

We are writing on behalf of the first Jewish anti-Zionist Congress, to be held in Vienna 13-15 of June this year, in less than a month. We are hoping to see you all there and also hope that **individuals and organisations** can contribute to the funding – we are unable to pull this off without your help! We need substantial funding to be able to run this event, and there is little time left! We are doing this on behalf of the movement, and hope that the movement will help to realise it. Below you can find the links to help and fund this crucial event. We hope that the terrifying Zionist maturation, moving from ethnic cleansing to genocide, will persuade many of you of the pressing need to oppose Zionism, and the need to terminate the Zionist project by international solidarity, resistance and sanctions.

We would like to take ten minutes of your time and explain our aims and objectives – please bear with us that long!

What we feel is crucial to set up in motion is an international political movement for decolonising Palestine and ending Zionism. Some initiatives do exist but need clarifying and strengthening and coordination. Without it we will fail to move forward. A genuine organisation representing Palestinian civil society is the BDS/BNC movement. The various progressive forces in Europe and elsewhere must unite behind BDS/BNC, and we wish to use the Congress to assist this process. We intend to assist opposition to Zionism to advance work on unifying Palestine support across the globe; we see ourselves as an integral part of such a movement.

To create such a movement, we need to use the enormous momentum created by the *gut revulsion* and opposition across the world to the Israeli genocide, converting it into a political movement to **terminate Zionism and decolonise Palestine**. In other words, turn the international solidarity movement from a humanitarian opposition to Israeli crimes, into a political movement of ending Zionism, decolonising Palestine and supporting liberation of the Palestinians. We march in the streets of numerous cities shouting 'Ceasefire Now!' This is not sufficient, when we know that Israel will dishonour any agreement its signs, continuing its genocidal project to empty Palestine of its indigenous population, the Palestinian people. What we all need is a political movement like the ANC in apartheid South Africa, led by Palestinian resistance against the Zionist project, and joined by people across the globe.

We as activists, intellectuals, artists, academics, unionists – have not done enough to develop a political plan to help resolve the settler-colonial conflict in Palestine, because the problem is presented wrongly and misleadingly. The problem is not that the genocide is cruel and its needs

to be toned down, the problem is Zionism's control of Palestine and its plan of total expulsion of all Palestinians, and it did not start on October 7, 2023, but in the Summer of 1897. The Problem is **Zionism** – the brutalities, oppression, ethnic cleansing, apartheid, and now the genocide are the mechanisms Zionism uses to empty Palestine. The politics of Zionism was followed by the necessary crimes which help it carry their political programme out. To seek the removal of the symptoms is useless, we need the healing of the malady itself.

How to do this, when the elites of the whole West are part and parcel of not just the genocide, but of the whole project? Without the support of UK, France, US, Germany and the rest of the criminal West we would not be here today. But we have the populations on our side, even in the West! Many march in solidarity and in anger – they understand the injustice and horror but do not know the history, theory and political solutions to colonial crimes, though it were their own governments which have enacted centuries of colonialism and imperialism. A coordinated political campaign should emerge to rectify this.

Then there is the egregious use of AS – the IHRA and the abuse of the Holocaust to condemn support for Palestine as antisemitic and protect Israel from international law. The West and Zionism are playing the race card, so to speak, to present our efforts as antisemitic. The most efficient antidote to this enormous system of lies is to use AZ Jews to deflate it and turn history against Zionism by presenting a) AZ Jews who are efficient at countering and exposing Israeli Hasbara, and b) The same Jews committing themselves to struggle with the Palestinians and their liberating leadership to free and decolonise Palestine. As Jews mainly live in the West, making up part of its criminal elites, this struggle is not just against Zionism in Palestine, but against our governments in the West, against the elites and deep states who silence us and support Israeli crimes. We need to turn Palestine to the *litmus test* of every 'democracy' in the West. We need to build this struggle together with all the progressive and socialist groups we can reach – bearing in mind some are silent, reluctant to act openly due to the strong political suppression in their society. Some 'left' organisations in Europe even support Israel.

But this is changing. The wide opposition to Israel is emerging from across society, sometimes unexpectedly, as people realise that the state/s is/are using support for Palestine as the stick against freedom of speech and action. And this is where we come in.

1. A Congress bringing together voices against the crime of Zionist settler colonialism, practiced and supported not just in Palestine, but across the West, against the Palestinians and their supporters everywhere. The Congress is Jewish and Palestinian-led, but it is for everyone, not just Jews. You do not have to be Jewish to support Palestine...

2. An event uniting AZ Jews, Israelis, Palestinian and all other groups – blacks, Arabs, Muslim, feminists, environmentalists, etc. against the terrifying crimes by Zionism against humanity, international Law, the environment, all tenets of social organisation, political justice, religious commandments – and against the Palestinians.

It is also a crime against the history of Jews, Muslims and Christians living together in Palestine for more than a thousand years, until the arrival of the Zionist colon.

3. This will be a clarion call for all decent people, whatever their politics, religion, history – to unite against the poison of Zionism, its lawlessness, brutality, supremacism, racism and sheer cruelty.

4. An important part of this demonstration of strength, moral fibre, progressive history, legal vigour, morality of coexistence, will be the Jewish AZ voice joining the struggle against Zionism, fighting on the Palestinian side to liberate not only Palestine – but also liberate Judaism from Zionism.

5. We wish to stand together, because our message is one of peaceful, equal, just coexistence in Palestine – an upgraded version of the Muslim-led Convivencia Of Palestine, North Africa, Al Andalus, the Ottoman Empire, the Middle East, Arabia, Iran, India and few other territories in Southern Europe – where the three religions were existing in consort rather than in conflict. This a model for resolving conflicts, in a world where conflict has become the standard mode of relations; conflict not just between nations, religions, states, blocs, and empires, but a conflict with nature, the living environment, the delicate balance supporting life on this planet. Coexistence is the future, if we are to have a future.

This cannot be resolved by a single event, even one which last three days; It will not be perfect, but we have worked for months to improve its chances, together with Palestinians and others from the Anti-Zionist movement in Europe and America, as well as in Palestine. With your help, we need to jumpstart the moving from solidarity to political action. The EJP and GJP have laid a Jewish foundation for the next stage. We see this event as only the first in a series of many others, each reporting advances and planning the future. Please help us to make this happen. As Herzl once wrote "Where there is a will, there is a Way!" He used this to destroy Palestine by a model of past colonisation. We intend to use it for building a just, peaceful and equal future in Palestine.

Please invest in the future! Link to the Congress Website: <u>www.stop-zionism.at</u> Link to donate: <u>https://gogetfunding.com/support-the-jewish-anti-zionist-congress/</u> Link to register: https://www.juedisch-antizionistisch.at/en/tickets

For the Jewish Anti-Zionist Congress

Dalia Sarig Haim Bresheeth-Žabner