

The Organizer

Newsletter of the Socialist Party USA National Office

January 2024

The Organizer c/o SPUSA 217 Centre Street, Suite #344 New York, NY 10013 * www.SocialistParty-USA.org

Statement on the Catastrophe in Historic Palestine

Statement of the SP Anti-War Working Group, updated and passed by the National Executive Committee

The Socialist Party USA condemns, without reservation or qualification, the violence and brutality that has resulted in the deaths of tens of thousands of residents of Gaza and throughout historic Palestine in recent months. These completely avoidable tragedies are the direct result of the policies and decisions of those in power, working against the interests of working-class people, whether Palestinian or Israeli. The Socialist Party has long condemned the ruthless barbarity of the Israeli settler colonial and apartheid state. We support the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement initiated by grassroots Palestinian people's organizations.

We explicitly affirm the right of the Palestinian people to determine their own method of self-defense against oppression and genocide. We affirm Palestinians' right to determine their own future using all means that they deem appropriate for their situation.

We demand the US government immediately end all aid to the State of Israel, rhetorical and tangible, and commit to supporting the Palestinians in rebuilding their country. We are in solidarity with the Palestinian call for an immediate ceasefire. We call for the withdrawal of all US military forces in historic Palestine. We call for delivering humanitarian aid and restoring human necessities, including food, water, fuel, medicine, and electricity to the people of Gaza. We furthermore call for the dismantling of all Israeli settlements in the West Bank and enfranchising ALL expelled Palestinians (and their descendants) with the Right of Return.

We believe in the enfranchisement of all citizens of historic Palestine with full and equal human rights, full

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Kicking off the Campaign for Police & Prison Abolition and Ending the Prison Industrial Complex

We invite you to join the Socialist Party's Winter 2024 campaign to End the Prison Industrial Complex and Abolish the Carceral State. We will hold a series of discussions, workshop and coordinate activities around police and prison abolition.

First- we encourage you to sign up for our email list. Campaign updates will be posted on the Party's website and activities on the calendar, but we encourage you to join the discussion as well.

Second- We encourage you to attend some upcoming webinars and web discussions. Events in January and February include:

* **Jan. 30th - Policing and Gentrification Discussion with Anthony Diaz of the Newark Water Coalition**
On Zoom 8:00 pm ET/ 5:00 pm PT

* **February 11th: Abolition: Intro & Next Steps Presentation and discussion with James Cui**
On Zoom 4:00 om ET/ 1:00 pm PT

Learn more about joining our list and registering for our webinars at <https://www.socialistpartyusa.net/epic>

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SPUSA**

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or mail to SPUSA 217 Centre St, Suite #344
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The Organizer is the official publication of the Socialist Party USA National Office. Greg Pason, National Secretary, is Editor.

Catastrophe in Historic Palestine continued

and equal human rights, full and equal citizenship, equal access to services, and the ability to come and go freely, without checkpoints and other forms of systemic apartheid. The Israeli government's settler colonial project with its state-sanctioned dispossession, persecution, and ethnic cleansing of Palestinian people, lands, and spaces are the seeds from which the current horrors have grown, and they must end.

The US, Great Britain, and the occupying State of Israel should bear the primary financial responsibility for rebuilding Palestine, with mandatory contributions from countries that aided and abetted the State of Israel's decades of war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and genocide of Palestinians. If the US has any role in the future, it should be restricted to supplying necessities to the Palestinian people.

The Socialist Party calls for an immediate release of all hostages on both sides, including the thousands of political prisoners of the Israeli government, a large percentage of whom are held in administrative detention, without due process. We support the call for war criminals and violators of human rights to be brought before the appropriate international court.

This current genocidal bloodbath has revealed to the world an undeniable truth: there cannot be a return to the status quo, ever again. The time has come for the sun to set, for all time, on settler colonialism. The time is now for the world community to recognize this, and to take swift action to support Indigenous Palestinians in their chosen path to create a legally recognized, safe, democratic state, founded on equal rights, and free from both colonial occupation and religious dictatorship.

Renew your membership on-line at:

SocialistPartyUSA.net/renew-your-membership

SPUSA Statement on Freedom of Information Access passed by the National Executive Committee

The ongoing Rightist campaign against libraries, books, and librarians has exponentially increased across the United States. Their attacks serve to undermine the freedom of citizens to read, endanger intellectual freedom generally, and vilify librarians for engaging in their archival profession. Now more than ever, we need solidarity in opposition to these abuses.

Librarians are harassed over books they purchased for their patrons — usually titles focusing on race, gender and sexuality. Groups, such as 'Moms for Liberty' are training their members on how to target librarians on their personal social media pages. Banning of books is being actively pursued in Florida, and several states are discussing such action. Librarians are baselessly accused of pushing "gay books" on young children.

According to the Pew Research Center, almost 80 percent of American adults across the political spectrum believe libraries help people find trustworthy and reliable information (Link). Indeed, librarians are trained to select books and other resources to be shared in common by groups of readers; targeted books don't find their way to library shelves as part of some gay or Black "agenda". Rather, librarians select and acquire books that meet the reading needs and interests of the communities wherein they work.

The American Library Association (ALA) and a coalition of more than 25 groups have banded together to empower individuals and communities to fight censorship and protect the freedom to read. The American Federation of Teachers and the Authors Guild have joined the association's Unite Against Book Bans campaign to raise awareness about the recent rise in book challenges in public libraries and schools. The Socialist Party USA likewise calls for the immediate end to these assaults on libraries and librarians, and for the protection for all librarians, libraries, and library patrons.

From the Platform of the Socialist Party USA: "We call for the preservation of literature, art, music, dance, oral traditions, and audio and video recordings that have arisen out of people's experiences: young and old, of all nationalities and colors, sexual preferences, working, un- and under-employed, and disabled."

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