

Boycott Israel Network **BIN**

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1 G4S Protest at Annual Conference This is the third year in which Stop G4S has intervened in the G4S AGM. Each year our impact is greater. This year some of us bought shares and were able to ask questions within the meeting. We also provided the corporation with a lively welcome outside. Anti Deportation and migrant justice campaigners, trade unionists, activists for human rights and for Palestine joined forces to create a colourful and lively spectacle in the road.¹

Protesters disrupted the AGM and unfurled a banner. A Danish Green MP targeted G4S for its complacency over the Palestinian prisoners and



warned that the

Copenhagen council was considering a boycott of the company. 7 out of the 16 questions concerned Palestine with particular reference to the prisoners and to the abuse of children. The publicity in the business pages was extensive and the new CEO was clearly unprepared for the onslaught. He still returned to the discredited legal opinion of Rasmussen who had never even visited the prisons and said that they housed criminals. They promised to keep the matter under review and we will be writing to them to ascertain what exactly they are doing about this.

We continue to harry Ecotricity, the 'ethical' energy company that refuses to cancel its contract with G4S. Diana and Sharen Green hope to arrange a meeting with someone from the company. We urge customers to use the template letter to write expressing their objections to the company. Please contact Diana at group4campaign@gmail.com for the template letter.

Our campaign against the BBC is now in full swing. They did not respond to our public letter asking that they exclude G4S. They refused to honour our request under the FOI for information as to the bidders and then disregarded our request to pursue their own internal review of that decision. We now have a template letter (www.stopg4s.net/node/89) to send to BBC offices throughout the country, and to other interested parties. I am pursuing BECTU on this and also the Campaign for Press and Broadcasting Freedom on this matter.

Two activists, Chris Osmond and Shiar Youssef are standing trial for aggravated trespass as they climbed onto the roof of G4S to bring to public attention their human rights abuses. The start of the trial at Horsham Magistrates Court is 16th August and we are asking for protests outside the court.

Support G4S rooftop occupiers.pdf
97K [View](#) [Download](#)

Please ask your MP to sign the EDM 407 on G4S and the referral to the Serious Fraud Office. It is gathering signatures.

Finally G4S is poised to be a bidder for legal aid contracts. The Justice Alliance is holding a protest on 30th July in London and Manchester. It might be a good idea for those who can to join them

RALLY FOR LEGAL AID 30th JULY celebrating 64 years of legal aid 4.30pm–6.30pm at the Old Bailey.

And **5pm at Manchester Crown Court.**

¹ <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8g2ecOd-vNc>

2. Veolia lying over Tovlan landfill as Brent Council mulls bid

Bin Veolia in Brent [1] is challenging the company's bid for a 16 year Public Realm contract worth up to £257m for sewage, refuse, cleaning and environmental services. Veolia is shortlisted along with Enterprise and Serco.

Keen to downplay its role in sustaining the Occupation, Veolia continues to conceal its ownership of the Tovlan landfill in the occupied Jordan Valley. A Freedom of Information request to Brent Council obtained a letter dated 21 May 2013 from Veolia Group Communications Manager Martin Curtois to Doug Taylor, Senior Contract Manager for the VES UK – Brent Contract. Curtois claimed that Veolia sold Tovlan in 2011:

"This landfill was sold by Veolia Israel in the summer of 2011. For a short tail off period Veolia is advising the new owner on Environmental Protection Standards to facilitate the permit transfer to the new owner, Masuaa and to assist in the smooth transfer."

The Israeli women's peace research unit Who Profits? exploded this oft-repeated claim in January 2013. As reported by Adri Nieuwhof [2], the Israeli Ministry of Environmental Protection confirmed that Veolia subsidiary TMM is the sole owner and operator of the Tovlan landfill.

Tovlan takes waste from illegal Israeli settlements, including Masua, and from the Israeli military in the West Bank, while Veolia subsidiaries transfer waste to Tovlan from sites within Israel, including clinical waste. The

operation is illegal and pollutes Palestinian land. [3]

Brent Council was told in March that Veolia still owns Tovlan, but has not commented. Brent is the latest in a series of campaigns targeting public procurement of waste management. Time and again, Veolia has withdrawn or failed to win contracts when faced with an active campaign: Sandwell Metropolitan, Edinburgh, Richmond, Portsmouth, Winchester & East Hants, South London Waste Partnership, Ealing, West London Waste Authority, East Sussex, North Wales incinerator project, South Wales incinerator project, Harrow, Canterbury, North London Waste Authority (£4.7 billion!), Liverpool, Sheffield University.

Veolia remains a major target for BDS [4], even while it claims to be exiting the transport business, ending its connection with the Jerusalem Light Rail [5]

The Dump Veolia website has information on current contracts and opportunities where Veolia may bid.[6] Look for your local authority or NHS and contact

dumpveoliainfogroup@googlegroups.com

when you're ready to start!

Notes

1 <http://www.dumpveolia.org.uk/2013/03/12/bin-veolia-in-brent-campaign/>

2 <http://electronicintifada.net/blogs/adri-nieuwhof/israeli-ministry-confirms-veolia-still-owns-west-bank-landfill-despite>

3 <http://electronicintifada.net/blogs/adri-nieuwhof/veolia-dumps-israels-waste-jordan-valley-and-wins-israeli-army-contract>

4 *Generation Palestine*, Chapter 16 "Derailing Veolia" (Adri Nieuwhof)

5 <http://www.dumpveolia.org.uk/2013/03/07/global-water-intelligence-errs-on-veolia-transdev-deal/>

6 <http://www.dumpveolia.org.uk/uk-contracts/>

Booklaunch



My name is Rich Wiles, I am an artist, activist and author, originally from Hull although living in Palestine as I have done for the last 10 years. I have recently published my latest book - Generation Palestine: Voices from the BDS Movement - featuring contributions from Desmond

Tutu, Ilan Pappé, Ken Loach, Iain Banks, Richard Falk, Ronnie Kasrils and many others, full info on the book can be found on the following link:

<http://www.plutobooks.com/display.asp?K=9780745332437>

The book has already been featured in the Guardian (Iain Banks article from the book) and widely in the press, it has been in the Morning Star.

I am currently touring the UK with book launch events and several solidarity groups, unions etc, are asking me for stocks of the book to sell locally to support their BDS activism. I am therefore making stocks available to solidarity groups, BDS groups, unions etc available at the discounted rate of £10 each (plus p+p) with minimum orders of 5 books. Groups are free to sell the books at whatever price they wish locally to generate some money for campaigning and solidarity work. If this may be of interest to you please just let me know and I can get some sent up to you.

In friendship and solidarity,
Rich.

www.richwiles.com

www.ongoingnakba.org

4. The Praver plan “the new expressions of dispossession of traditional inhabitants and control of the territory.”¹

On 15th July demonstrations and strikes took place all over Israel and Palestine against the Praver plan.

The demonstrations have come after the Knesset approved the plan on June 24th. This Plan will result in the destruction of the unrecognized Naqeb (Negev) villages and the forced displacement of between 30,000 and 70,000 Arab Bedouin citizens. Last year, Raquel Rolnik, United Nations special rapporteur on adequate housing, called Israeli government plans to relocate the Negev Bedouin “the new expressions of dispossession of traditional inhabitants and control of the territory.”²

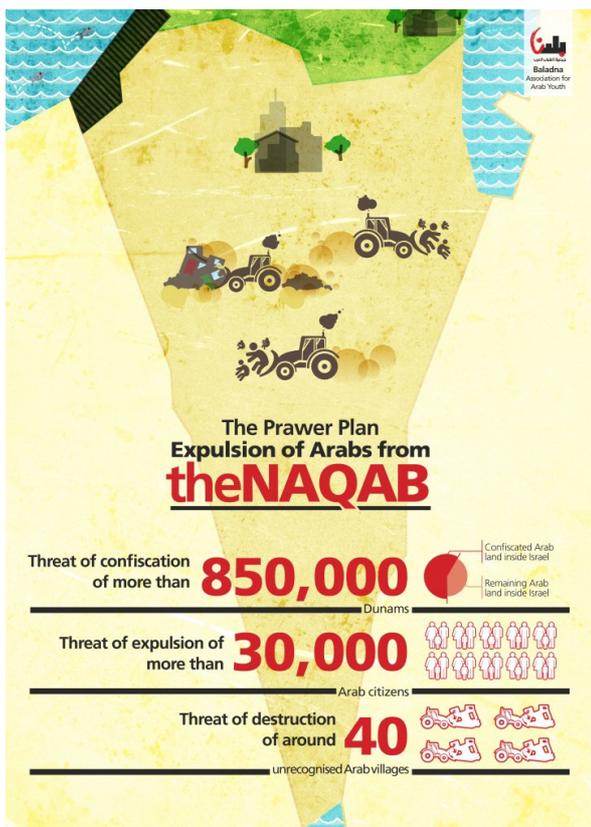
The role of the JNF was put clearly by Ronald Lauder at the December 2004, Herzliya Conference.

‘ My name is Ronald Lauder, and I’m standing here today on behalf of the Jewish National Fund, United States, as well as the Jewish National Fund, and Keren Kayemet LelIsrael, throughout the world... It is our belief that the Negev offers great opportunities to Israel, as well as great dangers, because unless we act now, we, the Jewish people, the people of Israel, will lose a great chance in the Negev. The Negev, as many of you know, is approximately 60% of the Land of Israel, and has about 8% of the land [sic] living there. It is our goal to bring 250,000 people there in the next five years, and 500,000 people in the next ten years. It can be done. If it is not done, we will have failed in the mission that we tried, and basically we will not have fulfilled David Ben-Gurion’s dream. The time is now. Although we in the United States feel very strongly that we can do it ourselves, with our efforts and our money, we also know that we must do it with the government, the land authority, Keren Kayemet LelIsrael, and through working with various groups within the Negev. ... It’s a dream, it was David Ben Gurion’s dream, it’s been a dream of many, many people, and I think the time is now. If the time is not now, we will lose, we will lose the Negev, we will lose our chance. We would lose it not only to the Bedouins, but we would lose it to people who would normally move here from the Diaspora, who would decide not to move here’.³

When asked about the destruction of Bedouin villages in the Negev, JNF UK chairman, Samuel Hayek, said that the issue of the Bedouins, while an "understandable emotive one" was "not our primary concern."⁴ The JNF in a submission to the Charity Commission stated 'JNF continues to be the preeminent Jewish charity supporting Israel. The work we are doing in the Negev region in particular will have a profound effect on the future of the State of Israel. The people we work with in Israel are inspirational and true visionaries, and together I am proud JNF continues to support the historic Zionist dream in a 21st century setting.'

The unrecognised village of Al Araqib was destroyed nearly 50 times to make way for a JNF forest. The JNF UK is still a registered UK charity.

We should 1. Make people aware of the Praver Plan 2. Put pressure on our leaders to oppose the plan. 3. End the scandal that the JNF is a UK registered charity.



¹ <http://www.haaretz.com/opinion/.premium-1.533095>
² <http://www.haaretz.com/opinion/.premium-1.533095>
³ <http://www.herzliyaconference.org/eng/?CategoryID=202&ArticleID=1339>
⁴ <http://www.newisraelfund.org.uk/news-and-media/jnf-say-no-to-uk-arab-task-force---24-february-2011.php>

5. Sainsbury's – we taste your indifference to the destruction of Palestinian farming communities!

The 'Sainsbury's campaign', which was launched on February 9th in response to the Farming Injustice call by Palestinian agricultural organisations (www.bdsmovement.net/2013/palestinian-agricultural-org-call-10515), held its first national protest on July 10th at Sainsbury's AGM in central London. Eight activists attended the AGM as shareholders, several asked questions and all 8 entered into dialogue with individual Directors at the end of the meeting, while a loud and highly visual protest was held outside, including leafleting shareholders with testimony from a Palestinian farmer in the Jordan valley. A campaign meeting held directly after the protest agreed the wording of the campaign statement, which will be used to build a broad coalition, calling on organisations to endorse and affiliate to the campaign. An interim steering group was also chosen, comprising Hilary (Sheffield PSC), Annie (Halifax Friends of Palestine), Sue (Birmingham) and Monica (York PSC). The campaign will continue to work closely with Corporate Watch (<http://corporateoccupation.org/>), which together with Who Profits (www.whoprofits.org/), is an essential source of research on complicit companies.

Immediate tasks are for monthly actions at Sainsbury's stores across the country to continue on the first Saturday of the month, and for work to start locally, regionally and nationally to build support for the campaign statement, which calls on Sainsbury's to follow the lead of the co-operative group. The statement begins with the aim of the campaign:

“Sainsbury's: end trade with companies complicit in occupation

We call on J. Sainsbury plc (Sainsbury's) to stop sourcing agricultural produce from companies that participate in and are associated with Israel's occupation of Palestinian land and violations of human rights and international law.”

Next local Sainsbury's actions:

Saturday 3rd August; Tell Sainsbury's Day
www.tellsainsburys.co.uk

Local actions at Sainsbury's stores across the country, including use of Sainsbury's own 'consultation' request to tell Sainsbury's what you think about trade with complicit companies. We will be circulating a slightly reworded petition and details about flyers in the next few days.

The campaign website –

www.sainsburyscampaign.org

Facebook -

<https://www.facebook.com/endfarminginjustice>

E mail info@sainsburyscampaign.org if you want to get involved.

From the Sainsbury's campaign interim steering group

Methodist Annual conference calls for a discussion of the need for Boycott Divestment and Sanctions

During the morning, the protesters at the Sainsbury AGM were joined by a number of delegates from the Methodist Conference which was meeting in Central Hall nearby.

Over the years, the Methodist Church has been the most outspoken of all the major churches in support of the campaign for justice for the Palestinian people. This year, Methodists once again ensured that the plight of the Palestinian people was not ignored during the church's annual conference.

The Methodist Conference, which is the governing body of the Methodist Church, has for several years had a policy of supporting the boycott of the illegal settlements and last year voted overwhelmingly to support Christian Aid's call for a ban on settlement goods. However, this year's vote by the Conference is believed to be one of the first in any Western Church for a discussion about full BDS, in line with the Palestinian call of 2005. It is likely that as a result, the Methodist Church will come under serious and sustained pressure from supporters of Israel, such as the Board of Deputies, to decide against BDS when the report is delivered in 2014.

Anyone who would wish to offer support to the Church in its stand for justice and in its decision to discuss BDS could write to helpdesk@methodistchurch.org.uk.

The things they say William Hague “

"this country will always have a position that war crimes and crimes against humanity must be rooted out, their perpetrators prosecuted, and it doesn't matter who did it."

<http://www.parliamentlive.tv/Main/Player.aspx?meetingId=13628> or

<http://www.globalresearch.ca/war-criminals-are-us-british-government-supports-prosecution-of-war-criminals-whoever-they-are/5343022>

Can this be the same William Hague that helped push a law through Parliament that made universal jurisdiction much more difficult when applied to Israeli Politicians like Tsipi Livni?

[Benjamin Netanyahu](#) responded to an EU ruling that Israeli settlements in the West Bank, Golan Heights and East Jerusalem were occupied territory. He said, "We will not accept any external edicts on our borders."

How would Israel describe a Palestinian with a similar attitude?

6 The Red Card Israeli Racism

campaign has made considerable progress over the last couple of months, capitalising on publicity around the European under-21 football tournament in Israel on June 5-18 and on interest generated by the presence in the UK since May 23 of former Palestinian political prisoner Mahmoud Sarsak



<https://www.facebook.com/Sarsak2013UKTour>

There were many examples of high-profile news coverage.

<http://edition.cnn.com/2013/06/06/sport/football/israel-sarsak-uefa-u21-football/index.html>

We've helped to put justice for Palestine on the agenda at the highest level in world football.

<http://www.opendemocracy.net/naomi-wimborne-idrissi/time-to-show-israel-red-card-says-palestinian-footballer>

We organised a protest at the UEFA Annual Congress in London on May 24, working with European partners and engaging with student activists from Football Beyond Borders. One group of protesters attracted media attention by gate-crashing the gala dinner at the end of the Congress.

<http://www.foa.org.uk/news/palestinian-plaintiffs-uefa-spotlight>

We mobilised signatures from high-profile figures including Desmond Tutu and Frederic Kanoute for a letter criticising UEFA that was published in the Guardian and widely reported.

<http://rcir.org.uk/red-card-letter-published-tutu-kanoute-loach-tell-uefa-dont-hold-u21-finals-in-israel/>

<http://www.ipost.com/Sports/Tutu-accuses-UEFA-of-ignoring-Palestinian-plaintiffs-314622>

We built working relationships with fans' organisations and anti-racist football bodies including Show Racism the Red Card, FARE network, Philosophy Football, the Professional Footballers' Association and its international federation FIFPro, and local clubs and fans organisations. This was reflected in the range of meetings and events, well-covered by media, organised for Sarsak as he toured the country, from a packed meeting in Edinburgh

http://www.fifpro.org/news/news_details/2283

to great local media coverage in Liverpool

<http://www.clickliverpool.com/sport/liverpool-fc-news/1218958-mahmoud-sarsak-puts-bill-shanklys-life-and-death-into-perspective.html>

and Newcastle

<http://tyneandwear.sky.com/news/video/69326/imprisoned-palestinian-international-footballer-visits-newcastle>

to an in-depth discussion before an audience which included filmmaker Ken Loach, at the School of Oriental and African Studies in London

<http://www.inminds.com/article.php?id=10604>

Campaigners leafleted football grounds and got articles published in fan publications

<http://www.footymatters.com/articles/extras/respect/the-racist-cloud-overshadowing-the-european-u21-tournament/>

http://www.kickitout.org/news.php/news_id/5862

All this has stretched the small campaign team to the max, financially and physically.

We have launched a fund-raising appeal and are planning a national strategy meeting in late September or early October which we hope will attract a wider range of activists willing to work together to take this exciting campaign forward.

It has potential to broaden and deepen its support and reach across the UK and Europe, challenging international football bodies for failing to apply sanctions against Israel and targeting UEFA for planning to stage the under-19 women's tournament in Israel in 2015.

Please notify Geoff Lee, campaign coordinator, on grlee@blueyonder.co.uk if you are interested in joining the supporters' list and/or making a donation.

7. The Fourth National BDS Conference



(Photo Ahmad Shehade)

This was held at Ramallah 18th June. “With 700 participants, mostly representatives of the national committee member entities, including political parties, trade unions, women’s organizations, professional syndicates, youth and student groups, and other civil society organizations, the conference was hailed by several commentators as a “turning point” for the BDS movement’s local work. A substantial part of the credit goes to the selfless efforts of tens of — mainly youth — volunteers who worked for long weeks on organizing all aspects of the conference with dedication and aptitude. – For more go to <http://www.bdsmovement.net/2013/report-fourth-national-bds-conference-11080>

Sodastream opened their first, and so-called 'flagship', store in Brighton last year. Together with a network of local activists, members of Brighton & Hove PSC have been waging a campaign against the shop since September 2012. We've held pickets every Saturday, with additional flash mid-week pickets much of the time. The campaign has met with a hugely positive response from local people, with hundreds of passers-by stopping to discuss the issues with us, sign our petition, volunteer to write letters to the shop and to local politicians, and even to join us on the picket. The campaign has also met with a determined and rather annoying counter-protest in support of the shop by local and not so local Zionists.



The main elements of the campaign are:

1 The regular picket of the Sodastream store in central Brighton

We would like to thank everyone from around the country (and from other countries) who've been to Brighton to support the pickets. Please continue to join us – we're out there every Saturday 1.00 – 3.00pm.

Sodastream's production of glossy flyers, campaign videos, and offers of all-expenses-paid trips to their West Bank factory (to local MPs, journalists, etc) are all testament to our success. The behaviour of the Zionists shows their desperation to drown out our message. We haven't yet succeeded in shutting down the shop, but the campaign has provided a really effective focus for raising awareness and recruiting support locally.

2 The widening of the campaign locally

We have now started to target the other main stockists of SS products in the town, including Robert Dyas, and Steamer Trading. We intend to expand this to other suppliers in Brighton. We know that other groups around the country have been doing the same thing.

3 We now plan to intensify the pressure on Sodastream by calling a National Day of Action on Saturday the 28th of September

Our aim is for groups around the UK to plan local actions by targeting one prominent stockist in their town – with a particular focus on John Lewis where possible. We have in mind leafleting/picketing with a common message and a common approach – i.e. a letter handed to managers, and constructive engagement with local shoppers, who would be asked to boycott Sodastream products in the shop, and if they are supportive to ask the manager to 'Stop Stocking Sodastream'. PSC nationally are supporting this through their network of branches. We can provide materials such as leaflets, letters for shop managers etc. We'll publicise this via the BIN list in the hope of mobilising support from groups beyond PSC.

The objective would be to send a clear message to Sodastream that the campaign is going national, and that it is not confined to Brighton or to a single shop.

Shops selling Sodastream products include: Argos, Asda, John Lewis, Currys, Lakeland, Tesco (superstores), Robert Dyas, Staples, Steamer Trading, Harvey Nichols and many other local suppliers. You can find stockists in local areas by visiting (if you can bear it)

<http://www.sodastream.co.uk/gbretail/StoreLocator.aspx>

Many thanks for your continuing support. We welcome your suggestions for strengthening the campaign.

You can find accounts of our activities, with photos etc., on our website at www.brightonpalestinecampaign.org.uk