

Draft Resolution on Palestine-Israel

Calling for a just and lasting solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict through peaceful means

The Executive Committee of IndustriALL Global Union is shocked and outraged by the inhuman acts we have seen in Gaza and Israel. We welcome the current temporary ceasefire with release of hostages and prisoners and join the repeated appeals of the Secretary General of the United Nations for an immediate and lasting ceasefire, together with the unconditional release of all hostages, assuring their safety, and the delivery of relief at a level corresponding to the humanitarian needs of the people in Gaza, where a humanitarian catastrophe is unfolding in front of our eyes.

We call for an end to the occupation of the Palestinian territories by Israel, and for the realization of the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination. We also call for the lifting of the blockade imposed on Gaza.

We unequivocally condemn the attack by Hamas in Israel on 7 October in which more than a thousand Israelis were brutally killed and more than 200 taken hostage. We condemn the ongoing attacks by Hamas, as we equally condemn in the strongest possible terms Israel's collective punishment of the Palestinian population in Gaza, which is a blatant violation of international humanitarian law under Article 33 of the Fourth Geneva Convention. The disproportionate counterattack by Israel on Gaza has so far resulted in the death of thousands of Palestinians and provoked a human catastrophe for hundreds of thousands of civilians in Gaza.

We demand the protection of all civilians, in accordance with international humanitarian law and international human rights.

In line with the decision adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 27 October 2023, we call for full, immediate, safe, unhindered, and sustained humanitarian access—including but not limited to water, food, medical supplies, fuel, and electricity—to respond to the most basic needs of the Palestinian civilian population in the Gaza Strip.

We also call for the immediate and unconditional release of all civilians held hostage, and we demand their safety, well-being, and humane treatment in accordance with international law.

We demand that both parties respect international law and that all war crimes are thoroughly investigated and prosecuted. Applicable laws that must be considered are the 1949 Geneva Conventions, and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

We deplore intentional attacks against the civilian population; deliberate attacks against hospitals, schools, religious buildings, or historical monuments; as well as intentional attacks in the knowledge that such attack will cause incidental loss of life or injury or damage to civilian infrastructure.

Furthermore, we fully support the call from the global labour movement, as stated in the Global Union joint statement from 11 July 2023, under the leadership of the global unions, to consider and pursue all possible options to target and pressure companies, employers and investors that are involved in, or that facilitate the expansion and continuation of illegal Israeli settlements in the occupied territories.

We reiterate our call for an immediate cessation of hostilities, and for the resumption of negotiations to achieve a just and lasting solution to the conflict, which can only be attained through peaceful means, based on United Nations Security Council resolutions 242 and 338, and in full accord with international law, on the basis of the two-state solution.

As trade unions, we stand for peace, justice, freedom, equal rights, democracy, human dignity and the sovereign equality of all peoples and states. The Executive Committee of IndustriALL Global Union calls on all our affiliates to stand up in support of an end to the war, of the rights and security of the Palestinian and Israeli peoples, and for a peaceful and just solution of the conflict.

At the same time, we must stand up for freedom of assembly to guarantee that people can demonstrate peacefully. We must fend off polarization, which is fuelled by disinformation or ignorance, and we must stand up against religious intolerance, particularly forces of antisemitism, anti-Muslim bigotry and all forms of hate speech which can lead to a bigger conflagration. Our solidarity is crucial at this time.
