



Scottish Palestinian Forum

Statement on the Current Violence in Palestine-Israel

The Scottish Palestinian Forum has observed with alarm the escalating violence perpetrated by Israeli armed forces and, frequently armed, civilians against unarmed and defenceless Palestinians in Gaza, the Occupied West Bank, and East Jerusalem.

The attacks on people in their own homes, and on worshippers in mosques, have been entirely unprovoked, and in any other context would be described as terrorism. The deaths and injuries inflicted on people, and the damage to property, have quite clearly been deliberate, with the intention of causing fear and malicious destruction, of dispossessing people of their homes and land, and of gratuitously desecrating places of worship.

The response of the United Kingdom and other western governments has been the morally bankrupt pretence to neutrality, if not explicit acquiescence in government-sponsored atrocities against a civilian population of illegally occupied territory, which would incur sanctions in any other context.

It is becoming increasingly difficult for any individual or organisation concerned with justice not to consider using such economic means as are at their disposal in ways which would not benefit the Israeli economy, and to encourage others to do the same.

We welcome the courageous and increasingly outspoken statements by Jewish organisations in Europe and North America, and in Israel. The Scottish Palestinian Forum joins them in calling for justice for the Palestinians, and for pressure to be applied to the Israeli economy to end the illegal occupation of the Palestinian territories, to dismantle the legislative basis and security apparatus of the apartheid state, and to engage in meaningful dialogue on an equal basis with Palestinian leaders.

Adopted by the Committee on 14 May 2021.

Statements issued by the Committee do not necessarily reflect the views of all member groups.