

French and English simultaneous translations

Palestine, a people besieged: action is urgent

Israel's unilateral policy of imposing its own "peace" causes more suffering and injustice every day for the Palestinian population. The parcelling out of the occupied territories, the confiscation of land and the confinement of the population through the building of the wall, the ongoing military attacks and the systematic violations of human rights, the further colonization delay the prospect for a just and lasting peace based on the acknowledgment of all involved populations' fundamental rights.

The recent sanctions imposed by the U.S. and the E.U. to punish Palestinians for the legislative elections outcome add to the abdication by the international community of its obligations in the face of violations of international law, the Geneva Conventions, the refusal to comply with the International Court of Justice advisory opinion concerning the wall as well as with dozens of UN resolutions. These denials of justice call for an unprecedented mobilization of the international movement of solidarity with the Palestinian people.

The international conference on May 26-28 seeks to reinforce civil society campaigns for sanctions aimed to urge the international community to fulfil its obligations under international law and to pressure the state of Israel to enforce international law. The respect of international law is the ultimate instrument against all types of violence and attacks against civilians. A peace based upon justice is the only security available to the Israeli and Palestinian populations.

Saturday May 27 - Salle communale de Plainpalais

from 6.30 pm / Palestinian evening

- Palestinian dinner (with the support of the Oriental restaurants of Geneva), exhibition, different
- Performance: "le Mur de la Honte" (The wall of shame) by Juan-Carlos Gomez and Berndt Götze
- Concerts:

Michel Bühler author and singer **Sana Mussa (Houmayoun)** songs and oud from Palestine

With the support of the department of cultural affairs of the city of Geneva

Call for financial help

The costs required for this international conference far exceed our financial capacity. We must therefore make a public appeal for funds to ensure the success of this very important event.

Your contributions can be made to the following postal bank account and any amount would be greatly appreciated.

PostFinance account number: CCP 17-766771-3 mention "International conference"

International:

PostFinance BIC: POFICHBE IBAN: CH14 0900 0000 1776 6771 3

For the organizing committee: Anne-Catherine Menétrey, Soha Bechara et Nathan Finkelstein (CUP): Pierre Galand (CECP)

Place sanctions on the occupation, support the rights of the Palestinian people

Friday May 26 - University

7 pm / Public meeting

- **Pierre Galand**, president ECCP, Brussels
- Leila Shahid, representative of Palestine to the EU
- Lea Tsemel, Public Committee Against Torture, Jerusalem
- Raji Sourani, Palestinian Centre for Human Rights, Gaza
- Michel Tubiana, vice-president FIDH, Paris
- Jonathan Frerichs, World Council of Churches.

Coordinate and develop pressures from civil society to enforce international law

Saturday May 27 - Maison des Associations

8.30 -12 am / Plenary session:

The tools of international law to support the rights of the Palestinian people in the struggle against

- dispossession of the land (The wall, annexations and enclosures, East-Jerusalem, settlements, house demolitions)
- denial of rights of the person (Prisoners, Palestinian refugees, deportees, Palestinian citizens of Israel)

Campaigns and calls for actions to enforce international law

- Ongoing campaigns and calls (in Palestine, Israel, Europe, USA)

1 - 3 pm / 3 workshops:

- 1. Political pressures, push States to act (military and economic agreements)
- 2. Responses to violations of international law: Boycotts, Divestments,
- 3. Civil missions, direct actions by international civil society

3.30 - 5.30 pm / 3 workshops:

- 4. Ending economic links to the occupation: Possibilities, pitfalls and potential
- 5. Criminal and civil lawsuits (for war crimes, accountability of private companies)
- 6. The right of return for Palestinian refugees

Sunday May 28 - Maison des associations

9 am - 1 pm / Workshops summary proposals; Plenary session to finalize proceedings adoption of a common call for economic and political pressure to enforce international law

Organizations participating or represented (provisional list): Action for peace Italie, AIC, Ass. Belgo-Palestinienne, AFPS, BADIL, CCIPPP, CECP, COeE, CUP, EAPPI, GSsA, HaMoked, Ittiiah, Nord-Sud 21, PCHR-Gaza

Conference registration (until May 22), program, information: www.urgencepalestine.ch