



WORLD PEACE COUNCIL

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60 years of Solidarity with the Palestinian cause-for an Independent State of Palestine!

60 years of suffering and injustice of the Palestinian people have passed already with numerous resolutions of the United Nations (Security Council and General Assembly) in favor of the right of the Palestinians to their own independent and sovereign State, as agreed in the framework of the UN when the state of Israel was founded in 1948.

Since then the Palestinian people faced the consequences of the old colonial rule, the geostrategical games of the imperialists in the region and the brutal occupation regime of Israel (especially after 1967), lasting till today, with the expansion of Israeli settlements, the Apartheid Wall in the West Bank and the ongoing siege in the Gaza strip designed to divide geographically and politically the Palestinian territories.

Millions of Palestinians had to flee their houses and their land in 1948; thousands of Palestinians lost their life in those years. The regimes of Israel have never respected the right of the Palestinians to their own state, regardless of the concessions the PLO has made in order to achieve peace and progress in the negotiations. The assassination of Palestinian leaders and the arrest and imprisonment of elected office bearers, as well as the numbers of political prisoners in Israeli jails in the last years, are increasing. The "international community" manipulated by the big media, serving imperialist goals, is cut off from the reality of daily suffering of the Palestinian families. The US administration supports Israel and covers up all its crimes against the Palestinian people. The European Union, in criminal, silent complicity, does not exercise any pressure on the aggressors.

The ongoing internal crisis in Palestine is not serving the goal of national liberation and progress in the efforts to advance the Palestinian cause; neither can it be an excuse for foreign interference and actions to split up the Palestinian people and their territories.

The World Peace Council in its recent Assembly held in Caracas, Venezuela on April 2008, stated: ***"Latest Israeli attacks on civilians in the Gaza Strip prove once again that the continuous massacre of Palestinian People continues. Israeli expansion in the Palestinian lands must be stopped immediately. Illegal settlements that mean occupation of Palestinian land must be dismantled. The separation wall must be demolished. The WPC salutes the struggle of the Palestinian people against Israeli oppression and reaffirms that the only just and possible solution to the problem is the establishment of an independent Palestinian State in the boundaries of 1967, with East Jerusalem as its capital. The solution of the issue of the refugees and the return of the Palestinian refugees must to be based on the UN Assembly resolution 194 and***

in line with related UN Security Council resolutions. Palestinian and other Arab prisoners in the Israeli prisons must be freed."

The WPC reaffirms its full-hearted solidarity with the Palestinian people and the PLO and salutes the peace loving forces inside Israel, which are struggling side by side with the Palestinians against the aggressions and crimes of the Israeli regime, so that the dreams aspirations and rights of the Palestinians become true after 60 years!

The WPC calls upon all its member and friendly Organisations to continue and increase efforts in support of the Palestinian cause, upon all peace loving people in the world to unite their voices and demand and end of the Israeli aggressions against the Palestinian People.

The Secretariat of WPC 17th May 2008