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By Marc Vandepitte 14.11.2023

## Unions around the world boycott arms supplies to Israel



**Sources:** Rebellion [Photo: Canadian trade unionists against arms supplies to Israel (Via X)]

Translated from Dutch for Rebellion by Sven Magnus

Shortly after the start of the war on Gaza, Palestinian trade unions called on their colleagues around the world to boycott arms supplies to Israel. That call is being heeded in many countries. The list of countries is growing every day.

When Israel unleashed its relentless war of revenge against the population Gaza, the <u>Palestinian trade unions</u> called on their colleagues around the world to boycott the supply of arms to Israel:

"While Israel Intensifies Its Military Campaign, We, as Trade Unions Palestinians, we appeal to our international colleagues and all people of conscience to put an end to all forms of complicity in Israel's crimes. We order with the utmost an end to the arms trade with Israel, as well as to all military funding and research. The time has come to act: Palestinian lives are at stake."

The Belgian trade unions were the first to <u>set an example</u>. In a joint <u>press release</u>, <u>they</u> called for a halt to arms shipments destined for Israel. They refuse to contribute to the slaughter of innocent victims and call for an immediate ceasefire:

'The various trade unions active in the ground handling industry, we ask our affiliates to stop serving flights carrying military equipment to Palestine/Israel, just as there were clear agreements and rules at the time. beginning of the conflict with Russia and Ukraine."

Many countries follow the Belgian example. The list grows every day.

In the United States, a section of the auto industry union (UAW), which is currently fighting a hard battle for wage increases, is calling for a boycott of Israel:

"We see with horror how the U.S. sends troops to help in a Israeli ground invasion of Gaza. We mourn the loss of life Civil. We categorically reject U.S. support for the murderous Israeli regime in its ongoing genocide against the which has killed more than 7,000 people and injured 16,000 in airstrikes since Oct. 7, and has cut off supplies water, food and electricity to the people of Gaza.

Ask the UAW to support and enforce boycotts, divestment, and sanctions (BDS)."

In <u>Barcelona Longshoremen</u> decided not to allow the shipment of materials to the Gaza conflict. They do it with the "sole purpose of protecting the civilian population, regardless of the territory. No reason justifies the sacrifice of civilians."

The Longshoremen consider it a collective "obligation" to defend "tooth and nail" the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Human rights. They criticize the fact that many countries seem to have forgotten that they signed that Declaration. They point out that these human rights "are currently being violated in Ukraine, Israel and the United States." Palestinian territories."

The Longshoremen call for immediate ceasefire and peaceful solutions to the various conflicts.

The Central Trade Union Council of India (AICCTU), which represents more than 600,000 workers, calls on trade unions to boycott arms supplies to Israel:

"We support the call of the Palestinian trade unions for all The workers of the world and their unions unite and boycott the production or loading of weapons and military equipment destined for Israel and their brutal war."

In <u>Brazil CUT</u>, the largest federation representing more than 7.4 million workers, adopted a resolution pledging to fully support the Palestinians.

The Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), the country's largest with 75,000 members, has passed a resolution in solidarity with the Palestinian people, which includes a call on the government to "end arms sales to Israel."

In Japan the Chiba City Railway Union (a million inhabitants) serves The call of the Palestinian trade unions. The Japanese government plans to to provide, inter alia, weapons and financial aid to Israel. The railway union wants to prevent this: "We support everything heart the fierce struggle of the Palestinian people and we will fight with all our might. our forces to overthrow the Kishida government."

In Colombia The Syndicate of miners want to be suspend the supply of all minerals and fuels to Israel:

"How to said United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, these events 'did not fall from the sky'. The Village For 56 years, the Palestinian government has been subjected to a suffocating occupation. Seen their land constantly engulfed by settlements and ravaged by violence.

His economy has been seen suffocated, its population displaced and its homes destroyed. Their hopes for a political solution to their plight are fade away.

The The Israeli government's response has been qualified by President Gustavo Petro of a situation similar to that experienced in the Nazi concentration camps. It's genocide. In the face of this barbarism, our president yesterday called on consultations with the Colombian ambassador to Israel.

Support and encourage the Government to suspend the shipment of Colombian coal and all metals and minerals to Israel as a measure of pressure for an immediate ceasefire, a civil society, human rights organizations, the churches and the one we join as an organization syndical.

¡High the fire now!"

The Engineers and Metallurgists Union of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland (<u>UTAW-CWU</u>) joins the call by the Palestinian trade unions for the the international

workers' movement to put an end to all complicity and take concrete action against the supply of arms to Israel.

In Genoa (Italy) dockers are invited by the Autonomous Collective of Port Workers (Calp), which has created an international network to hinder the "ships of the of death," to prevent the export of arms to Israel, such as They have already done in the past with the material destined for the martyrdom of Saudi Arabia in Yemen.

In Poland, the largest trade union confederation (OPZZ) is calling for an end to military cooperation with Israel.

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