

No TTIP, no silencing support for Palestinian rights

We, the undersigned, oppose the dangerous Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) negotiations and the related attempts by some US politicians to use the TTIP process to restrict freedom of political expression and campaigning in solidarity with the Palestinian people's struggle for freedom, justice and equality.

TTIP, currently being negotiated between the European Union and the USA, would see an unprecedented transfer of power to corporate interests and represents a serious attack on democracy, social standards, workers' rights and environmental regulations. It would lead to irreversible privatisation and fragmentation of public services and would seriously undermine measures to protect the environment.

Also deeply worrying are the secrecy and lack of democracy that are key features of the negotiations, and the proposed Investor State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) mechanism, which would allow multinational corporations to sue governments in a parallel judicial system available to them alone.

As organisations opposed to any EU-US trade treaty that does not serve the public interest, we are gravely concerned at the recent introduction of US legislation that seeks to use TTIP to block human rights actions in solidarity with the Palestinian people.

On 29 June 2015, President Barack Obama signed into law the Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act, granting him 'fast track' authority over trade negotiations such as TTIP. Section 20 of the Act establishes the "principal negotiating objectives" for commercial partnerships in TTIP as including the provision "to discourage politically motivated actions to boycott, divest from, or sanction Israel and to seek the elimination of politically motivated non-tariff barriers on Israeli goods, services, or other commerce imposed on the State of Israel."

The definition of such actions specifies further that they would include not only actions targeted at those doing business in Israel, but also at those doing business "in Israeli-controlled territories". The Act thus aims to protect Israel's illegal settlements from accountability measures in future, despite the fact that the EU and the UN consider Israeli settlements to be illegal under international law.

The inclusion of these provisions in the 'fast track' legislation is a response to the growing success of Palestine solidarity campaigns across Europe and the USA, and could require the EU to reverse existing measures already taken in recognition of its obligations under international law. This includes the ending of preferential treatment for exports coming from illegal Israeli settlements in the Occupied West Bank, and the implementation of guidelines preventing EU public funds from being awarded to such settlements.

The EU has also taken action to warn businesses against having economic relations with illegal Israeli settlements; major European banks have divested from Israeli banks and corporations due to their role in Israeli violations of international law; and large European

companies such as G4S and Veolia are being held accountable for their participation in the infrastructure of Israel's occupation of Palestinian land.

In the wake of Israel's 2014 attack on the Gaza Strip, which killed more than 2,200 people and included deliberate attacks on civilians that amounted to war crimes according to the UN and other bodies, people around the world came out in numbers to express support for the Palestinian struggle for freedom, justice, and equality. We will not accept any legislative attempt to silence these expressions of solidarity.

SIGNATORY ORGANISATIONS

1.	ELA	Basque Country
2.	Ikasle Abertzaleak	Basque Country
3.	Third World Health Aid	Belgium
4.	Association Belgo-Palestinienne WB	Belgium
5.	Palestina Solidariteit	Belgium
6.	Médecine pour le Tiers Monde (M3M)	Belgium
7.	Solidarité Socialiste	Belgium
8.	Plate-forme Charleroi-Palestine	Belgium
9.	Climaxi - Friends of the Earth Flanders and Brussels	Belgium
10.	intal	Belgium
11.	Mouvement ouvrier chrétien	Belgium
12.	Gents ActiePlatform Palestina	Belgium
13.	Links Ecologisch Forum	Belgium
14.	Mouvement Citoyen Palestine	Belgium
15.	Bruxelles Panthères	Belgium
16.	Zaustavimo TTIP	Croatia
17.	ISM Czech Republic	Czech Republic
18.	Přátelé PALESTINY	Czech Republic
19.	Ne Zasim jménem! – Za spravedlivý mír na Blízkém východě	Czech Republic

20.	Palestinian Club in Czech Republic	Czech Republic
21.	ICAHD Finland	Finland
22.	Finnish-Arab Friendship Society	Finland
23.	Physicians for Social Responsibility, Finland	Finland
24.	Työpaikkojen rauhantoimikunta	Finland
25.	Vlaams-Socialistische Beweging (V-SB)	Flanders
26.	CCIPPP34	France
27.	UJFP – French Jewish Union for Peace	France
28.	Association France-Palestine solidarité (AFPS)	France
29.	Sortir du colonialisme	France
30.	Amis de la Terre	France
31.	SNESUP-FSU	France
32.	Collectif Judéo Arabe et Citoyen pour la Palestine	France
33.	ECOAR)))	Galicia
34.	BDS Berlin	Germany
35.	AG Palästina/Frankfurt	Germany
36.	Deutsch Palästinensische Gesellschaft	Germany
37.	Jüdisch-Palästinensische Dialoggruppe München	Germany
38.	AK Nahost Berlin	Germany
39.	ICAHD Germany	Germany
40.	bilaterals.org	International
41.	Friends of the Earth International	International
42.	European Work Hazards Network	International
43.	Action from Ireland (Afri)	Ireland
44.	Stop TTIP Ireland	Ireland

45.	Keep Ireland Fracking Free	Ireland
46.	Ireland-Palestine Solidarity Campaign	Ireland
47.	Comhlámh	Ireland
48.	Boycott! Supporting the Palestinian BDS Call from Within	Israel
49.	AL-BEIT: Association for the Defence of Human Rights in Israel	Israel
50.	ICAHAD (Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions)	Israel
51.	associazione senza paura genova	Italy
52.	Associazione per la Pace	Italy
53.	Lorusso Editore	Italy
54.	Forum Palestina	Italy
55.	Gastellina (gruppo d'acquisto solidale)	Italy
56.	Fairwatch	Italy
57.	Pax Christi Catania	Italy
58.	assopacepalestina	Italy
59.	Coordinamento nord sud del mondo	Italy
60.	BDS Italia	Italy
61.	US Citizens for Peace & Justice – Rome	Italy
62.	BDS Sardegna	Italy
63.	Associazione Amicizia Sardegna Palestina	Italy
64.	Rete-ECO	Italy
65.	ULAIA ArteSud onlus	Italy
66.	Un Ponte per...	Italy
67.	Gruppi Informali	Italy
68.	Rete Radié Resch – Gruppo di Salerno	Italy
69.	Rete Radié Resch – Udine group	Italy

70.	Circolo Sel Aurelio	Italy
71.	ISMai	Italy
72.	Coordinamento Acqua Bene Comune della Provincia di Sondrio	Italy
73.	Italian Forum for Water Movements	Italy
74.	COSPE	Italy
75.	A Sud – Ecologia e Cooperazione ONLUS	Italy
76.	CDCA – Centro di documentazione sui conflitti ambientali	Italy
77.	Comité pour une Paix Juste au Proche-Orient	Luxembourg
78.	Stop TAFTA Luxembourg	Luxembourg
79.	Breed Platform Palestina	Netherlands
80.	Kerk en Vrede	Netherlands
81.	Diensten en Onderzoek Centrum Palestina (docP)	Netherlands
82.	Netherlands Palestine Committee (NPK)	Netherlands
83.	SAP/Grenzeloos	Netherlands
84.	Kairos Palestina Nederland	Netherlands
85.	WILPF Netherlands	Netherlands
86.	stichting Groningen-jabalya	Netherlands
87.	Ander Europa	Netherlands/Belgium
88.	PROJOB	Netherlands
89.	Women in Black	Netherlands
90.	Nederlands Palestina Komitee	Netherlands
91.	Utrecht4Palestina	Netherlands
92.	Woman in Black Utrecht	Netherlands
93.	Hope	Netherlands
94.	Humanisitisch Vredesberaad	Netherlands

95.	Palestina Komitee Nijmegen	Netherlands
96.	Polish Palestine Solidarity Campaign	Poland
97.	GAP (Grupo Acção Palestina)	Portugal
98.	MPPM - Movimento pelos Direitos do Povo Palestino e pela Paz no Médio Oriente	Portugal
99.	Comité de Solidariedade com a Palestina	Portugal
100.	Precários Inflexíveis	Portugal
101.	Association of Palestinian Communities, Scotland	Scotland
102.	Scottish Friends of Palestine	Scotland
103.	Dundee Trades Union Council	Scotland
104.	Scottish Palestine Solidarity Campaign	Scotland
105.	Iniciatíva za spravodlivý mier na Blízkom východe	Slovakia
106.	BDS Slovenia	Slovenia
107.	Union of Slovenian Journalists	Slovenia
108.	Institute Abraham	Slovenia
109.	UP Jesenice	Slovenia
110.	Institute Circle	Slovenia
111.	Zavod Krog	Slovenia
112.	Matafir	Slovenia
113.	Fundacion madrid Paz y Solidaridad – CCOO de Madrid	Spain
114.	Fundación Mundubat	Spain
115.	International Workers' League – Fourth International	Spain
116.	Corriente Roja	Spain
117.	PalestinaTomaLaCalle	Spain
118.	Al-Quds Association	Spain
119.	Rumbo a Gaza	Spain

120.	Anticapitalistas	Spain
121.	NOVACT	Spain
122.	Anticapitalistas	Spain
123.	Ecologistas en Acción	Spain
124.	Hilombe Solidaridad	Spain
125.	Red Solidaria contra la Ocupación de Palestina (RESCOP)	Spain
126.	ATTAC Spain	Spain
127.	Unión Sindical Obrera	Spain
128.	Small Ones Develop	Sweden
129.	BDS Switzerland	Switzerland
130.	War on Want	UK
131.	National Union of Teachers	UK
132.	GMB	UK
133.	UNISON Northumberland County Branch	UK
134.	Exeter Palestine Solidarity Campaign	UK
135.	Student Stop AIDS Campaign	UK
136.	Public & Commercial Services Union (PCS)	UK
137.	ICAHD UK	UK
138.	Bristol (UK) Palestine Solidarity Campaign	UK
139.	Sheffield Palestine Solidarity Campaign	UK
140.	Palestine-UK Social Work Network	UK
141.	UK-Palestine Mental Health Network	UK
142.	Unite	UK
143.	Trade Justice Movement	UK
144.	Global Justice Now	UK

145.	Antonine Friendship Link	UK
146.	Jews for Justice for Palestinians	UK
147.	Knighton Palestine Links	UK (Wales)
148.	WILPF (UK)	UK
149.	National Justice & Peace Network	UK (England & Wales)
150.	Citizens for Justice in the Middle East - Kansas City	USA
151.	CODEPINK Women for Peace	USA
152.	HealthWrights	USA
153.	Just Foreign Policy	USA
154.	Fellowship of Reconciliation	USA