said they had attacked a command centre in the Jenin refugee camp that was used by a local militant group.

Images from inside Jenin showed armed and masked Palestinian fighters on the streets as gun battles and explosions continued into Monday morning.

At a checkpoint on the outskirts of the city, the sound of increasingly heavy gun battles and aircraft overhead could be heard as the day wore on.

In an escalation of the violence, Israel carried out an airstrike near a mosque in the city chat it said was being used by Palestinian gunmen to target Israeli forces.

“Exchanges of fire are taking place with gunmen adjacent to a mosque in the Jenin refugee camp；' the IDF said. "An IDF aircraft struck to remove the threat."

The joint aerial and ground incursion into the camp is the first since the 2002 battle of Jenin during the second intifada, when more than 50 Palestinians and 23 Israeli soldiers were killed in over a week of fighting, including 13 Israeli soldiers in a single

incident.

Monday's events bring the death toll of Palestinians killed this year in the West Bank to 133, part of more than a year-long rise in violence that has resulted in some of the worst bloodshed in that area in nearly two decades.

"There is bombing from the air and an invasion from the ground," said Mahmoud al-Saadi, the director of the Palestine Red Crescent Society in Jenin. "Several houses and sites have been bombed... smoke is rising from everywhere."

The incursion came at a time of growing pressure within Israel for a tough response to a series of attacks on settlers, including a shooting last week that killed four people.

Electricity was cut off in some parts of Jenin and military bulldozers were ploughing through narrow streets - another reminder of Israel's incursions during the last uprising. The Palestinian Authority and Jordan condemned the violence.

The operation led to protests overnight across the West Bank, including at a checkpoint near the city of Ramallah, in which a Palestinian man died after being shot in the head by the army, and a general strike across the territory on Monday.

Israel's air defence systems were put on alert for potential retaliatory rocket fire from the blockaded Gaza Strip.

An IDF spokesperson, R Adm Daniel Hagari, said the operation was a focused, brigade-sized raid that was expected to last between one and three days, and Israel did not intend to hold ground.

One Israeli official said the raid was intended to "break the safe-haven mindset of the camp, which has become a hornets' nest". It was unclear whether the operation would trigger a wider response from Palestinian factions, drawing in militant groups in the Gaza Strip, the coastal enclave controlled by Hamas.

A senior Hamas official called on young men in the West Bank to join the fighting. Saleli al-Arouri, the deputy head of the organisation's political bureau, said："To our heroes in the West Bank, from the south to the north：this is your day, young men.

Fight with all the weapons, all your anger and with any means possible to defend our honour in Jenin.”

A statement from the Iranian-backed Islamic Jihad group in Gaza said："The resistance will confront the enemy and defend the Palestinian people and all options are open to strike the enemy and respond to its aggression on Jenin."

As the operation continued on Monday, the Israeli prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, was briefed on progress and on the activity of the forces on the ground, discussing future operational plans.

The Israeli defence minister, Yoav Gallant, said his forces were "closely monitoring the conduct of our enemies. The defence establishment is ready for all scenarios".

The camp on the outskirts of the northern West Bank city was set up in the 1950s and the ghetto-like area, home to about 11,000 people, has long been viewed as a hotted of what Palestinians consider armed resistance and Israelis see as terrorism.

Hundreds of armed fighters from militant groups including Hamas, Islamic Jihad and Fatah are based there, and the semi-autonomous Palestinian Authority has next to no presence.

The Jenin Brigades, a unit made up of armed men from different factions, has been blamed for several terror attacks against Israeli citizens as the security situation across Israel and the West Bank has deteriorated over the past 18 months.

Jenin and nearby Nablus have been the major targets of the now more than year-old Israeli Operation Breakwater, which has involved near-nightly raids and some of the fiercest fighting in the West Bank since the second intifada came to an end in 2005.

Vigilante attacks by West Bank-based Israeli settlers against Palestinian villages are also growing in scale and scope.

Only days before a drone strike last month in Jenin, for the first time since the second intifada, the army used helicopter gunships to help extract troops and vehicles from a raid on the city, after fighters used explosives against a force sent in

to arrest two suspects.

After the last major raid in Jenin, Palestinian gunmen killed four Israelis near a Jewish settlement in the West Bank in an attack that led to a rampage by settlers in Palestinian villages and towns.

**'Ik voelde me medeplichtig aan de apartheid in Palestina'**

Nederland weigert Israël verantwoordelijk te houden voor grove

mensenrechtenschendingen. Berber van der Woude constateerde dit en

nam daarom ontslag als diplomaat. Ze is nu bestuurslid van The Rights Forum.

Wij zijn ontzettend dankbaar voor haar steun en inzet, zien ernaar

uit de komende tijd samen met haar te streven naar een

rechtvaardig Palestina/lsraël-beleid.

*4 juli 2023.*

Israeli air and land forces are attacking **now** the refugee camp of Jenin.Thousands of Palestinians, many ethnically cleansed from the Galilee in 1948, are**forced again to flee their homes**.

Israeli forces have cut off water, electricity and communications, destroyed vital infrastructure and homes, and targeted clinics and ambulances. Jenin is under siege.

Western governments are either “closely monitoring” or “alarmed” at the unattributed “violence,” effectively deepening their already criminal complicity with apartheid Israel and its 75-year-old **system of oppression against Indigenous Palestinians**. In parallel, and with unprecedented colonial hypocrisy, the same governments have reacted to the illegal Russian invasion of Ukraine with sweeping sanctions and shouting about the sanctity of international law.

**Drunk with impunity**, Israel’s far-right government, the most fundamentalist and shamelessly racist in its history, is failing to read the anger brewing underneath, however. Support for Palestinian rights and for BDS has multiplied in recent years. In 2023 alone, investments in Israel’s hi-tech are sharply declining; large pension funds are divesting; G4S has ended all its Israeli business. City councils, churches, trade unions, academic associations, and many artists worldwide have taken **effective measures to end complicity with apartheid**.

In 2023, we’ve endured and resisted Israeli fascist pogroms against our towns and villages, another massacre in the besieged Gaza Strip, accelerating annexation and illegal settlement construction, and **unmasked genocidal incitement by Israeli leaders**. Yet, the International Criminal Court is failing to do its job. The UN Secretary-General has once again duly omitted apartheid Israel’s military from his updated “list of shame” of armed forces committing violence against children in armed conflicts. The UN has done nothing to even investigate apartheid.

While Israel was busy **violently destroying parts of the Jenin refugee camp**, the Conservative dominated UK House of Commons was busy passing a McCarthyite, anti-Palestinian bill that is designed to repress democracy and civic rights in the UK and shield Israel’s regime of oppression and its illegal settlements from accountability from public bodies and city councils.

The most urgent, fundamental form of solidarity that Palestinians are asking for is **pressure to end complicity**. We call for more pressure to **end military funding** to and military trade with Israel and to ban contracts with and investments in companies involved in Israeli settlements and apartheid, as first steps towards **real accountability.**

**With your help**, the BDS movement is growing its massive intersectional network to cut the links of complicity with Israel’s regime of settler-colonialism, military occupation and apartheid.

We need to channel our collective global outrage at Israel’s atrocities into strategic campaigning that can force elected officials to end state, corporate and institutional complicity and outrageous hypocrisy, as was done in the struggle to abolish apartheid in South Africa. Palestinians are counting on you.

**In solidarity and hope,**

**Rita and Saleh**

**Destruction in Jenin is 'Catastrophic': This Is What We Know So far**

***Only after 12 Palestinians were buried in Jenin, | and after local and international media entered the camp, the picture of the destruction left in the wake of the Israeli invasion became clearer.***

*5 juli 2023.*

In short, the Jenin refugee camp is almost destroyed, the kind of destruction that can only be compared to the invasion and

destruction of Jenin in 2002.

In both cases, the culprit and the victim were the same as of today.

**'Catastrophic'**

On Wednesday afternoon, the Jenin governorate warned of the deterioration of the humanitarian situation of thousands of

residents because of the Israeli occupation targeting of infrastructure of the city and its camp.

For 38 hours, starting at dawn on Tuesday, July 3, the Israeli military did nothing but destroy, eyewitnesses say. The devastation has surpassed the most pessimistic of expectations.

Local authorities in Jenin estimated that about 80 percent of buildings in the camp were completely or partially damaged,

Aljazeera Net reported.

The governor of Jenin in the Palestinian Authority, Akram Rajoub, announced on Wednesday the start of an official committee to

assess the damage of the Israeli military operation in the camp.

For his part, the deputy governor of Jenin, Kamal Abu Al-Rub, revealed in a preliminary assessment that the camp, which

consists of about a thousand properties distributed between houses and apartments, about 80% of them were damaged, and

the damage ranged from lotal and partial destruction - burning, vandalism and damage to property.

The destruction was systematic, according to eyewitness accounts and videos and images that emerged.

During the invasion, Israel occupied residential homes and fired at a hospital and journalists. It also barred medics from reaching

the wounded inside Jenin.

An international outcry followed the Israeli invasion, which resulted in an unprecedented number of Palestinian casualties,

the worst since 2005, according to United Nations officials.

**Israel attacks, and Jenin endures.**

*6 juli 2023.*

Over the last several days, Israeli forces carried out the largest raid in a West Bank city in over 20 years, causing widespread destruction.

The details of this attack qualify it as a war crime under international law. Amidst the bombing campaign, the Israeli military raided Jenin Public Hospital, firing teargas and live ammunition. The military also targeted emergency services and fired teargas several times inside Khalil Suleiman hospital, rendering the emergency room unusable.

Israeli military bulldozers destroyed roads, too, in order to block medical care from reaching the injured — a vicious tactic that is now preventing children from accessing a United Nations-run school in the camp.

The haunting images of desperate families trying to escape the onslaught of violence in Jenin have been seared into our minds — terrified children in their pajamas, their hands raised in the air; men and women dodging tear gas as they flee with their babies in their arms; the elderly being pushed in wheelchairs; a young boy clinging to his pet cat.

Israeli forces also bombed the Jenin Freedom Theater, where Palestinians were taking shelter from the brutal assault, and cut off water and electricity from much of the camp and the city. The Israeli military murdered at least 12 Palestinians, including five children, and their violence forced thousands of people to evacuate.

Even after the Israeli military withdrew, local residents remained without access to clean drinking water or power, and around 80% of homes in the area sustained damage during the assault.

Palestinian journalists risked their lives to cover the siege, with Israeli snipers shooting directly at their equipment and forcing them to take shelter indoors for several hours, preventing any news coverage from going out.

The residents of Jenin refugee camp are among the descendants of the hundreds of thousands of Palestinians who were forced to flee their homes during the creation of the state of Israel in 1948, known to Palestinians as the Nakba, or “catastrophe.” Palestinian families are being made refugees twice or even three times over, forced to flee their homes again and again while staring down the barrel of an Israeli gun.

**From Gaza to Jenin, Israel enforces apartheid**

As the Israeli military and violent settler attacks continue to besiege Palestinians, Palestinians continue to resist. +972 explores how the Israeli military, in response, is using its policy in Gaza as the rule, rather than the exception, in the most recent brutal attacks on Jenin.

*6 juli 2023.*

I am devastated.

What we saw this past weekend — Israel bombing Palestinians in Jenin — should spur us all to action. **We’re funding the bombing of a refugee camp. Let that sink in.**

**Those who represent us in Congress should call for accountability and to withhold military aid to Israel.** At the very minimum Congress should condemn the horrific violence.

**Tell Congress to condemn the Israeli invasion of Jenin.**

**Twelve Palestinian children and adults have been killed.¹**

**At least 140 were injured, some maimed for the rest of their lives.²**

**Thousands were displaced from their homes.³**

Every U.S. Member of Congress needs to feel pressure to end U.S. funding of the Israeli military that carried out these horrors in Jenin.

**The Jenin invasion is a frightening escalation by the Israeli military — the largest invasion of a Palestinian city in over 20 years.**⁴ We should all be alarmed by it and by what could come next.

**Netanyahu is being bolder than ever. And our leaders in the U.S. need to take action to stop him.**

The violence isn’t new — but the political context in the United States is new. U.S. sympathy for and attention to Palestinians living under occupation is at an all-time high.**⁵**

That’s why we must pressure Congress now. They represent the people of the U.S. and the U.S. population is changing

In solidarity,
Linda and the MPower Action team

Sources:

1. “Israel says it's ending its largest West Bank offensive in years,” *NPR*, July 4, 2023.
2. “Under Fire: Report from Jenin Refugee Camp on Israel’s Largest West Bank Attack in 20 Years | Democracy Now!,” *Democracy Now!*, July 5, 2023.
3. “ Gaza-Israel exchange of fire as Israeli forces complete Jenin withdrawal,” *BBC News*, July 5, 2023.
4. “Israel attacks Jenin in biggest West Bank incursion in 20 years | Palestinian territories,” *The Guardian*, July 3, 2023.
5. “Why sympathy for the Palestinians among Americans is shifting and at an all-time high, *Business Insider,* April 8, 2023.

*MPower Action is the political and lobbying arm of MPower Change, a grassroots movement of diverse Muslim communities working together to build social, spiritual, racial, and economic justice for all people.*

**BREAKING:**

**Palestinian Fighter Kills Israeli Soldier, Wounds Armed Settler**

*6 juli 2023.*

***An Israeli soldier was killed, and the armed guard of an illegal Jewish settlement wounded in a Palestinian attack on Thursday, Israeli media reported.***

The attack came a day following an end to a massive Israeli military operation in the West Bank that killed 12 Palestinians

and wounded 120 more.

Three of the Palestinians killed were minors.

The Palestinian attack, described by Palestinian groups as a direct relation to the Israeli invasion of Jenin, took place near the

illegal settlement of Kedumim, west of Nablus in the northern West Bank.

The Israeli occupation army announced that it had "neutralized” the Palestinian fighter.

Meanwhile, Israeli state radio said the attacker shot an Israeli  soldier and a security guard during a search of his car.

According to Israeli sources, the Israeli occupation army carried out combing operations in the vicinity of the settlement on

suspicion of the presence of other Palestinian fighters.

**Israel is Outraged because BBC Anchor Asked and Followed up on This Question**

*6 juli 2023.*

***A BBC news anchor sparked outrage among Israeli and pro-lsraeli occupation circles after she asked former Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett about the killing of children in Jenin.***

"The Israeli military are calling this a military operation, but we now know that young people are being killed, four of them under

18. Is that really what the military set out to do, to kill people between the ages of 16 and 18?” Anjana Gadgil asked.

The interview aired on Tuesday, as the Israeli occupation army carried out a massive invasion that resulted in the killing and

wounding of scores of Palestinians in Jenin and the destruction of much of the Jenin refugee camp.

*"On the contrary, in fact all*  11 *killed are fighters. The truth is* *that there are young terrorists who have decided to take up arms, and this is their responsibility,"* *Bennett, a rightwing politician answered.*

*"Terrorists, but children. The Israeli forces are happy to kill children?" Gadgil answered.*

*"You know it's quite remarkable that you'd say that, because they're killing us,"* *Bennett claimed.*

"*We're* *not talking about that. The UN have defined them as children," she said.*

The fact that Gadgil insisted on her point, raised the ire of pro­ Israel and Zionist organizations in the UK and Israel.

Following the interview, supporters of Israel and pro-lsrael organizations in Britain launched a campaign against the presenter, accusing her of bias and violating the channel's rules of neutrality, Aljazeera Arabic reported.

A formal complaint was made against Gadgil who was later forced to formally apologize.

Here is the exchange between the British journalist and the right-wing Israeli politician.

**Geen apartheid in de bus:**

**EBS verliest aanbesteding Zuid-Holland Noord**

*7 juli 2023.*

De Israëlische busmaatschappij EBS heeft de aanbesteding voor het busvervoer in de regio Zuid-Holland Noord [**verloren**](https://click.mlsend2.com/link/c/YT0yMjUzODg0NDM0NDM4NjkxMjg1JmM9bTRwNiZlPTAmYj0xMTcwMDUwMTgxJmQ9czZuNWM2dw%3D%3D.A9F3UmAeUCEEncjkphZtEGB0P9GhTHDoK58b0Vo7FLY). In plaats van EBS heeft de provincie gekozen voor Qbuzz B.V, die voor 13 jaar de concessie ter waarde van €1 miljard heeft gekregen.

BDS Nederland voerde campagne tegen EBS, omdat het moederbedrijf Egged ook in Israël en bezet gebied opereert en zelfs busvervoer dat verboden is voor Palestijnen in Palestijns gebied aanbiedt. Het bedrijf onderhoudt [**buslijnen**](https://click.mlsend2.com/link/c/YT0yMjUzODg0NDM0NDM4NjkxMjg1JmM9bTRwNiZlPTAmYj0xMTcwMDUwMTg0JmQ9bTlpOHE5eQ%3D%3D.v4fBEhHjXRPNxySA_2olBeGXWC8QbgL_WoBys0cbrv4) van en naar de nederzettingen, en verzorgt het vervoer van Israëlische gevangenismedewerkers.

Ondanks dat Egged op de [**VN-lijst**](https://click.mlsend2.com/link/c/YT0yMjUzODg0NDM0NDM4NjkxMjg1JmM9bTRwNiZlPTAmYj0xMTcwMDUwMTg2JmQ9dTNlOGY4ag%3D%3D.I8YtmKaVJOr79mv2VJPvEja_8iD-t5ghyxaOLDtno-I)van bedrijven staat die profiteren van de nederzettingen weigerde de provincie het bedrijf uit te sluiten van de aanbesteding. EBS verzorgt al wel het vervoer in onder andere de regio’s Waterland en Haaglanden, en doet naar verluidt ook een poging een concessie in de provincie Utrecht te bemachtigen.

De weigering van Nederlandse overheden om zelfs bedrijven die op de VN-lijst staan uit te sluiten toont wederom de noodzaak aan van BDS.

**Nederlandse Booking.com nog steeds op zwarte lijst VN**

Op 30 juni bracht de VN Mensenrechtenraad de bijgewerkte [**lijst**](https://click.mlsend2.com/link/c/YT0yMjUzODg0NDM0NDM4NjkxMjg1JmM9bTRwNiZlPTAmYj0xMTcwMDUwMTkyJmQ9ejJpN2IyZQ%3D%3D.7QfhXwJfhIw8kmagcM5NAWgxbnnaVbJfP4uHC0HHyB8) uit van bedrijven die zaken doen in of met de illegale nederzettingen. Volgens de VN Hoge Commissaris voor Mensenrechten zijn de 112 bedrijven op de lijst ‘zakelijke ondernemingen, die direct en indirect, de bouw en groei van de nederzettingen mogelijk hebben gemaakt, gefaciliteerd en ervan hebben geprofiteerd’. En op deze zwarte lijst prijken wederom de Nederlandse bedrijven Booking.com B.V., Tahal Group International B.V.en Kardan N.V.. Juist zoals dus ook het moederbedrijf van EBS, het Israëlische Egged, zoals hierboven aangegeven.

Veruit het grootste en bekendste Nederlandse bedrijf is het in Amsterdam gevestigde Booking.com, dat hotels en appartementen aanbiedt in bezet gebied. In september 2022 kondigde het bedrijf aan ‘waarschuwingen’ te plaatsen bij accommodaties in bezet gebied, een maatregel die, zelfs als deze uitgevoerd wordt, volstrekt onvoldoende is om niet langer medeplichtig te zijn aan het in stand houden van de nederzettingen. Op de site zijn diverse Israëlische accommodaties in bezet gebied te vinden, zonder dat er waarschuwingen bij staan.

Op onze site schreven we eerder een artikel over hoe Booking.com profiteert van de illegale bezetting van Palestina. Dit blijft onverminderd het geval.

**Protest in Den Haag na slachtpartij Jenin**

**Zaterdag 8 juli**, wordt een **demonstratie** gehouden in Den Haag, naar aanleiding van de Israëlische slachtpartij in een vluchtelingenkamp in Jenin. Hierbij werden 13 Palestijnen, waaronder kinderen, vermoord. Het bezettingsleger richtte ook grote verwoestingen aan in het kamp, waar voornamelijk vluchtelingen woonden die tijdens de Nakba uit Haifa waren verdreven. Zo’n 3000 Palestijnen uit het kamp zijn nu noodgedwongen opnieuw op de vlucht.

Het Baskische bedrijf CAF breidt de illegale Jerusalem Light Rail (JLR) van Israël uit en exploiteert deze. JLR is een tramsysteem dat West-Jeruzalem verbindt met illegale Israëlische nederzettingen in bezet Palestijns Oost-Jeruzalem. Als zodanig ondersteunt de JLR de illegale de jure annexatie door Israël van Oost-Jeruzalem en faciliteert het de uitbreiding van illegale Israëlische nederzettingen.

Ook in Nederland is CAF actief. Sinds 2019 worden de NS sprintertoestellen geleverd door CAF. Dit geldt ook voor GVB-tram- en metrotoestellen in Amsterdam en tramtoestellen van het Openbaar Vervoer Utrecht.

Tijdens de jaarlijkse aandeelhoudersvergadering van het bedrijf werd actie gevoerd onder de banner #CAFGetOffIsraelsApartheidTrain-campagne. In Beasain (Baskenland), verzamelden activisten van BDS Euskal Herria, CAF-werknemers en Amnesty zich voor het kantoor van CAF. Ze riepen de aandeelhouders op om de betrokkenheid van het bedrijf bij de Jerusalem Light Rail te beëindigen en liepen vervolgens naar het centrum van de stad. Ze deelden pamfletten uit om het bewustzijn te vergroten over de medeplichtigheid van CAF aan de grove schendingen van de mensenrechten van de Palestijnen door Israël.

Het volledige artikel over CAF en de acties tijdens de aandeelhoudersvergadering is te vinden op onze website.

*9 juli 2023.*

Dear Reader,

As one of our dedicated supporters, we’ve often worked closely with you to provide direct support to the brave Israelis refusing to serve in the Israeli army. Today, I’m writing to share an example of other kinds of work **RSN is involved.**

A central pillar of the current Israeli government is a fascist party led by West Bank settlers, and many elements of its legislative agenda are designed to facilitate the occupation regime in the West Bank. The realization, that without an end to the military occupation of the Palestinians there will be no democracy in Israel, has dawned on many Israelis who identify as centrist liberals.

A new crop of activist groups has sprung up to channel this energy. One example is **Mothers Against Violence (MAV), a grassroots group with chapters across Israel.** With their yellow vests, they are a visible presence at every pro-democracy protest, working to defuse potentially violent encounters with the police and right-wing counter protesters. In parallel they **operate a humanitarian support project for the Palestinian residents of Masafer Yatta,** a West Bank community that is a locus of Israeli displacement efforts.

The Mothers long term goal is ending the occupation. They have explicitly called on Israelis to refuse service in the West Bank. **In recent weeks, as settler violence against West Bank Palestinians has escalated, they’ve launched a new public campaign: Get the Soldiers Out!** Targeting parents of Israeli Army conscripts, the campaign warns of the legal jeopardy threatening soldiers providing security for settler attacks (particularly following their designation as nationalist terrorism), as well as communicating current research on the high levels of PTSD exhibited by soldiers who served in this role.

RSN has identified the mothers as a unique and effective voice within Israeli public discourse. **Because of their unique position as mothers and grandmothers of soldiers, their calls for refusal have generated traction among audiences not normally associated with the anti-occupation positions.** We believe that they will form an important component of a mass refusal movement.

Over the past few months we’ve worked with the Mothers’ leadership to find the most effective way to support the group. MAV believes that remaining a very lean volunteer organization, is the best way.

Drawing on the cadre of refusers we’ve supported over the past two decades, we’ve managed to recruit a number of mentors with the requisite experience and skills to help MAV build their capacity. Over the next six months, **RSN mentors will work with MAV and a new group of reservist refusers to ensure that they have the tools to make the most of this political juncture’s potential to significantly expand the anti-occupation movement.**
In solidarity,

Mattan Helman
Executive Director
Refuser Solidarity Network

**The U.S.-Israel Special Relationship: A Strategic & Moral Liability**

*17 juli 2023.*

The next installment of the **"Palestine in Session"**webinar series will focus on the U.S.-Israel “special relationship,” and its negative impact, mainly in the United States. The Palestinians have endured 75 years of Al-Nakba (Catastrophe), and for decades Israel’s apartheid regime has been maintained by U.S. support, whether by economic, political, military, or diplomatic means. The roots of the US.-Israel relationship developed over decades.

*How does the U.S. aid to Israel impact everyday Americans? How does the “special relationship” affect U.S. national interests?* These questions will be answered and more.

Israeli policy has proven to be a strategic and moral liability for the United States. While Americans struggle at home, Israel receives a whopping $3.8 billion dollars a year from U.S. tax dollars. This funding helps to maintain Israeli oppression against the Palestinians, not the so-called shared values of democracy and the rule of law. **Americans need to understand that this “special relationship” not only hurts Palestinians but Americans as well.**

**Israel is a racist state.**

*18 juli 2023.*

This weekend, Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal said an obvious fact: “Israel is a racist state.”

The backlash that followed was infuriating, but not surprising. House Democratic leadership rushed to defend Israel’s apartheid regime, releasing a statement claiming that Israel was founded on the principle of “complete equality of social and political rights for all its citizens.” Hand-in-hand with Democratic leadership, AIPAC added to the pile-on, attacking Rep. Jayapal with the same empty talking points about Israeli “equality.”

But Rep. Jayapal was right. Israel is a racist state.

To any person of conscience, it has long been clear that racism and Jewish supremacy shape every level of the Israeli state. There is no “equality” to be found in Israel’s discriminatory legal system, which greenlights the theft of Palestinian homes and the ethnic cleansing of entire Palestinian villages. There is no “equality” for the millions of Palestinians living under brutal military occupation, denied the right to vote for the governments that drop bombs on them. And when Israeli soldiers kill Palestinian children with impunity and protect and enable Jewish settlers carrying out pogroms against Palestinian communities, Israel’s commitment to upholding Jewish supremacy is on full display.

House Democratic leadership’s willful ignorance of Israeli atrocities rings particularly false this week, as it comes amidst rising calls for congresspeople to skip Israeli President Isaac Herzog’s speech to Congress on Wednesday.

Five members of Congress have already publicly committed to skipping the speech, and they are absolutely right. Israel is a racist state — and our representatives should not be honoring an apartheid politician in the Capitol tomorrow.

**Tell Congress: Skip Herzog’s speech**

Herzog presides over an extremist government bent on the total destruction of Palestinian homes and lives. Our elected officials should be standing for Palestinian rights, not honoring the president of an apartheid state. Join our sibling organization, JVP Action, in sending a message to your member of Congress.

**‘This is textbook apartheid’**

In recent years, leading international and Israeli human rights groups have recognized what Palestinians have been saying for decades: Israel is committing the crime of apartheid. The Institute for Middle East Understanding (IMEU) breaks down Israel’s apartheid regime in this policy backgrounder.

Jewish Voice for Peace
P.O. Box 589
Berkeley, CA 94701
United States

**Freedom Flotilla komt naar Rotterdam**

*21 juli 2023.*

Freedom Flotilla-schip de *Handala*legt komende dinsdag 25 juli aan in de Veerhaven in Rotterdam. De opvarenden van het Noorse schip protesteren met een vijf maanden durende tocht tegen de blokkade van de Gazastrook.

De *Handala* wordt dinsdagavond 25 juli ontvangen door Rotterdamse vredesactivisten en Palestijnen in Nederland. Komende week zijn er debatten en kinderactiviteiten in de stad.

**Woensdag 26 juli 20:00 – 22:00 uur (inloop 19:30)**
*Locatie: Wijkpaleis, Claes de Vrieselaan 72 in Rotterdam Delfshaven*

Paneldiscussie met de Palestijns-Nederlandse Ismail Ziada uit Gaza, de Israëlische vredesactivist Eitan Bronstein Aparicio (Zochrot) en Thomas van Gool (Pax) over internationaal recht en verdragen in de strijd tegen de bezetting van Palestina. De discussie wordt geleid door Loes de Kleijn, die regelmatig bewustwordingscampagnes organiseert voor artsen in Nederland en Palestina. Met toelichting van een lid van de bemanning van de Flotilla en met *spoken word* van Soraya Speaking.

**Donderdag 27 juli 14:00 – 18:00 uur**
*Locatie: Grote Kerkplein (bij regen in naastgelegen gebouw de Heuvel)*

Solidariteitsmarkt en kinderactiviteiten met onder andere workshops schilderen, kinderrechten, stop motion (neem je mobiel mee!), leren Dabke dansen, informatiemarkt, Palestijnse hapjes en de verkoop Palestijnse producten. Verschillende sprekers zoals de bemanning van de Freedom Flotilla zijn aanwezig. Onthulling van het straatnaambord ‘Gazaplein’.

**Vrijdag 28 juli 12:00 - 15:00 uur**
*Locatie:* *Veerhaven, Rotterdam*

Rondleidingen op het schip de *Handala* en ontmoetingen met de opvarenden.

Op zaterdag 29 juli vertrekt het schip weer en zwaaien we ze uit.

**#NoTechForApartheid**

**The horrors of ongoing, escalating anti-Palestinian violence - perpetrated together by the Israeli apartheid government, military, and settlers - know no bounds.**

*21 juli 2023.*

Just in the past month, the Israeli military waged an assault on Jenin, including its refugee camp, murdering and displacing Palestinians in an attack that made clear the Nakba remains ongoing.

**It is not only billions in both public and private funds from the U.S. that power the Israeli military and apartheid government. They are also powered by other key U.S. actors: Google and Amazon.**

That’s why on Wednesday, July 26, tech workers, community activists, and people of conscience like you will gather at Amazon’s annual Web Services Summit to tell Amazon: “No Tech For Apartheid!”

Since 2021, Google and Amazon tech workers, joined by over 50 human rights organizations, have been organizing together with the **#NoTechForApartheid** campaign.

They’ve been saying, loud and clear:

*Tech workers do not want to build technology that could be used to expand mass surveillance of Palestinians; deepen criminalization of Palestinians; and further the ongoing Nakba, by helping to expand segregated settlements on stolen Palestinian land.*

**Amazon tech workers have been ramping up their organizing against Israeli apartheid, and need your support. Can you show up to rally with workers next Wednesday, July 26 at 12:30 pm at the Javits Center?**

As we mark 75 years since the Nakba, let us show **Amazon and Google** that we will not stop organizing in solidarity together until Big Tech stops enabling the injustice and violence that began with the Nakba and that Palestinians continue to face to this day.

**Sign up to join us and Amazon tech workers in New York City, next Wednesday, July 26, at 12:30 pm — and support workers and community activists in their demands.**

*23 juli 2023.*

Israel is in an unprecedented crisis, but we believe that it represents a unique opportunity for strengthening the anti-occupation movement. Help us make the most of it by supporting our work with Israeli civil society. [**Donate via this link.**](https://refusersolidarity.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=766e8a32ffe12bdef97341bb9&id=26d8a91094&e=a1c3038122) As I write this update, Netanyahu’s government is readying to ram through the first piece of its anti-democratic legislative agenda on Tuesday. Israel’s reserve army, a cornerstone of its defense policy, is in open rebellion. Just this weekend, as some 70,000 Israelis marched in sweltering heat from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, over 500 air force pilots formally announced that if the legislation passes, they will refuse to serve. On Saturday, they were joined by nearly 10,000 soldiers from other branches. Later in the day, dozens of former heads of the army and the security services published a letter backing the refusers. Never in Israel’s 75-year history has refusal to serve in the army been mainstreamed in this way.

PHOTO: The sign “We Won’t Kill and Die in the Service of the Settlers” greets tens of thousands of pro-democracy protesters as they enter Jerusalem on Saturday night at the end of a march from Tel Aviv

At first glance, these developments might seem like a domestic spat with no relevance to the future of the Palestinians. Our Israeli partners, however, see the current turmoil as an outstanding opportunity to significantly expand the anti-occupation movement. They cite a number of factors.

1. **Refusal to serve,** until recently seen by the mainstream as tantamount to sacrilege, **has been normalized** as a legitimate form of civil resistance.
2. Centrist Israelis are increasingly realizing that without an end to the military occupation of the Palestinians there will be no democracy in Israel: A central pillar of the current Israeli government is a **fascist party led by West Bank settlers,** and many elements of its legislative agenda are designed to facilitate the occupation regime in the West Bank.
3. The Anti-Occupation Bloc of the democracy protest movement has experienced steady growth and its message -- **No Democracy With Occupation** -- is increasingly visible at the demonstrations.

In an effort to make the most of the current opportunities for change, Mothers Against Violence, a new voice for refusal in Israel and an RSN partner, have launched a new campaign: Get the Soldiers Out! Because of their unique position as mothers and grandmothers of soldiers, their calls for refusal have generated traction among audiences not normally associated with the anti-occupation positions.

In solidarity,

Mattan Helman
Executive Director
Refuser Solidarity Network

*26 juli 2023.*

Today, Amazon workers at one of the company’s biggest annual events interrupted business as usual.

**Minutes ago at NYC’s Amazon Web Services (AWS) Summit, activists interrupted an Amazon exec’s keynote speech on camera to ask: Why does Amazon continue to provide tech to Israel’s apartheid government and military despite growing worker and community dissent?**

One of many beautiful milestones we saw today:

***Today's historic event saw Amazon warehouse workers, including co-founders of the Amazon Labor Union, joining Amazon tech workers in collective action.***

Amazon is profiting off of Israeli apartheid and violence against Palestinians through Project Nimbus, their $1 billion contract with Israel’s military & government. They are actively providing  powerful tech to an army accused of war crimes and a government that violently forced Palestinians off their land in 1948 and has been doing so every day since.

That’s why Amazon workers made it clear today that they refuse to allow business as usual. Since the early morning hours, they spoke with attendees and Amazon co-workers about #NoTechForApatheid and flyered the streets.

**Amazon workers are clear: they demand a say in how their labor is being used and refuse to be complicit in enabling the violence that Palestinians face every day.**

**Tell Amazon CEO Andy Jassy: Listen to your workers. End all ties with Israeli apartheid and cut the Project Nimbus contract.**

The annual AWS summit in NYC aspires to bring thousands of “cloud enthusiasts” to the Javits Center for a day of “learning, networking, and collaboration.”

But Amazon’s technology isn’t being used to bring people together—it’s forcing them apart. It’s enabling and entrenching apartheid, state violence, occupation, and land grabs by providing its tech to apartheid Israel.

Mere weeks ago, the Israeli military launched an assault on Jenin, killing 12 Palestinians, and displacing thousands.1 We don’t want tech to make apartheid “more efficient” or “nimble.” **We know that just means deadlier for Palestinians living under a brutal military occupation.**

**Thanks to today’s action, Amazon workers across the U.S. let their bosses know that they can’t avoid the #NoTechForApartheid question any longer.**

**We need to build on this momentum right now to keep the spotlight on Amazon’s complicity with the Israeli apartheid government and military’s human rights abuses.**

**As Israelis protest, BDS wins big.**

*26 juli 2023.*

On Monday, the American Anthropology Association (AAA) voted to boycott Israeli academic institutions, becoming the largest academic association to follow through on activists’ calls for an academic boycott of apartheid Israel.

As the results of the vote were announced, Israel’s Knesset adopted a judicial reform bill that would undermine the power of Israel’s Supreme Court to check the authority of the Israeli military, allowing Israel’s ultra right-wing government to more deeply entrench violent apartheid rule over Palestinians. The move has prompted international outcry and led hundreds of thousands of Israelis to take to the streets in protest.

The AAA’s decision feels perfectly timed. Here’s why.

**This vote shows public opinion is shifting.**

In 2016, a resolution calling for a boycott was narrowly defeated, but this time, there was overwhelming support for the boycott. 71% of AAA members voted to endorse a resolution that acknowledges what Palestinians have said for years — that Israel is committing the crime of apartheid.

**Israel is terrified of BDS.**

The AAA boycott further erodes Israel's legitimacy — and it comes at a time when that legitimacy is being questioned for the first time by even the most ardent supporters of Israel.

**We have an opening to grow our movement.**

The AAA boycott — coupled with the widespread criticism of Israel’s current government — is emblematic of a stunning shift in public opinion around Palestine/Israel. It also represents an opportunity to bring more people than ever before into the movement for Palestinian liberation, especially if we can meet them where they are and help them grow with us. Now is the time to get those criticizing Israel for the first time to see what we already know: that democracy and apartheid can never coexist.

**Ask Christina Aguilera to cancel her apartheid Israel concert!**

*27 juli 2023.*

Together, we've convinced stars like Sam Smith, Lana Del Rey, Lorde, Shakira and many others to cancel Israeli shows.

**And we can do it again**.

**This is urgent.**

Christina Aguilera is due to cross our picket line in a matter of days. But we have a real chance to persuade her to cancel.

Thousands of artists have endorsed our peaceful calls for boycotting apartheid Israel. Our movement is growing all the time. Let's keep it up!

In solidarity,

Palestinian Campaign for the Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel (PACBI)

*The nonviolent BDS movement for freedom, justice and equality is supported by the absolute majority in Palestinian society. BDS rejects all forms of racism and racial discrimination.*

*28 juli 2023.*

In een [**artikel**](https://rightsforum.us2.list-manage.com/track/click?u=259401a17cfcc2916fe8034ed&id=f16399b81e&e=37d294b014) van 18 juli over de demonstraties die in Israël plaatsvinden tegen de door het kabinet-Netanyahu nagestreefde ‘juridische hervorming’ wordt Jeruzalem door de NOS de hoofd­stad van Israël genoemd. Dat verdient correctie.

Slechts een handjevol staten heeft Jeruzalem als Israëls hoofdstad erkend en er een ambassade gevestigd: de VS, Guatemala, Honduras en Kosovo.

De rest van de wereld, waaronder de VN, EU en Nederland, beschouwt Oost-Jeruzalem als Palestijns gebied dat sinds 1967 door Israël militair bezet wordt gehouden; Israëls annexatie van het stadsdeel wordt niet erkend, laat staan als deel van Israëls hoofd­stad. Als erkende hoofdstad geldt Tel Aviv.

**Joodse kolonisering**
De Israëlische bezetting van Oost-Jeruzalem dient als springplank voor Joodse kolonisering. Het aantal Joodse kolonisten dat Israël sinds 1967 illegaal in het bezette stadsdeel heeft gevestigd [**nadert**](https://rightsforum.us2.list-manage.com/track/click?u=259401a17cfcc2916fe8034ed&id=cf307e55bf&e=37d294b014) een kwart miljoen. In dezelfde periode zijn zo’n 20 duizend Palestijnen uit de stad verdreven.

“Zo wordt onder onze ogen de door de NOS genoemde ‘hoofdstad’ Jeruzalem gecreëerd, gefundeerd op gestage etnische zuivering en agressieve kolonisering. Onder internationaal recht geldt de kolonisering van bezet gebied onder de oorlogsmisdaden, maar zolang de internationale gemeenschap daar geen sancties aan verbindt, trekt Israël zich daar niets van aan. Integendeel:  het spant zich in om Jeruzalem als ‘ondeelbare hoofdstad’ in het internationale geheugen gegrift te krijgen. Daar draagt de NOS met haar publicatie aan bij.”

**Rapport The Legal Status of the Israeli Occupation**

**De Israëlische mensenrechtenorgansatie Yesh Din en de vooraanstaande mensenrechtenadvocaat Michael Sfard hebben op donderdag 27 juli een juridische analyse gepubliceerd van de Israëlische bezetting van Palestijns gebied.

In het rapport stellen de onderzoekers dat de Israëlische bezetting uit drie kernelementen bestaat: de demografische verandering van de Palestijnse gebieden; de juridische en fysieke scheiding van de bevolking langs nationale lijnen; en de geleidelijke *de jure* annexatie van Palestijns gebied.**

**Op basis daarvan concluderen Yesh Din en Sfard dat Israëls bezetting illegaal is geworden, dat Israël de Westelijke Jordaanoever annexeert (en Oost-Jeruzalem al heeft geannexeerd) en dat Israël zich schuldig maakt aan apartheid.

Het rapport is ter kennisgeving aan het Internationaal Gerechtshof in Den Haag gestuurd. Bezoek de website van Yesh Din om het rapport te lezen.**