

# **Trade Unionists' declaration on Palestine and the Arab Revolutions**

We condemn the latest Israeli assault on Gaza, which at the time of writing has killed more than twenty and injured hundreds. There is no comparison between Israeli forces' enormous firepower and Palestinians' resistance to an illegal occupation and siege. Israel's 'Operation Cast Lead' against Gaza in 2008-9 killed 1400 Palestinians, a quarter of them children. Then, as now, Israeli spokesmen claimed to be making "every possible effort" to target "enemy combatants only." By contrast, four Israelis were killed by Palestinians during 'Operation Cast Lead'.

We call for an immediate end to all international military support for Israel.

We affirm our solidarity with the people of Palestine in their struggle for liberation. We support the call by the Palestine Trade Union Coalition for BDS issued in May 2011 for the trade union movement world wide to break all links with the Histadrut as it is not a trade union, but has been an integral part of the racist Zionist state since its inception.

We also affirm our solidarity with our brothers and sisters across the Arab world who have shown such courage in their revolutionary struggles against dictatorship and poverty. We believe that the Arab Revolutions and the liberation of Palestine are inextricably linked. US and British arms and funding support the repressive Saudi and Bahraini monarchies, just as they fuel the Israeli war machine. These same governments support the Jordanian regime which is now facing a popular rebellion over fuel price rises, and were the biggest backers of Hosni Mubarak's dictatorship in Egypt.

We reject all forms of foreign intervention in the Middle East - whether by military means or financial. The imposition of neo-liberal and austerity policies by the IMF and the World Bank are simply another means by which Western governments seek to control this region.

We stand in solidarity with the popular revolutionary movements in Bahrain, Syria, Egypt, Tunisia, Sudan, Yemen Jordan and elsewhere in the Arab world.

Stop the attack on Gaza - Liberation for Palestine  
Victory to the Arab revolutions

**Tumi Moloi, South African Mine Workers' Committee, South Africa**  
**Miguel Sanz, Andalusian Workers' Union (SAT), Spain**  
**Mohamed Sghaier Saihi, UGTT, Tunisia**  
**Hind Abd-al-Gawad Ibrahim, Information Centres Workers Union, Egypt**  
**Kevin Courtney, Deputy-General Secretary National Union of Teachers, UK**  
and 140 British trade unionists

Name	Union and union position	Email (for updates on the campaign)