

Dear Rifat Kassis and all Kairos Palestine Leaders,

We, Sabeel-Kairos UK and our associated individuals, churches and communities viewed with sadness the German Bundestag's passage of a resolution condemning the International Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions Movement (BDS) and equating it with anti-Semitism.

We respectfully recognize the Palestinian BDS movement logic of peaceful resistance against the indiscriminate violations of human rights violations and discriminatory measures under the brutal occupation. We express our unequivocal solidarity with the Kairos Palestine Movement and join in condemnation.

We note with discomfort that the Bundestag resolution tacitly puts Israel above the law by justifying and legalizing its unjust measures against Palestinians and distances the day when a peaceful and just resolution can be found. We are appalled too that the Bundestag has closed its eyes to the many atrocities of the Israeli regime including:

- Israel's choking blockade of the Gaza Strip for 13 years;
- Israel's illegal settlements in the West Bank built on stolen Palestinian land
- The daily humiliations to which children are subjected at military checkpoints as they make their way to school; and to which men and women have become captive and restricted from accessing jobs and services
- The nearly 700 Palestinian children who annually are detained and prosecuted in the Israeli military court system, in contravention of international law
- The unjust system of military law; a network of Israeli settler-only roads that restrict Palestinian movement and trade;
- A separation wall judged by the International Court of Justice in 2004 as "a breach of international law"
- The denial of the right of return of refugees, the right for reparations, and right to self-determination for Palestinians that will guarantee their dignity and freedom from foreign domination and occupation.

We endorse the question Kairos Palestine poses as to what other reasonable avenue Palestinians could take in order to overcome these historic injustices. We affirm the Palestinian conviction that they have the right to criticize the unjust actions of a state and a corporation that benefits the Israel State's capacity to oppress the Palestinian population.

We deem that the German Bundestag has adopted an illogical posture by characterizing BDS as anti-Semitic. It is our conviction too that Israel needs friends who can pressure and advice it to take the road of real peace and reconciliation. It is clear to us that Israel is intent on shutting out

dissenting voices that expose its real face. BDS has been very successful in exposing Israeli crimes committed regularly.

It is clear to us that by passing a resolution equating the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement against Israel with anti-Semitism, Germany is letting its Nazi past lead to support for an apartheid regime. On the other hand, this is an opportunity to give up its prolonged guilt of its Nazi past, and do so by refusing to support Israel's current crimes against the Palestinian people.

We join Kairos Palestine in urging the German Bundestag to review its faulty and racist resolution and, instead, issue a call for peace with justice that restores their long-lost justice.

Signed on behalf of;

Sabeel-Kairos Staff and Board of Trustees,

Associated churches, communities and individuals.