

Rosa * Uniting * Newsletter *



Artwork by Sieve

THE PALESTINE EDITION

Issue 5 - February 2025

Table of contents

Editorial note - 1

The Ceasefire in Palestine: The Beginning of the End - 2

From the river to the sea - 3

A short history of Palestine - 5

Imperialist Interests - 9

The grass is green and tall - 11

The Academic Arm of Oppression: The University of Amsterdam's
Ties to the Zionist Entity's Genocide - 13

Cops off Campus - 16

The Oudemanhuispoort encampment in pictures - 17

Ahed Tamimi - Freedom fighter and beacon of resistance against
colonialism - 24

R.U.N. Interview Series: Understanding the left in Turkey and
beyond - 26

Germany, the left and Palestine - 29

Reaction and Repression in the Imperial Core - 31

Checkpoints - 33

Community rubric:

->Political Prisoners and the Palestinian Liberation Struggle
(guest article by Samidoun Netherlands) - 35

UvA Intifada - 37

The ROSA Rubric - 38

Comic - 40



Editorial Note - Palestine Edition

Post-ceasefire Note: This edition of R.U.M. was written prior to the ceasefire agreement, as such, most of the articles reflect our thoughts and emotions during a time when the end of invasion was uncertain. Now, as we write this update, a ceasefire has been announced, however, the situation remains unclear. In spite of the ceasefire announcement, we recognise that the genocide itself is still ongoing and can only end by the liberation of Palestine from the river to the sea.

There's no doubt that the Palestine edition of R.U.M. (ROSA Uniting Newsletter) has been a long time coming. It is with both great anguish and vehement rage that we must publish this edition in a reality in which the genocide of the Palestinian people continues to be perpetrated. As long as the Palestinian people themselves remain persistent in their resistance, then the struggle against Israel's imperialist violence will persist with it. As an organisation that is located within the belly of the beast of the Western imperial core, ROSA recognises its own responsibility to support the Palestinian people in their struggle. The oppression of the Palestinian people cannot be forgotten. Their defiance cannot be overlooked. We must not stop fighting for Palestinian liberation.

We would like to dedicate this edition of our zine to Hadeel Shatara. Hadeel is a Palestinian educator who spoke at the ROSA event Women's Fight Against Imperialism back in April 2024. She has been held under administrative detention by the Zionist occupation since July 1st of that year; in December, her arbitrary imprisonment was extended a further four months. Hadeel is one of many Palestinian voices that Zionist forces have attempted to silence. She is another face that Western imperialists try to exclude from the narrative when they attempt to justify this genocide. As ROSA, we were fortunate enough to have the opportunity to hear Hadeel speak and to experience her indelible impact on our event. This edition is dedicated to Hadeel in the hope that her liberation, and the liberation of all of Palestine, is imminent. While writing and reading this edition, we think of you Hadeel.

In this edition, the members of ROSA (as well as guest authors from Samidoun and UvA Intifada) reiterate the importance of the Palestinian struggle through a variety of discussions, critical analyses, and artistic pieces. This edition opens with several introductory texts that discuss the significance of the Palestinian struggle, its history, and the interests of the imperialist forces who oppose it. We then have a series of articles that touch on the Pro-Palestinian movement here in the Netherlands. In the centre of this edition you will find an article discussing Ahed Tamimi as a symbol of Palestinian resistance. Following this, the zine takes a look at the Pro-Palestine movement in an international context by touching on the views of the Left in Turkey and Germany, as well as the reaction and repression found more broadly in the Imperial core. This edition is then rounded off by two guest articles, one from our comrades in the pro-Palestinian advocacy group Samidoun and another introducing the new student-led organisation UvA Intifada. As usual, in the back of our zine you can then find updates about ROSA itself where we touch on our activities as an organisation and, lastly, the edition is concluded with a comic.

We are now witnessing the attempted spread of the Zionist settler colonial project across the wider Middle East with the full complicity and, in many cases, explicit support of Western institutions. We therefore believe it is more essential than ever to highlight the continued struggle of the Pro-Palestine movement. We hope you enjoy this edition but, to a greater degree, we want it to fuel your desire for change, for justice, for Palestinian liberation.

From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free.



The Ceasefire in Palestine: The Beginning of the End?

On October 16 2024, Benjamin Netanyahu commented on the fall of the martyr Yahya Sinwar with the following declaration: "This does not mean the end of the war in Gaza, but the beginning of the end". Netanyahu did not know it yet, but he could not be more right. The horrors committed in Palestine by the colonizers are merely a symptom of the decay of the Zionist state. The heightened contradictions inside the Zionist project make it as dangerous as it has ever been, with massacres, deportations, and mass arbitrary arrests continuing and even escalating in the region. The Zionist entity has left its incremental and gradual tactics for a rapid solution, throwing away any pretense of abiding by the international order and its laws. The Zionists know their days are numbered.

This ceasefire only confirms our perspective that complete liberation can only be led by the resistance. The resistance's slingshot has triumphed, even when facing the Zionist entity's billion-dollar war machine. Indeed, Netanyahu had promised that "we'll destroy Hamas." His vision for Palestine had always been clear—a "demilitarized, deradicalized and rebuilt" Palestine. Contrary to the Zionists' fantasies, the Zionist state could not manage to impose a total defeat on Palestinian resistance. Not only is there still a resistance force, but they seem as strong as ever, welcomed as heroes in the heart of Gaza by the masses. Rightfully so, as thousands of Palestinians kept hostage in the occupier's dungeons have now been liberated thanks to their struggle. Its ability to recruit new members, wage war, and above all, maintain a leading role in any governance system shows the resistance's resilience.

Neither has the Zionist entity been able to achieve its goal of eradicating resistance within the Palestinian people. According to the words of the liberal Ya'ir Lapid, the Israeli Occupation Forces hoped to subdue the Palestinians, to make them "as docile as the Swiss, as peace-loving as the Dutch, or calm as the Australians." Instead, its barbarous acts have ignited a worldwide intifada, with Palestinians continuously joining the ranks of the resistance, while protests, occupations, and acts of sabotage erupt in the West. Across the globe, despite repression, Palestinian liberation is on every mind, lips, and screen.

Although this is a victory, we can not let ourselves be fooled. We must remember that the genocidal war against the Palestinian people is not yet over. Peace can not be made with an indoctrinated settler society. The settlers are not willing to let go of their privilege. There is only one solution to the contradictions within settler colonialism: a decolonized Palestine, from the river to the sea. Already, operations like the Iron Wall are imposed by the American and Zionist elites to continue the massacre of the Palestinian people. History teaches us political power grows out of the barrel of the gun. The resistance is healing its wound to better battle the Zionist invader and its lackeys. The hostilities will undoubtedly continue. Nothing has changed for the student movement. We, in the West, will have to play our part in the struggle for a free Palestine, both inside and outside of our institutions. No one is free until Palestine is free!

In solidarity,

United Front for Palestine in the UvA





From The River To The Sea

On the 7th of October 2023, Palestinian forces including Hamas, the PFLP (Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine), the PIJ (Palestinian Islamic Jihad) and the DFLP (Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine) breached the Israeli border fence for the first time since the liberation of the Gaza strip in 2005. A great step towards Palestinian liberation was taken. At the same time we witness a global awakening of workers seeing their brothers and sisters, their fellow workers and students killed by imperialism.

In the past 12 months, over 45.000 Palestinians have been killed by the genocide committed by the Zionist entity, or so called Israel.

Since the start of the Nakba- the ethnic cleansing of Palestinian land- and with the establishment of the terrorist state of Israel in 1948, over 70.000 Palestinians have been killed, and over 750.000 Palestinians have been displaced. The establishment of Israel and the expansion of the Zionist state through illegal settlements must be condemned. We call for one state: a liberated and democratic Palestine!

Resistance against Zionism

(To read more on this see page ..., "Political Prisoners and the Palestinian Liberation Struggle")

The settler colonial state of Israel is a crime against all peoples of the world, it abuses Jewish people for Zionist's capital interests and makes Arab people suffer for the geopolitical interests of US and European imperialism. Zionism is a racist and nationalist ideology which grew strong in the late 19th century in Europe and can be summarized in the genocidal and false statement by Balfour: "Palestine is a land without a people, for a people without a land". We must ask who "emptied" the land of Palestinian people, and who took the land from Jewish people. It was the imperialist European nations during and shortly after the second World War who not only genocided Jews in the Holocaust, but also the Palestinians since the start of the Nakba. The Zionist entity expanded through war and settler colonialism beyond the illegitimate borders that were imposed by the UN partition plan of 1947.

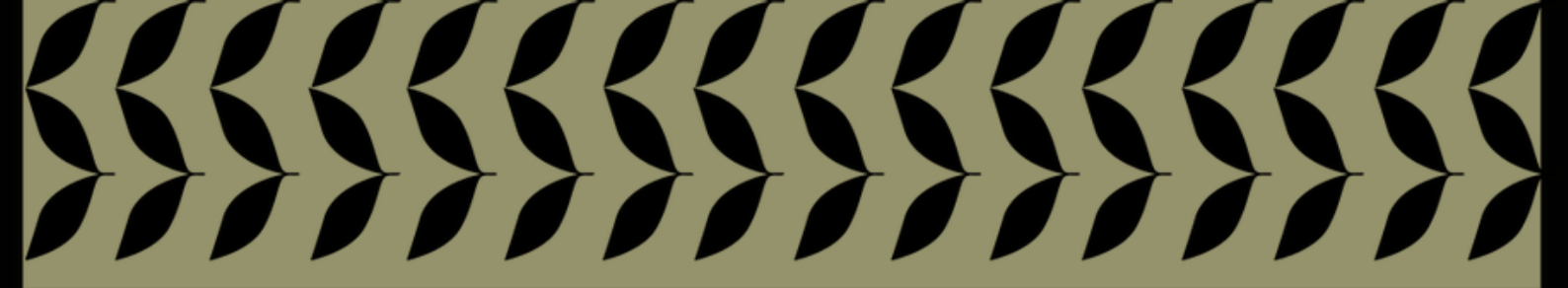
But as long as the occupation has existed, resistance has been organized against it- such as in the first intifada in 1987 and second in 2000, the liberation of the Gaza strip in 2005, and in the Al-Aqsa flood in 2023. As long as the occupation persists, the resistance will not stop.

Reactionism in the Imperial Core

(To read more on this see page 9, "Reaction and Repression in the Imperial Core")

In the Netherlands, we see large numbers of young people protesting for Palestinian liberation. We as the youth understand the situation of the Palestinian people and stand in solidarity with them. But as the imperialist contradictions grow, the repressive reaction grows with it. We see how Palestinian protests are delegitimized in the media and violently repressed by the police.

We see that racism, particularly against Muslims and Arabs, is growing.



We see that the imperialist system leeches on fascism in Israel and around the globe. We see that backwards gender roles and the oppression of women intensifies, for women must carry the double and multiple burden of war and genocide. We see that the destruction of land and life, and the military industry accelerate climate change. We see that real wages stagnate at the same time as corporations make billions in war profits. Every struggle that we fight as students and young workers of the Netherlands, whether it is better working conditions, climate change, sexism, fascism, or racism, are connected to the imperialist system and to the oppression of the Palestinian people. Therefore we must fight them in unity.

The Imperialist Interests

(To read more on this see page ..., “Imperialist Interests”)

The largest weakness of Israel is that it relies fully on American and European support. Not only is Israel militarily dependent to Western nations like the US, Germany and Italy, who deliver large amounts of weapons and military equipment worth billions, Israel's economy is also completely dependent on the West, which is why for example the first free trade agreement which the US ever signed was with Israel, 20 years before any subsequent agreement. The Netherlands has historically had close ties with Israel, both politically and economically. This can be seen in the diplomatic visits of the former prime minister Rutte in October 2023 and the visit of the minister of foreign affairs in May, but also in the abstaining of the Dutch government to vote on the UN resolution about the illegality of Israeli occupation in Palestinian territories in September 2024. The economic ties between the Netherlands and the Zionist entity are foremost collaborations in the cyber security and high tech sector. But also in the academic realm, in which we as student are most involved in, there is cooperation between our academic institutions and the Israeli universities and research programs used for war, occupation and genocide.

Our Demands

As the youth in the imperial core, it is our task and interest to stop these ties and collaborations. They do not benefit us, but only maintain the structures of oppression and exploitation. They kill our fellow students and young workers in Palestine. In this light, we as the youth, the students in Amsterdam, demand:

1. One free Palestine from the river to the sea.
2. Academic Boycott: cutting all ties between Dutch education institutions and Israel.
3. The full condemnation of genocide by our institutions.
4. Ending all economic ties and Dutch governmental support to Israel.
5. Freedom for all political prisoners.

We are the students and we want Education, Work and Liberation not war, genocide and oppression!

A Short History of Palestine

Martinos

This piece has been largely informed by, among other sources, the Decolonize Palestine website. For more information and resources such as reading lists, please visit decolonizepalestine.com.

Please note that this is a simplified and non-comprehensive summary of Palestinian history, due to the scope of our zine. We strongly encourage you to use this piece as a starting point to getting educated on Palestine, and fight for a **FREE PALESTINE !**

As an introductory note, I would like to stress a simple yet important aspect of historiography. When engaging with the historical timeline of a country or nation, one will necessarily have to study the historical context of the region at large, since the idea of a nation state with clearly defined boundaries and borders is relatively recent and, more importantly, an arbitrary creation, that has historically been used to justify war, conquering, and ethnic cleansing. Today, such claims are employed for ethno-nationalist purposes and are used by the Zionist entity occupying Palestine, to justify the genocide they are committing, and support a claim on stolen land to perpetuate their colonial project.

Over the centuries, Palestine has been home of the three Abrahamic religions, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, with each holding importance and influence throughout history. Palestine has been a place of coexistence for millenia, hosting people from diverse backgrounds from the region. This would eventually be disrupted by the Zionist project.



Ras Al Naqoura, Naqoura, Palestine (Nour Tayeh, Unsplash)



In 1517, the Ottomans conquered Palestine, marking the beginning of one of the longest-lasting eras in its history, spanning over four centuries.

Over three thousand years ago, the region between the Mediterranean Sea and the River Jordan is first recorded as Peleset in Egyptian tablets. At that point, the region had already been populated for thousands of years. The Natufian people, populating the region more than 11,000 years ago, are possibly responsible for the first deliberate cultivation of cereals, a key step in the development of agriculture. To this day, we can see parallels between modern day Palestinian and Natufian agricultural practices, showing the strong ties of the Palestinian people to their region and land throughout history.

In the late 19th century, the area comprising present-day Palestine was divided into three administrative districts, with the Independent Sanjak of Jerusalem attaining special status, being directly governed by Constantinople (present Istanbul), due to its high importance for the Ottomans. At the time, Palestinian Muslims comprised the largest group in the region, with Christian and Jewish Palestinians numbering around 60,000 and 25,000 respectively, out of a total 600,000 inhabitants.

These groups were entitled to some autonomy under the Ottoman Millet system which, while flawed, provided better conditions for religious minorities than the European continent, where persecution based on religion was rampant. The relations between the groups were generally peaceful, with Palestinian Muslims participating in celebrations of Jewish religious festivals.

The Zionist movement first emerged in Europe while Palestine was under Ottoman occupation, with the goal of establishing a Jewish homeland in Palestine by means of colonization. While Napoleon allegedly promised Palestine as a homeland to the Jews in 1799, it wasn't until 1882 that Rishon LeZion, a major Zionist settlement, was established in Palestine. Three years later the term 'Zionism' was first coined, with the first Zionist congress held in 1897 in Switzerland, reflecting the European colonial origins of the movement. The first Zionist organization was created the same year.



al-Tirah, Ramallah, Palestine (Nour Tayeh)

flared up hopes for self-determination and independence for the people previously under the control of the Ottomans.

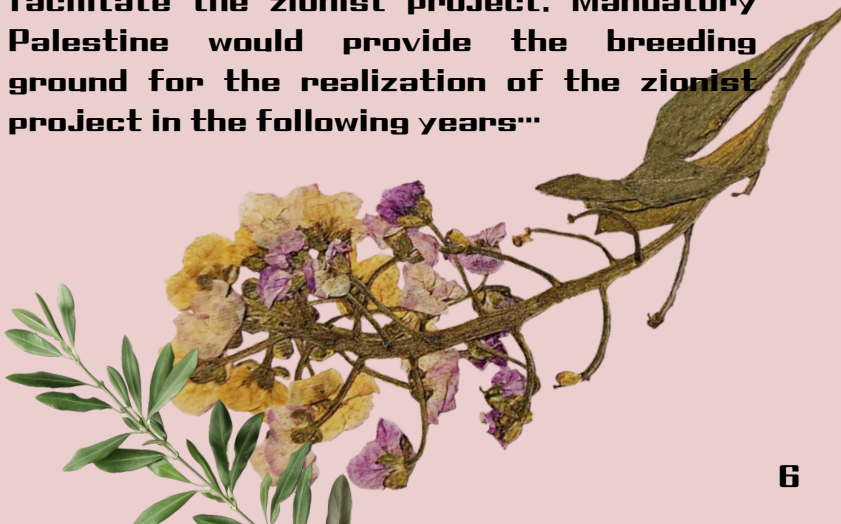
However, they were quickly crushed by European colonialism and the partitioning of the region between France, with the Mandate for Syria and Lebanon, and the UK with the Mandate of Mesopotamia (Iraq) and Mandate of Palestine, divided between Palestine and Transjordan (Jordan). Palestine, originally designated to fall under "international administration" according to the Sykes-Picot Agreement of 1916 (which never materialized), would eventually be placed under direct administration by the UK.

Even though Palestine was considered a "Class A" mandate, meaning it was seen as having sufficient infrastructure and administrative capabilities to be governed independently, the British never granted this independence, allowing them to facilitate the Zionist project. Mandatory Palestine would provide the breeding ground for the realization of the Zionist project in the following years"



Wadi Qelt, Between Jericho and Jerusalem, Palestine (Nour Tayeh)

During the same period, in the waning years of the Ottoman empire and the rise of European-style nationalism, relations between the various groups populating Palestine were increasingly deteriorating. Ottoman rule was questioned through a rebellion that resulted in Palestinian autonomy under Daher al-'Umar, which was later crushed. Tensions kept rising, while the Ottoman Empire collapsed in the aftermath of the First World War. his



In 1917, the Balfour Declaration was issued by the British government, publicly announcing their support for the establishment of a "national home for the Jewish people" in Palestine. This constituted a direct embracing of the Zionist cause by the imperialist UK, which would later be materially implemented through the British Mandate in Palestine. The British saw the Zionist movement as an opportunity to promote their own imperialist interests in the region of the Levant, by changing the demographics of the region, and establishing administrations sympathetic to their own interests. The support that one of the bloodiest imperialist powers to ever exist demonstrated for the Zionist movement also reflected their racist intentions. The slogan "A land without a people for a people without a land", erased the existence and agency of the people inhabiting Palestine, while also revealing anti-Jewish sentiments in the imperial core, where the Jewish population was not considered to belong.

This demonstrates the racist background of the Zionist movement, with the Jewish population presented as undesirable and unable to integrate in any society other than a Jewish ethnostate. The absurd claim of "a land without a people" is also disproved in a 1925 essay by Zionist Ze'ev Jabotinsky, where he writes, "If you wish to colonize a land in which people are already living, you must provide a garrison for the land". This also explicitly mentions the colonial nature of the Zionist project. Under the British, Zionist settlers arrived en masse in Palestine, setting the stage for what was to come.

In 1929, the Al-Buraq Uprising, the first major protest against the arrival of Jewish settlers, took place, followed by further mass protests in 1933. The British colonial forces killed revolutionary leader Izz ad-Din al-Qassam in 1935, after a life committed to anti-colonial struggles. In 1936, a six-month General Strike marked the beginning of the Great Palestinian Revolt that would last until 1939. The uprising aimed to achieve independence from the British, and counter



Haifa, Palestine (Nour Tayeh)

their support for the Zionist movement and facilitation of the arrival of Jewish settlers.

By the end of the British Mandate, the Jewish population controlled only around 5-6% of the land in Palestine. Furthermore, the majority of the Jewish population residing in Palestine at the time had arrived between 1924 and 1939, as part of the 4th and 5th Zionist immigration waves, with the Zionist settlers already outnumbering the Jewish population already living in Palestine. It was under these circumstances that the idea of partitioning Palestine began to gain traction.

While partition had been proposed before, for example in 1919, the demands for partition in the 1940s called for the allocation of more than half of the land, including the most fertile regions, of Palestine to settlers, most of whom had been living there for 20 years at most, and were vastly outnumbered. The Zionist efforts for partition were complemented by Zionist terrorism, such as the 1946 bombing of the King David Hotel by the Zionist paramilitary organization Irgun.

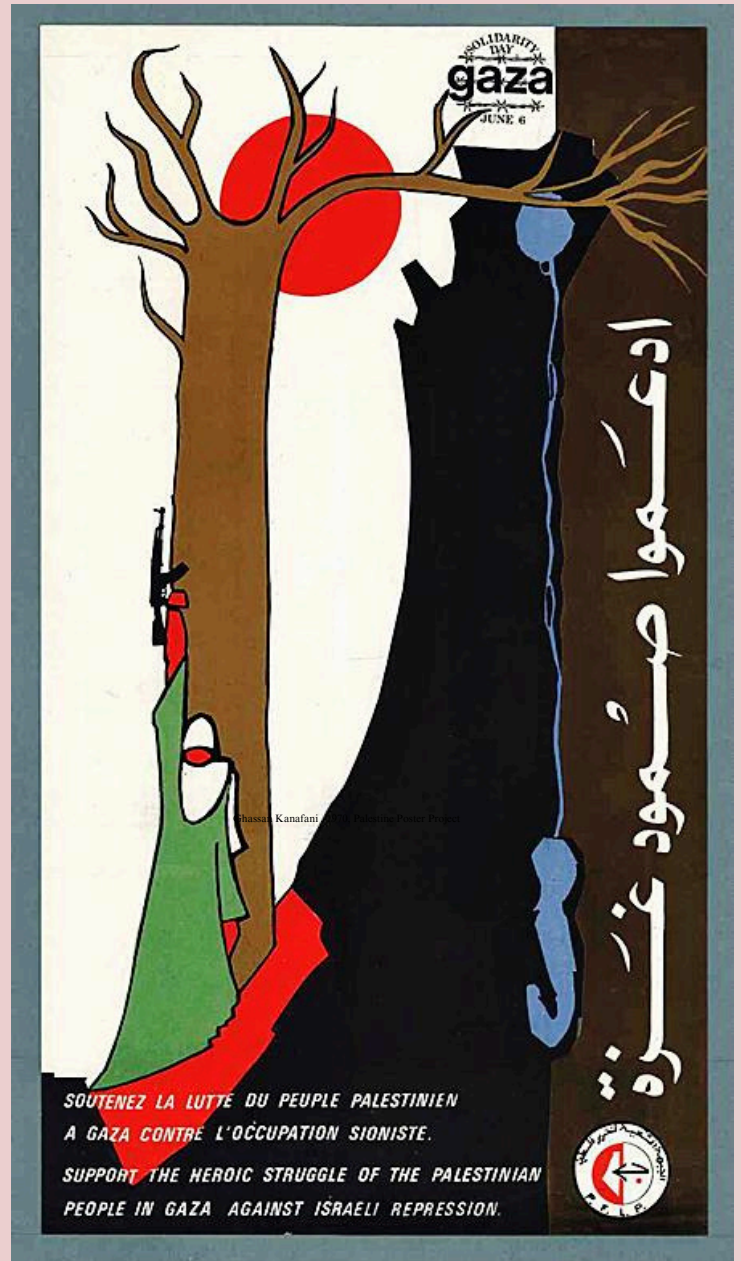


These actions increased tensions and allowed for partition to be presented as a peace plan. Palestinians rejected the partition of their land, which to this day is used in Zionist propaganda to demonize Palestinians, claiming that they have refused peace—just as the two-state solution is presented as a remedy for the ongoing genocide.



While partition had been proposed before, for example in 1919, the demands for partition in the 1940s called for the allocation of more than half of the land, including the most fertile regions, of Palestine to settlers, most of whom had been living there for 20 years at most, and were vastly outnumbered. The Zionist efforts for partition were complemented by Zionist terrorism, such as the 1946 bombing of the King David Hotel by the Zionist paramilitary organization Irgun. These actions increased tensions and allowed for partition to be presented as a peace plan. Palestinians rejected the partition of their land, which to this day is used in Zionist propaganda to demonize Palestinians, claiming that they have refused peace—just as the two-state solution is presented as a remedy for the ongoing genocide.

This is contrasted with the acceptance of the partition plan by Zionists, portraying it as a showing of good will. However, the acceptance of partition was conditional, with the aim of establishing a Zionist state, in order to facilitate the complete colonization of Palestine at a later stage. In the words of Ben-Gurion, Zionist leader and later first Prime Minister of the Zionist state, "After the formation of a large army in the wake of the establishment of the state, we will abolish partition and expand to the whole of Palestine".



Dutch Imperialist interests in Palestine

"It was a Dutch banker from The Hague, Jacobus Kann, who made possible the purchase of the land on which the first modern districts of Tel Aviv were built, more than 100 years ago. The same Jacobus Kann was the first leader of the Jewish National Fund in the Netherlands, which is still active, 100 years later, raising money in the Netherlands for activities in Israel"

- Dutch King Willem

We demand an academic boycott – and we constantly repeat how Dutch universities are implicit in genocide. But we must look even further than that and focus our attention on the Dutch state and Dutch corporations themselves. Why are the ties between "Israel" and the Netherlands so close? And how do the Dutch state and corporations profit from the existence of "Israel"?

The Netherlands is a prime column upholding the settler state– staying steadfast in its commitment to "Israel" despite relentless demands otherwise. A narrative is often spun that the Netherlands and "Israel" are linked due to their shared commitment to democracy and liberal values -- but we must contest this and name it as the lie it is: a fabrication to cover the Netherlands' economic aims and deep colonial commitments.



For three years, from 2006-2009, the Netherlands was "Israel"'s biggest trading partner in Europe and the third largest in the world. "Israel" is not only made European by its European settlers, but because of its deep investments and connections to the European economy, a connection that is facilitated by the Netherlands. To this day, the Netherlands acts as "Israel"'s access point into Europe, "Israeli" products are regularly exported to the Netherlands to be sold across Europe.

The Port of Rotterdam is the biggest in Europe, and mass amounts of "Israeli" goods are transported through this port everyday. This financial connection is the true motivation for European countries– it is not Holocaust guilt as is often cited (as "Israel" has been named a genocide, so what does "never again" truly mean?), but European nations find reason to continue rhetorical and military support for "Israel" because of the economic interlinkage. Israeli companies also dig themselves into Europe with Dutch hands; many "Israeli" companies have built their headquarters in the Netherlands. A quarter of the Netherlands' investments in cyber security are in "Israeli" companies– cyber security systems that have been fine tuned and invested in because of their surveillance of Palestinians. The very companies that are only "reputable" and "trustworthy" because of their marked contribution to the ethnic cleansing campaign. For genocide to be carried out, the state must know who they will kill and where they are.

Beyond security, Dutch financial institutions, including Abn Amro and Rabo Bank, have invested almost 15 billion euros into companies in Israel. The Netherlands thus has a 15 billion euro investment into making sure that these "Israeli" companies stay afloat; or else their investment won't see profit. The Dutch financial system fights tooth and nail to ensure its money is realized; for this to happen, "Israel" itself must continue to exist, and the Palestinian population must be subjugated and their surplus further extracted.



Many Israeli companies rely on the exploitation of Palestinians, and therefore depend on a system of colonial domination to legitimize their oppression. Why would the Netherlands support the abolishment of an apartheid system if that would mean making the state of their investments unsteady? How could the settler colonial companies they have invested in continue to make profit if the Palestinians take back the land that was stolen from them - the land these corporations operate on? All of these financial connections show the true reason that the Netherlands maintains its justification of genocide- because it's profitable.

We are told that the state serves the people, but we can see that in the capitalist system, the state exists to serve the interest of capital. Even when the people resist and push back, the state continues to follow economic interests.

If we look at the Dutch state itself, we find an economic connection that lays bare Dutch interests in Israel. In May of 2023, a \$305 million deal was made between the Dutch and Israeli ministry of defence- a deal that will last until 2028. A deal in which "Israel"'s Elbeit systems (a corporation that supplies the "Israeli" military with weapons that are used in genocide) will supply both weapons and even training to the Dutch army. We see the death toll rising while the Dutch government is solidifying their bond with Israel.

The economic interconnection between these two countries lay the basis for the political connection. Dutch courts, as an arm of the Dutch state, support Dutch financial interests, and thus legitimize Israel. More than a month ago, in December of 2024, 10 pro-Palestinian NGOs went to court to call for the end of Dutch ties with Israeli settlements and Dutch exportation of weapons to "Israel". However, The Dutch court found "no reason" to enact a ban on military exports from the Netherlands to a settler colony. Even in exceptional cases, when the courts do seem to spell a victory, the Netherlands reestablishes its close allyship with Israel. You may have heard that a Dutch court recently blocked the export of Dutch-made F-35 parts to "Israel" (essential to fighter jets used by the Israeli military). But it is not a simple, clear cut win for the pro-Palestinian movement: the Netherlands continues its efforts to arm the genocide. Once the court decision was cemented, the Dutch government appealed its ruling and began efforts to find alternative routes for exporting their F- 35 parts to "Israel". We see that the power of capital interests prevails- if the safety net of the courts do not uphold the hegemonic Pro- Israeli (and thus Pro-Israeli trade) stance, then the state will fight to defend it. To this day, the Netherlands maintains itself as a committed ally of Israel, with key governmental institutions painting the genocide in a defensive light, with decades of consistent streams of diplomats going back and forth, and with declarations of "unconditional support" by political leaders such as Rutte.

As these economic ties persist, the Netherlands will continue to support the existence of the Israeli apartheid system. As people who live and work and study here, we must fight to cut these ties and fight for Palestinian liberation.



The grass is green and tall

-Marianne

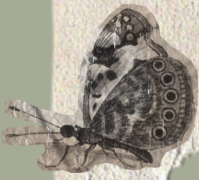
June 9, 2024:

The grass has not been cut in three weeks. A little dog was running around, his legs were covered by the long blades of grass that take me back to watching the movie *A Bug's Life*, a childhood classic and now a twitter meme about the revolution of the working classes. I remember the first time I walked through this park, my parents and I visited the university during summer under the blazing sun sweaty backs. My dad had laid on the ground and taken a nap, my mom and I giggling in embarrassment, as students walked by a sleeping man on the grass. The space is now quite empty, weeds growing near the railing where a Marxist meeting had become a pro-Palestine encampment. One does not need to frequent this patch of grass in order to see that people have avoided the park next to Roeterseiland Campus,, where the May 2024 Palestine solidarity and resistance encampment first took place. Be it the lack of sun or the bulldozers, the goths don't smoke on the grass anymore, and the tall dutch guys don't share a beer. A silence has been cast around the corners of the island. An underwhelming sense of adrenaline and anger beating but residing because the grass still grew, the ties were not cut, and Israel is still murdering Palestinians.

Reclaiming spaces of education and interaction is essential; learning with our bodies, senses and minds, transgressing the boundaries between spaces of education, interaction, and now resistance. As a student here, it's hard not to dwell upon the space the mayor trotted into with a high, snotty face, guarded by massive, armed police who wore so much gear you'd assume they were the ones scared of the angry, yet peaceful protesters. Reclaiming the tiny island as a place where we could learn about Palestine, agreeing and disagreeing on how to cooperate as different activist groups, crying with our friends and shouting until our throats burnt, was a step towards a revolution of some sorts. Creating spaces where we teach each other in order to democratise education and make leftism a community-based fight. Where we practice resistance in the classroom, in public parks, the kitchen and the stories we tell to those that come after us.

Millions of people have been displaced from territories, their land being seized by those who deem themselves superior. When activists say free Palestine, Congo or Sudan, people assume it is freedom only from their oppressors: the IOF, the USA's billion dollar investment into Israel, the mediatic support for the west. Yet freedom is a package and exercise of liberation from global capitalism, funded by slavery, colonialism, and all discriminatory ideologies that dehumanise people. It is breaking away from the capitalist institution of the University of Amsterdam that underpays and overworks its staff in short term and unreliable contracts. It is the small businesses or big chains that hire immigrants without giving them contracts just to pay them below minimum wage.

I could delve into the mechanisms of power that are at play when we talk about Palestine, its children, its adults, its elderly, but I want to emphasise the use of space. The space where 700,000 Palestinians were displaced from their homeland in 1948. The space where more than 35,000 have been murdered in 9 months. Al-Azhar University, University of Palestine, Al-Aqsa University, among many others have been bombed. The chants at the encampment were for all the displaced and murdered students; those that now have to reclaim their space for existence, then education. We stand in solidarity as a silence is cast upon the students in Gaza. Hence, I believe it necessary to reflect on the role we have in freedom and liberation struggles from our role as students privileged to be in a university. I think we should fight alongside each other, not just other students, but alongside teachers and campus workers. The grassy island on our campus is an example of spaces that should be re-appropriated; where education, and not just in the form of academia, is accessible.



ak, close by, c
way.
ey Longville
ed car park (G
with map. "GE
ome of these an
hen ascend th
you meet a sig
ead, half righ
, to (in quic
ootpath and ov
oint; do not cro

otbridge. There
is southern ban

January 9, 2025:

I wrote this piece seven months ago. It is now the 9th of January 2025, and the death toll of Palestinians now stands at 46,000 (a number that many sources view as an underestimate), with over 109,000 others injured.

The goths have returned to their smoking and the dutch to drinking beer; the glass blades in the Roeterseiland campus have been cut and yet we are still here. Fascism is returning to Europe and Israel is continuously more brutal in its occupation. Everywhere there is a reminder of the need for resistance. That patch of grass in May served as a stepping stone for the pro-Palestinian movement among students in Amsterdam, yet everywhere we need to fight. Organise with your local communities, mobilise your classrooms, teachers, friends and family.



The Academic Arm of Oppression: The University of Amsterdam's Ties to the Zionist Entity's Genocide

The Palestinian Campaign for the Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel (PACBI) argues that "(a)cademic institutions are a key part of the ideological and institutional scaffolding of Israel's regime of occupation, colonialism and apartheid against the Palestinian people" and that "(s)ince its founding, the Israeli academy has cast its lot with the hegemonic political-military establishment in Israel, and notwithstanding the efforts of a handful of principled academics, the Israeli academy is profoundly implicated in supporting and perpetuating Israel's systematic denial of Palestinian rights".

The presence of "Israeli" institutions on occupied Palestinian land is nothing random or without aim. Rather, they have been strategically constructed ever since their inception to serve the Zionist entity through their academic disciplines, degree programs, infrastructure and the research they conduct. In this way, they have functioned as an extension of the colonial violence and demographic engineering from their very first day of existence. These universities, both at an academic and material level, are deeply imbricated in sustaining the settler colonial project. By blurring the collaborations of these universities, academic institutions across the world and, in this case, within the Netherlands play a key role in the legitimization of the Zionist entity. Mere calls for reformatory policies, more equality and the like, do nothing more than disregard the Thawabet and prevent the goal of total liberation of the Palestinian people. Instead, what is needed is the complete dismantling of the Zionist entity. The university of Amsterdam maintains two types of ties to institutions of the Zionist entity, memoranda of understanding and collaborations through HORIZON projects.

Memoranda of understanding Hebrew University

In 1918, Hebrew University was established as a comprehensive university and center for the formation of a new collective Jewish-Zionist identity and nation. Founded at the apex of Mt. Scopus, it was also built as a strategic outpost for the Zionist movement to stake symbolic and political claim to Jerusalem. One of the core aims of Hebrew University is to judaize the land.

- Operated a BA program in Middle East Studies for the Shin Bet.
- In 1951 scholars from the Hebrew University helped put forward the national "population dispersal" plan
- During the Nakba, workers of the National Library and Hebrew University appropriated 30,000 Palestinian books
- The university holds the Israeli military Havatzalot program, offered to soldiers in the Intelligence Corps
- In 1968 it expanded its Mount Scopus campus onto land stolen by the Zionist entity during the 1967 Naksa, violating International Law
- The university's official narrative claims that the campus at Givat Ram was built on a "rocky deserted hilltop". However, it was built on the ruins of the Palestinian village of Sheikh Badr, whose residents were forced out of their homes in 1948.

The Institute of Criminology was selected to be the "home department" of the Israeli National Police. It runs an abbreviated BA program in criminology for law enforcement personnel that aims to translate officers' studies into more effective practice "in the field". Criminologists train Shin Bet and police forces. Israeli National Police describes this as the "academization" of the police and understand the program to facilitate pioneers in an international field of "counter-terror policing." They promote their studies as useful to law enforcement and intelligence and security agencies worldwide, proposing the "ten commandments" for best "counterterrorism practices.". These include "field-proven" Israeli strategies and tactics, such as indefinite intelligence gathering from informants and producing a "hostile environment" for insurgents by suspending entire communities in structural uncertainty. Such so-called "counterterrorism" practices deliberately target entire communities. Israeli criminologists

¹ A memorandum of understanding (MOU) is an agreement between two or more parties/institutions. MOUs are not legally binding, but serve to document each collaborator's expectations or intentions.

advocate the export of these tactics, which have been condemned for violating Palestinian human rights, to countries worldwide. Institute faculty serve as experts for international delegations of security agencies—including US police departments—touring Israeli policing apparatuses and infrastructure. In showcasing Israeli models of counter-terror policing, faculty have brought delegates to observe the checkpoints and comprehensive surveillance systems in occupied East Jerusalem. In the context of these trainings and in their publications, institute researchers frame both the policing of occupied Palestinians and the entanglements of the police and the university as a "model for democracies." The occupation of Palestinian Territory has indeed served as a field defining laboratory for Israeli criminologists and legal scholars. Israeli legal studies have continually expanded to provide the theoretical infrastructure to legitimize Israel's permanent military rule, while its researchers and faculty have become facilitators, authors, and executors of widely condemned Israeli policy.

Tel-Aviv University

Tel Aviv University runs joint centers with the Israeli military and Israel's arms industries. The university also hosts the Institute for National Security Studies (INSS), where the Dahiya Doctrine was developed. The Israeli military has adopted this doctrine, which calls for "the destruction of the national infrastructure, and intense suffering among the [civilian] population."

Moreover, the university instituted a propaganda course teaching students how to whitewash Israel's ongoing genocide. It also boasted about having helped "make" Israel's propaganda-ridden case before the International Court of Justice. More recently, the university crowdfunded for "care" packages for IDF soldiers currently committing genocide in Gaza. Tel Aviv University's venture capital firm, TAU Ventures, invests in Xtend, which provides systems to deploy "swarms" of armed drones that have been used in Israel's Gaza genocide.

Horizon projects

Technion Institute of Technology

The Technion Institute of Technology, opened in Haifa in 1925, was established to advance the scientific and technological development of Israel as a Jewish state in historic Palestine. After 1948 it came to anchor the state's scientific-military capabilities.

The University of Amsterdam maintains ties with the Technion Institute of Technology through two Horizon projects, "Inherent inhibitors, explosives and precursor investigation" and "Mobility justice for all: framing safer, healthier and happier streets". Technion has created a university-to-military-industry pipeline, bringing Israeli weapons corporations onto campus and building programming so as to integrate their students into the industry while they are still enrolled. Rafael routinely arrives on campus to solicit students as employees, guiding them in choosing academic concentrations to meet the future needs of the company. Rafael has even tailored positions for Technion students, including transportation between campus and its facilities and offers select students guaranteed tenure at the company. Elbit has granted hundreds of thousands of dollars to fund directed research grants and scholarship programs and also trains students at the advanced laboratory it installed on campus and, through funding, directed that research and supporting instruction in electro-optics and other fields with military industry application.

Furthermore, the Institute has developed the remote-control capabilities for the Caterpillar D-9 bulldozer used by the Zionist entity's military to demolish Palestinian homes - considered collective punishment under international law. This bulldozer plays a key role in the so-called 'pressure cooker procedure' in which "the occupation forces surrounding a house use a megaphone or a loudspeaker to order any persons inside to evacuate immediately. If the persons remain inside the house, the soldiers start shooting at the building first with small arms, continuing with machine guns and rocket-propelled grenades and finally firing tank shells into the house. If the persons survive and still refuse to surrender to the occupation forces, an armored bulldozer or excavator is sent to the scene. The bulldozer initially shakes the house and then starts peeling off the walls of the floor in which the person is located, ultimately destroying the house and burying the victim of the attack beneath it. The "Israeli" army engineering unit has demolished approximately 25,000 Palestinian homes since 1967 according to the Israeli Committee Against Home Demolition. Apart from this, Technion has played a large part in manufacturing technologies specifically aimed at tormenting recalcitrant populations. The so-called 'Scream' is a "non-lethal" acoustic system that "creates sound levels that are unbearable to

² Horizon Europe is the EU's key funding Programme for research and innovation, with an indicative funding amount of around 93.5 billion euros for the period between 2021 and 2027.

humans at distances up to 100 meters". The 'Scream' sonic blaster shoots repeated pulses of sound at targets, leaving them dizzy and nauseous. It can cause shock that could lead to a heart attack and serious, irreversible, hearing damage. This crowd-control weapon is mainly used to suppress unarmed Palestinian demonstrations.

Haifa University

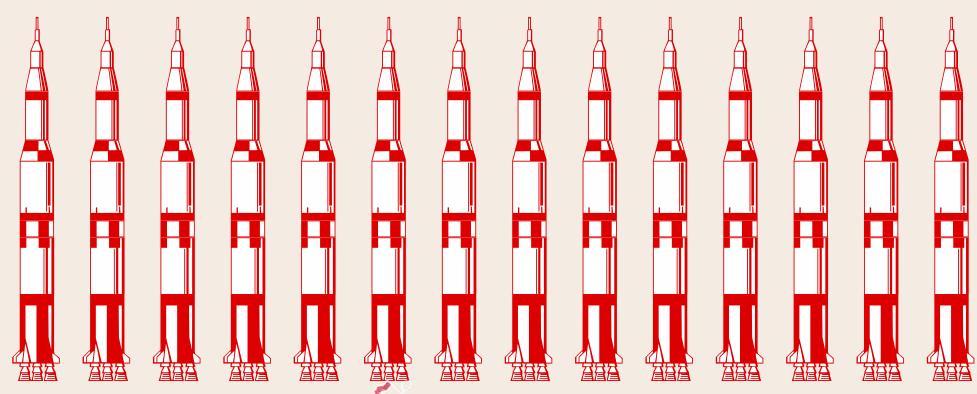
Haifa University is actively involved in research on strategies for ethnic cleansing. It houses the Department for Geo-Strategy, one of whose objectives is to 'solve' "Israel's" 'demographic problem' - a euphemism for 'ethnically cleansing' the Zionist entity of the indigenous Palestinians, who now make up around 20 percent of the population (excluding the West Bank, Gaza and the millions of Palestinian refugees). Its "departments of urban planning and geography have contributed their expertise to assess, improve, and design 'Judaization' policies." (Wind, 72). The scholarly output of its faculty has contributed to policies supporting the Ministry of Defense that "construct scholarly justifications for the expulsion, containment, and discrimination of Palestinian citizens, alongside exclusive and increased investment in Jewish settlements in the Galilee." (ibid., 73)

Bar-Ilan University

Bar-Ilan actively profits from weapons research and development, primarily through its commercialization company—BIRAD—which operates a long-term partnership with Rafael and has facilitated a research collaboration with Elbit's technological incubator. Meetings between the technology team at Elbit and university researchers are intended to expose weapon developers to academic research "on the verge of implementation." This collaboration is critical to Israeli military industries, as Elbit's chief scientist made clear: "These meetings are one of the tools that Elbit uses in order to maintain technological leadership, monitor emerging and breakthrough technologies, and provide feedback to academia on the needs of industry."

Moreover, through its department of archaeology the university is complicit in practices of selective archaeology and erasure. Excavations led by these departments have eliminated and erased Palestinian and Muslim artifacts, compromising scientific standards to advance "Israeli" claims to land. Their faculty and students continue to collaborate with Jewish-Israeli settlers, using archaeological excavations to illegally displace Palestinian communities and legitimize or expand settlements on privately owned Palestinian lands, such as the case of Khirbet al-Mazra'a, an excavation supported by Bar-Ilan University. In further violation of international law, the Staff Officer for Archaeology frequently gives private settler entities authority to manage and develop antiquity sites, such as in Tel Shiloh-Khirbet Seilun and the Biyar Aqueduct, and the Israeli Military Commander of the West Bank often places antiquity sites under the jurisdiction of nearby settlements, such as in Khirbet Alamit. All Israeli universities also conduct excavations in antiquity sites administered by Jewish settler organizations or settler regional councils. The Department of Land of Israel Studies and Archaeology at Bar-Ilan University conducted excavations in the occupied West Bank in Khirbet Jib'it and Khirbet Marajim in 2020. Most recently in 2022, the department embarked on a new dig in Khirbet Tibnah on the lands of Palestinian residents of the villages of Nabi Saleh, Bayt Rima, and Deir Nidam in the Occupied West Bank.

"Israeli" universities are critical nodes in the state's military-industrial complex, sustaining the Zionist entity's apartheid regime and the occupation of Palestinian Territory that serves as its laboratory. By maintaining close ties to "Israeli" institutions, the University of Amsterdam is complicit, on a material and moral level, in sustaining and strengthening the Zionist apparatus that produces "expertise", journals and research that enables the exportation of surveillance, repression and "anti-terror" policies and practices abroad. It is also directly complicit in sustaining and legitimizing the settler colonial violence we are seeing perpetrated today.



COPS OFF CAMPUS

OSKAR ZACH

AFTER THE HORRIBLE POLICE VIOLENCE OF LAST YEAR AND THE CONTINUOUS POLICE PRESENCE ON CAMPUS, WE HAVE SEEN ONCE AGAIN THE IMPORTANCE OF A POLICE-FREE UNIVERSITY!

I WANT TO GIVE A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF WHY POLICE SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED ENTRANCE TO OUR CAMPUSES AND HOW COPS ENDANGER DEMOCRACY AND ACADEMIC FREEDOM.

THE FRIENDLY COP AROUND THE CORNER TELLS YOU TO NOT CROSS THE RED TRAFFIC LIGHT. THEY SMILE, MAKE JOKES, AND EVEN LET YOU GET AWAY WITHOUT A FINE. ONE MIGHT EVEN FEEL SYMPATHY FOR THIS POLICE OFFICER AND THINK THEY ARE JUST A WORKER DOING THEIR JOB. BUT ONCE YOU HAVE SEEN THE REAL FACE OF THE POLICE, YOU REALIZE WHO AND WHAT THEY ACTUALLY ARE. THE JOB OF THE POLICE IS NOT TO PROTECT THE INDIVIDUAL. THE POLICE IS A REACTIONARY FORCE OF THE STATE PROTECTING THE INTERESTS OF CAPITAL. THIS BECOMES ABUNDANTLY CLEAR WHEN COPS ARE BREAKING UP WORKERS' PROTESTS AND STRIKES LIKE THEY HAVE DONE FREQUENTLY AT OUR UNIVERSITIES, WHEN THEY RACIALLY PROFILE TO REPRESS AND CRIMINALIZE PEOPLE OF COLOR, OR WHEN THEY TARGET MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES. THE POLICE ARE NO FRIENDLY HELPER, NOR A PROLETARIAN, BUT THEY ARE THE FRONTLINE PROTECTING CAPITAL AND ATTACKING THE PROLETARIAT.

WHY DO WE DEMAND COPS OFF CAMPUS?

AT THE GENERAL POSITION ON POLICE IS CLEAR, WE DO NOT SEE THEM AS ALLIES BUT AS THE ENEMY, BUT WE ESPECIALLY ADVOCATE FOR EDUCATION SPACES TO BE POLICE-FREE. FIRST OF ALL, WE MUST HAVE A RIGHT TO PROTEST ON OUR CAMPUSES. POLICE PRESENCE ONLY THREATENS THIS RIGHT. VIOLENCE AND BRUTALITY ARE BROUGHT TO THE CAMPUS BY THE POLICE AND IT IS OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE THAT WE, AS STUDENTS AND STAFF, FEEL SAFE AT OUR UNIVERSITY. HOW CAN A UNIVERSITY, A SPACE OF KNOWLEDGE AND EXCHANGE, BE INDEPENDENT AND FREE IF THE POLICE ARE ALLOWED TO BEAT UP AND HURT STUDENTS AND STAFF? ACADEMIC FREEDOM IS UNDER DIRECT ATTACK WHEN THE POLICE ARE ALLOWED IN THESE SPACES AND TO GAIN LIBERATION THEY MUST RETREAT FROM THIS SPACE.

SECONDLY, IF WE WANT A UNIVERSITY THAT IS ANTI-RACIST, ANTI-SEXIST AND AGAINST ALL OPPRESSION, THE POLICE MUST BE PROHIBITED ON CAMPUS. WE KNOW THAT THE POLICE ARE THE ENACTING BODY OF THE IMPERIALIST SYSTEMS' RACISM. THEY'RE THERE TO PROTECT THE CAPITAL, NOT THE PEOPLE. ONLY IF THE PEOPLE ARE ON THE SIDE OF THE CAPITAL, WILL THE POLICE PROTECT THEM. IF NOT, THEY WILL BE REPRESSED. THIS IS WHY FASCISTS GET PROTECTION AND WHY MOST PEOPLE ARE NOT PROTECTED.

CAPITALISM NECESSITATES A CONSTRUCTED RACIAL HIERARCHY, AS IT LEGITIMIZES THE EXPLOITATION THAT CAPITALISM RELIES ON. THIS IS WHY ALL OF US WHO ARE NOT WHITE AND NOT EUROPEAN ARE THE MOST TARGETED BY POLICE REPRESSION. IF WE OPPOSE THIS OPPRESSION, WE MUST OPPOSE THE POLICE PRESENCE ON CAMPUS.

LASTLY, IF WE WANT A UNIVERSITY WHERE WE FEEL SAFE, THE POLICE MUST BE PROHIBITED ON CAMPUS. THERE HAVE NEVER BEEN AS MANY INJURED STUDENTS AND STAFF AS AFTER THE POLICE ENTERED CAMPUS. THERE HAVE NEVER BEEN AS MANY PEOPLE TRAUMATIZED AND THREATENED AS AFTER THE POLICE ENTERED CAMPUS. THERE HAS NEVER BEEN AS MUCH PERSECUTION AND PROSECUTION AS AFTER THE POLICE ENTERED THE CAMPUS. WE CAN ONLY HAVE SAFETY ON CAMPUS IF POLICE ARE NOT ALLOWED ON.

IN MANY COUNTRIES, BY LAW, THE POLICE ARE NOT ALLOWED INTO EDUCATIONAL SPACES, INTO UNIVERSITIES AND HIGH SCHOOLS. WHY NOT HERE?

FOR THE SAKE OF SAFETY AND FREEDOM, THE UNIVERSITY MUST BE A PLACE TO WHICH THE POLICE HAVE NO ACCESS!

THEREFORE WE DEMAND STEADFAST; COPS OFF CAMPUS!

THE OUDEMANHUISPOORT ENCAMPMENT IN PICTURES

May 2024

By Sim















Ahed Tamimi - Freedom fighter and beacon of resistance against colonialism

The Palestinian people have a rich history of resistance against their occupiers, one such resistance fighter among the thousands who have come before and will come after is Ahed Tamimi. She was born on the 31st of January 2001 in a small Palestinian village northwest of Ramallah. Ahed is only 23 years old, yet, despite her youth, all she has known is the persecution, dehumanization, and intimidation. Such is the life Palestinians who endure the relentless efforts of the ethno-nationalist colonial state of Israel's to ethnically cleanse them from their ancestral homeland. In addition to the daily checkpoints, lack of economic opportunity, inaccessible education, attempts of forced displacement to make place for settler colonialists and continued marginalization of her community,



Ahed's family has endured a long history of violence and persecution by Israel, Ahed's uncle, Rushdie Tamimi was shot in the back by IOF live fire during 2012 protests in Ahed's hometown of Nabi Salih. In the protests which followed the murder of her uncle, Ahed, who was 11 at the time, rose to prominence when she was pictured raising her fist to an IOF soldier in a show of desperate rebellion following the arrest of her brother by IOF forces.

The village of Nabi Salih has been subject to ethnic cleansing, as the Israeli government has been attempting to forcibly displace the Palestinian locals from their homes to make space for settler-colonialists. This has been done through Israeli mandated house demolitions as well as by building a settlement near the Qaws spring and monopolizing its water for the settlers. The spring is located on Nabi Salih land and has been used by Palestinian farmers to irrigate their lands for generations. It was occupied by Israeli forces in 2009, when settlers began to build on the spring site, and the IOF has since prohibited Palestinians from accessing the spring. In response, the people of Nabi Salih have been organizing weekly peaceful protests against the occupation of their land. Every Friday, residents and solidarity activists gather in the village centre and march towards the spring. The protests, which began in December 2009, have been met repeatedly with unnecessary and excessive force by the Israeli army, who are using weapons such as stun grenades, pepper spray, batons, and guns, which only goes to show that peaceful protest against a violent occupier will nonetheless result in violent crackdowns against the indigenous population.



These protests have come at a great cost to Ahed's family. By 2012, their house had already been ransacked and raided numerous times, Ahed's Father, Bassem had been arrested upwards of 11 times, her mother twice, one of her brothers shot in the shoulder by a tear-gas cannister and the other has been hospitalized after being shot in the leg by a rubber bullet. While in Israeli detention, Ahed's father, who has been named as a prisoner of conscience by Amnesty International, recounts being 'paralyzed as a result of torture by [Israeli] investigators.' Despite the violence Ahed's family have been subjected to, the protests have managed to keep the IOF from destroying the village. The family's house that was slated to be destroyed by Israel in 2010 is still standing today. Her resistance against the occupying force continued, and in 2015, in another act of resistance, a 15-year-old Ahed was captured on video slapping and biting an armed IOF soldier, in a desperate attempt to save her 11-year-old brother from the grips of an Israeli soldier.

The video, which went viral, became of symbol of Palestinian resistance. Israel's unlawful and inhumane detainment and imprisonment of Palestinian children is a common practice of IOF forces, until 2023, at least 500-700 Palestinian children are detained by the Israeli military every year, many of whom without charge. The number has certainly drastically increased since. In 2017, Ahed and her family were once again on the frontlines of resistance against the colonizers of her homeland and murderers of her uncle. Her 15-year-old cousin, Mohammad Tamini, was shot in the face with a rubber bullet by IOF soldiers during one of the weekly protests against the occupation. This protest, which was larger than usual, followed Donald Trump's decision to move the US embassy from Tel-Aviv to Jerusalem. Her cousin had to be put in a medically induced coma and had



to have a part of his skull surgically removed in order for him to survive the IOF's act of violence. Once he emerged from his coma, the IOF arrested the Palestinian child, a legal practice under Israeli military law, claiming he fractured his skull and gruesomely disfigured his face by falling off his bike. Hours after Ahd's cousin was shot, IOF soldiers came to her house, and in another act of resistance, Ahd and another of her cousin are slap and fight the unwelcome soldiers until they left her family's home. Following this, IOF soldiers again raided her family's home and arrested Ahd. Once in detention, her mother came to visit her detained 17-year-old daughter and was arrested as well. Ahd was sentenced to 8-months in prison in one of Israel's military courts, which have a 99 percent

conviction rate. Palestinians are subject to military courts, which are separate from the civilian courts that Israeli citizens are subject to. Separate legal systems are used to enforce and maintain the segregation and unequal treatment of different racial or ethnic groups and are a tale-tale sign of apartheid. Examples include South Africa, in which special tribunals and military courts were used to harshly punish those resisting

apartheid and in Nazi Germany, where separate legal mechanisms were established to deal with 'undesirables', which included Jewish people, Romani people and political dissidents. When in prison, Ahd was interrogated by the IOF three times, all without a female officer present, which is against Israel's own laws. In the interrogation, male officers threatened to arrest her friends and family and used racist degrading remarks against Ahd. Avigdor Lieberman, Israel's former defense minister, finance minister and deputy prime minister remarked that he hoped Ahd and her mother 'would end their own lives in jail'.

Ahd was released in 2018 and continued her resistance against Israel as a freedom fighter. She was once again arrested in November 2023, as her family's house was once again raided and searched. Ahd was arrested with no credible evidence beyond her social media activism. During her three-week imprisonment - with no charges - Ahd was beaten on at least

one occasion before being released as part of an agreement with Hamas to release hostages from Gaza. By February 2024, upwards of 3500 Palestinians were in Israeli prisons without charge or trial, many of whom are scholars, human rights activists, and journalists, and by June 2024 at least an additional 9400 were imprisoned by Israeli's military courts, which themselves are a tool of apartheid, per Amnesty International.

These figures have certainly increased since, and the conditions under which these prisoners are held are not only horrifying, but worsening. Israel's 'systematic treatment' of Palestinian detainees and prisoners include degrading living conditions, denial of medical treatment, starvation, torture, and sexual violence. Despite the risk of being murdered or incarcerated in Israel's horrifying prisons, when Ahd, and other Palestinians living under Israeli occupation continue to resist, they are defiantly perusing the dream of a liberated Palestine, liberated from Israel's systematic brutalization of their people.



R.U.N. Interview Series: Understanding the left in Turkey and beyond

Dear R.U.N. reader and fellow comrade,

What you are about to read is the beginning of a short series of interviews that aims to understand different aspects of the "Turkish" left, which is multi-ethnic and active not only within the UN recognized Turkish borders, but also in the disputed regions of Kurdistan and internationally. I hope that this can serve as inspiration as well as a learning opportunity, where you can draw lessons from the mistakes and achievements of the organisations rooted in this region's rich revolutionary history. I invite the reader to critically analyse the following interviews with a curious and open mind, and always in comradely spirit. I hope you can disagree, agree, and better than all, be unsure. May this uncertainty propel you to research further, and to investigate our own conditions in the Netherlands and perhaps in your home country.

Future interviews from this series will include other legal parties from Marxist traditions, as well as mass organisations and organisations not necessarily accepted by the Turkish state, which will be published when I am no longer under Turkish jurisdiction.

I want to make it clear that I have no intentions of bringing my personal critical perspective on any of the subjects here stated. Simply, I wish to describe what I've been told. I'm extremely grateful to the kindness and openness of TİP youth members who were willing to lend us their time and to allow us to ask, at times, very incisive questions about their organisation. The interview was much longer and encompassed a far greater variety of topics, which due to its length, I regrettably had to redact.

Our first interview was with two youth members of TİP, the Workers' Party of Turkey, and it was conducted by me together with our comrade Oskar and our anonymous friend.

.....

The first TİP, was founded in the 1960's, but it was disbanded due to state repression. This TİP is a new socialist party following a Marxist-Leninist line and came out of a split with the Workers Party (TKP), being officially founded in 2017. The interviewees stated that TİP holds the work of Metin Çulhaoğlu as their theoretical compass. However, they point out the necessity to continuously analyse Turkey's conditions and act accordingly.

According to our interviewees, Vehbi and Burak, the 2013 Gezi protests were a turning point for what would become TİP. The protests, which were started by university students but quickly became a mass movement, were an important marker after years of decreased political activity, as people came together to struggle against plans to destroy the Gezi Park. After students faced a violent response from the state, the people of Istanbul, appalled by the crackdown, joined the students in a wider movement protesting Turkish authorities more broadly.

As present leftist parties were unable to organise workers, the protests lacked leadership, leading to its further demise. Such events led the founders of TİP, who were actively involved in the protests, to conclude that it was needed to start a mass socialist party.

When asked about their approach to socio-political change and indeed, revolution, they said they believe in the necessity of building a mass party, made by the workers, that can lead the working class towards the revolutionary horizon. They believe the party needs to be made public, with as many members possible and, within the party, members can be taught the Marxist-Leninist method. The party should be present in all aspects of life, in every worker's struggle, within labour unions and social justice movements.

They emphasised, "join all struggle against the bourgeoisie." They said, as the party is built by the working class, it should strive to be in the leadership of all such struggles, and in that way guarantee that workers are organised and taking the lead.

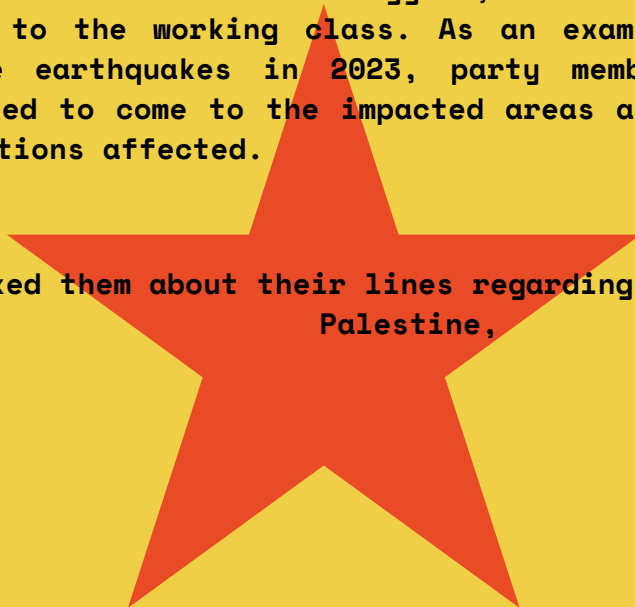
When asked about what they think about clandestine organising, they said they believe in the agitating and propaganda potential of being public and participating in bourgeois elections, but that elections are not the main focus, and it would be a deviation to have it be so. Their focus is in achieving victories within the unions and social movements. They remarked, "if you protest something you need to achieve it." However, they see bourgeois politics as an important place to build party legitimacy and authority among the public. TIP is currently the biggest socialist party in parliament, gathering an impressive 2% of votes country wide. They say they "get elected and use that energy in the unions," as that has proved to empower workers and bring legitimacy to their struggles. TIP brings the workers' struggles from their base work up to national political discourse, which simultaneously results in the strengthening of the same struggles on the ground.

The interviewees told us how one of their members, Can Atalay, who had been imprisoned during the Gezi protests, got elected to parliament and therefore should have been relieved from prison under parliamentary immunity. However, the state refused to grant him immunity and despite having won democratically, he could not take his seat. According to V & B, this was of great political importance, as it exposed the lack of democracy in Turkey and left millions of voters enraged about Turkey's authoritarianism, propelling them to become more politically engaged in search of a more just system.

We asked them what they think about groups currently waging armed struggle in Turkey, and they said that in their analysis Turkey does have the appropriate conditions for such form of struggle. They stressed "we are not armed militants" but they also "don't reject any kind of leftist organisation", and as party line, also do not criticise them. In tandem with the question of clandestine work, they acknowledged that circumstances might always change, resulting in a different analysis.

We then asked V & B what their approach to building trust with the masses is. In addition to what has already been said above, they answered: "whoever fights in the frontlines is the leader of the proletariat"; the party should be a place where workers can come to share their struggles, and the party should provide visible material support to the working class. As an example, they told us that in the aftermath of the earthquakes in 2023, party members, including those studying abroad, were called to come to the impacted areas and provide material support and aid to the populations affected.

Finally, we asked them about their lines regarding the Kurdish question and Palestine,



Regarding the Kurdish struggle, they said that Kurds need to have equal rights as Turks, they need to have access to education in Kurdish language and to be represented in parliament - currently, several Kurdish elected mayors were taken down from their positions and replaced by government trustees instead. TIP holds that Kurds need to have the right to self-determination, to choose their own destiny and to have peace in the region.

Regarding Palestine, the party remembers Turkish revolutionaries such as Deniz Gezmiş, who received guerrilla training in Palestine and established deep solidarity bonds. They advocate for a free Palestine, from the river to the sea, they defend all resistance in Palestine - emphasis in critical support - and enjoy close connections with the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. They emphasize that Erdoğan's government supports Palestine only in word and as a Muslim cause, and it is our duty to expose their government's hypocrisy as it continues trade deals fuelling the genocide. They remark the importance of material support, which can be provided via events like the one we met at, an event with a PFLP speaker in which all donations were sent to Al-Awda hospital in Gaza. V & B also mentioned the need to support direct action disrupting trade with the Zionist entity and to continue to raise awareness about the Palestinian cause as a human cause.

GERMANY, THE LEFT AND PALESTINE

I find it difficult to write about Palestine. What can I say to change someone's mind when they're not convinced by mountains of corpses? It feels like an issue on which the sides are drawn, and minds are made. Being on the side of carpet bombs and collective punishment ought to condemn you to being on the wrong side of history. However, reactionary worldviews are in fundamental tension with



reality. They strain and push until reality can no longer contain them. If anything, the left in Germany has undergone a fundamental shift in the last year regarding the question of Palestine. I'll try to lay out those changes and show the main positions those on the left in Germany take regarding Palestinian liberation.

Left wing zionism

The sad truth is that among self-proclaimed leftists left-wing Zionism, so-called "Linksantideutsche", have made up most of the vaguely progressive movements over the last two decades. Specifically anti-fascist groups were dominated by this worldview. The biggest change in the left over the last year has been the downfall of this ideology. Zionism has been appropriately identified as a right-wing movement, and Israel has simply become undefendable from anything but a deeply nationalist perspective.

Their ideology's remnants can be boiled down to the slogan: "Killing Jews is not Resistance". On the one hand this shows a verbal commitment to resistance as a good thing. On the other hand, this phrase is a particularly nasty type of philo-semitism, which presents Jewish people as essential, eternal victims regardless of their actions or ideologies. It pretends that oppression isn't something Jewish people experience, but that being oppressed is something inherent to their being, and they are unable to become oppressors. It is a form of essentializing racism. The other core ideological component of this worldview is the idea of "Islamofascism", an ahistorical concept that seeks to equate particularly regressive forms of political Islam with fascism. This to them justifies working together with bourgeois imperialist forces to fight fascism. The basis of this view is a fundamentally misguided bourgeois analysis which equates fascism with restorative authoritarianism. Fascism is a particular political-economic system that has, at its basis, an advanced capitalist economy: imperialism. Political Islam has taken more and less regressive forms but is almost entirely a product and a reaction to imperialism itself. To identify this resistance as fascist but embrace the Ethno-state run by jingoistic criminals is one of the core ironies of this movement. The decline of this movement, despite being accelerated by the genocide in Gaza, didn't start in 2023. Most prominent former left-wing Zionists have long abandoned their "socialist" allegiances and have fully embraced NATO imperialism against the hordes of "barbarism". Newspapers like "Bahamas" and "Jungle World" have fully converted to

¹ A political movement that seeks to reestablish past social relations by non-democratic means.

² Aggressively nationalist foreign policy.

right-wing conservatism. The remnants of true left-wing Zionism can only be found in so-called autonomous anti-nationalist groups such as GROW and groups around the autonomous Centre in Leipzig. The socialist Party "Die Linke", the successor party to the former ruling party of East Germany, is both in its base and its leadership deeply Zionist, with internal conflict around this question being a source of division.

Both-Side-ism

Both-side-ism insists on a neutral or rather equidistant position on the genocide and occupation of Palestinians. This is the ideological tendency I'd argue is currently most prevalent amongst genuine progressives in Germany, a very small chunk of those who claim to be progressive. It is a form of liberalism masquerading as nuance, expressed by the use of the word conflict when referring to Israel and Palestine. A "conflict" between a nuclear-armed outpost of imperialism that is responsible for the vast majority of the death and destruction and a group of people who are not even allowed to have a state. They insist that killing is bad in the abstract and thus supporting any party in a war is wrong. Of course, the fact that sometimes violence is defensive and necessary to end violence is completely ignored. More than that, it takes the everyday violence and suffering of Palestinians even under conditions of "peace" as a given, something that doesn't count as violence. It is a classic form of revisionism that pretends that history started in October last year and that violence is the same no matter how much of it there is and who is doing it.

This position might call itself pacifist or humanitarian, but its consequences are anything but. Our enemy isn't war or violence in the abstract but imperialism, a political-economic system and geopolitical alliance.

The vast majority of liberals and socialists in Germany hold this view. I would argue that even fellow communists, such as the bigger Trotskyist groups, "Revolutionäre Kommunistische Partei" (formerly "FUNKE" and part of the IMT), and "Gruppe ArbeiterInnenMacht", can be counted amongst this group. Their insistence on the value and necessity to unite the Israeli and Palestinian proletariat is just another form of both-side-ism, as it reframes the issue as a conflict between two ruling classes rather than a struggle for nationhood and against imperialism. Other communist parties also hold similar views and insist on a two-state solution. While there is nothing inherently wrong with wanting to grant Jewish people nationhood in the abstract, the two-state solution demanded by, for example, the "Deutsche Kommunistische Partei", the largest communist organization in Germany, is not only politically utopian but pretends that this genocide can reasonably be settled by diplomatic means and not solely by the victory of the Palestinian resistance.

Anti-Imperialism

Obviously, there are many ways of interpreting this term and I am not going to advance a particular anti-imperialist stance on Palestine. However, there are groups in Germany that have a principled anti-imperialist stance, and I would like to highlight some of them. In general, the communist, anti-imperialist left has gained a lot of ground, followers and legitimacy through their consistently anti-imperialist stance on Palestinian liberation. This became especially evident in January 2024 when the yearly Lenin-Luxemburg-Liebkecht demonstration attended primarily by the anti-imperialist left in Berlin was bigger and more militant than it had been for at least a decade. Specifically, groups such as the "Kommunistische Organisation" and the newly formed "Communist Party" have placed a large focus on Palestine solidarity, as well as organisations associated with the Turkish left, such as "Young Struggle" and "ATIK". Importantly, all these forces have emphasized two aspects that others neglect or purposefully deny: the importance and legitimacy of Palestinian armed resistance and the necessity for class struggle as the European left's primary way of supporting any struggle abroad. To transform the reactionary war abroad into the revolutionary war at home is still the correct strategy for anti-imperialists everywhere, even in Germany.

Reaction and Repression in the Imperial Core

Oskar Zach

Simultaneous to the intensification of imperialist contradictions, we also witness the strengthening of reactionary and repressive forces in the imperial core; very vividly also here in the Netherlands. In the last year the social cuts in health care and education have increased dramatically. The political right gains significant and threatening strength. Islamophobia and racism increase and are widely spread. The repression of progressive forces, and especially the persecution of Palestinian resistance, in the Netherlands are endangering our democracy. Free speech and the right to protest are more and more restricted, and censorship makes it difficult to organize. These are only glimpses of the reaction and repression in the Netherlands, however, they are no coincidence. It is our task to lay bare the connections between imperialism abroad and the reaction and repression in the imperial core.

• Social Cuts and Military Spending

Over the last few years we can hear the war drums and saber rattling again. The discussion of mandatory subscription has surfaced again and the state is preparing for war. The "defence" budget of the Netherlands rose by 2,6 Billion this year and will rise even more. However, this money does not come from nowhere. Thus, the budget for higher education was cut by one Billion Euros and the national health care support reduced drastically. New tanks, drones and fighter jets are on the shopping list of the Dutch government, while hospital beds, schools and medical equipment have been taken off. Young people suffer from these reactionary policies, as they are often dependent on state support during their education. The intensification of the imperialist contradictions and the war mongering of the West are at the expense of the youth and workers world wide.

• Racism and Nationalism

As a consequence, we witness a rise of racism and nationalism as the bourgeoisie tries to justify its actions to the population. Outright racist comments from politicians like Geert Wilders are only the tip of the iceberg. Claims to protect "our" values and "our democracy" have entered popular discourse and aim to create an "us" against "them". Both nationalism and racism serve the ruling class to create a pseudo-unity on the basis of race or nation. On the one hand, to hide the true contradictions of class societies, which is to weaken class struggle, and on the other, to justify the persecution of "them". We can see this by the criminalization of certain sections of the population based on their appearance. But also by the closing of borders and a fostering of national pride within an explicitly white national identity. Racism and nationalism are only tools of the bourgeoisie to justify and legitimize their imperialist ambitions- as young people and workers we must fight against them.



- **Repression and decreasing democratic rights**

Connected to the rise of racism and Islamophobia is the increase of repression. Not only are Palestinian protests delegitimized in the media or outright forbidden, but they are violently repressed by batons and bulldozers. For us as students this became very vivid in the forceful destruction of our encampments. The reactions to the various national pro-Palestinian demonstrations and the protest against the Israeli hooligans in November further showcased the repressive intentions of the bourgeois class towards anti-imperialist resistance. The decrease of democratic rights goes hand in hand with the repression. We experience censorship in shadow banning, prohibitions of slogans and symbols, and the arbitrary criminalization of organizations like Samidoun. At the University of Amsterdam it is today not allowed to distribute flyers or to express yourself politically, religiously or culturally. These house rules of the UvA are only a taste of the restrictions to democratic rights yet to come. They explicitly target us students, young workers and migrants to repress our voices and our demands for education, work and liberation!

- **Work and Climate Change**

The repression of the pro-Palestinian movement continues to be a key focus of the ruling institutions; meanwhile, inflation has risen and real wages have grown stagnant. We stand on the brink of a climate crisis. The average worker spends 40% of their income only to have a roof over their head. Climate disasters like floods and drought destroy more and more livelihoods. The destruction of the land in Palestine by the Zionist entity is an environmental crisis which will affect generations of Palestinians to come. Imperialist wars advance the climate crisis with their pollution, and warmongers don't care about the future. For the sake of the nation, for the imperialist redivision of the world, and the centralization of capital, workers are exploited. And at the same time, corporations like Siemens - actively participating in the occupation of Palestine - make never seen before profits and pocket billion after billion.

All of these struggles are connected to Imperialism. They are the consequence of capitalism. The social cuts, the racism and nationalism and the repression are the reactionary developments of it, also here in the imperial core.

Imperialism is the subjugation of peoples and workers. The inevitable destruction of capitalism. On the one hand, because its wars, genocides, and horrors destroy human life. On the other hand, because it is the last stage of capitalism before its own decay. Let us thus create the conditions to accelerate its decay, let us advance the struggle of the world proletariat and fight imperialism in unity on every front.

Checkpoints

Palestinian daily routine is interrupted by checks- by purposeful obstacles placed as an expression of the occupier's imposition. It is a system representing the constant intrusion inflicted on the land they occupy. As a result of the six-day war in 1967, israel (with the help of tanks and aircrafts sold by the Johnson presidency and some previously bought from France and the UK) occupied the Sinai Peninsula, the Gaza Strip, the West Bank, East Jerusalem, and the Golan Heights. Parts of israel's population were transferred into the occupied Palestinian territories (the West Bank and Gaza Strip) into illegal settlements. These occupied territories were simultaneously proclaimed closed military zones,

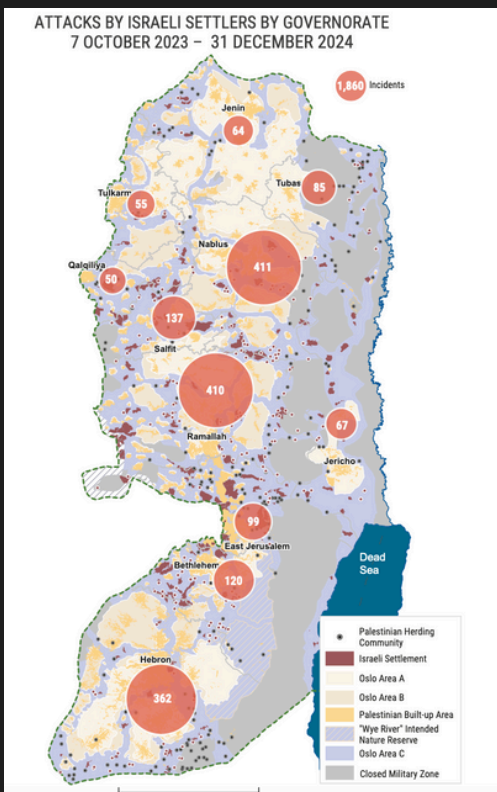
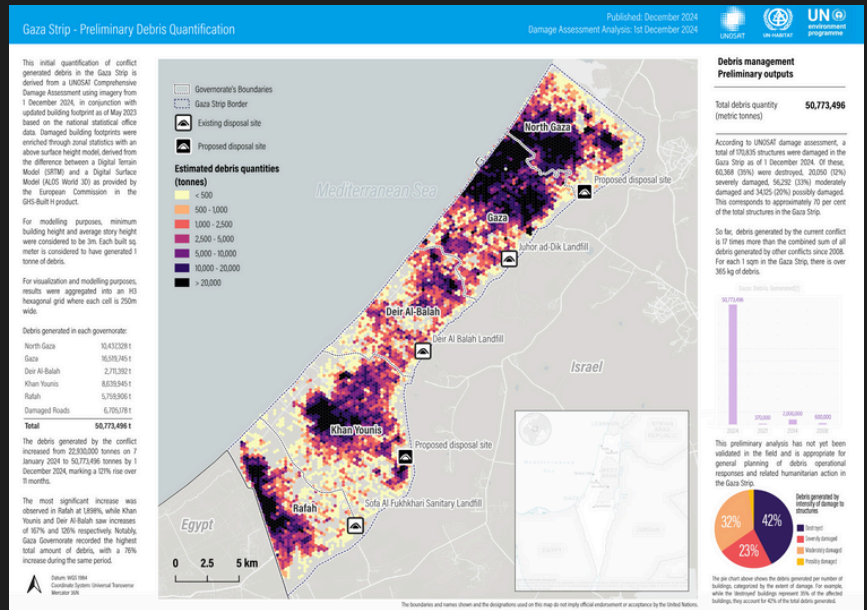
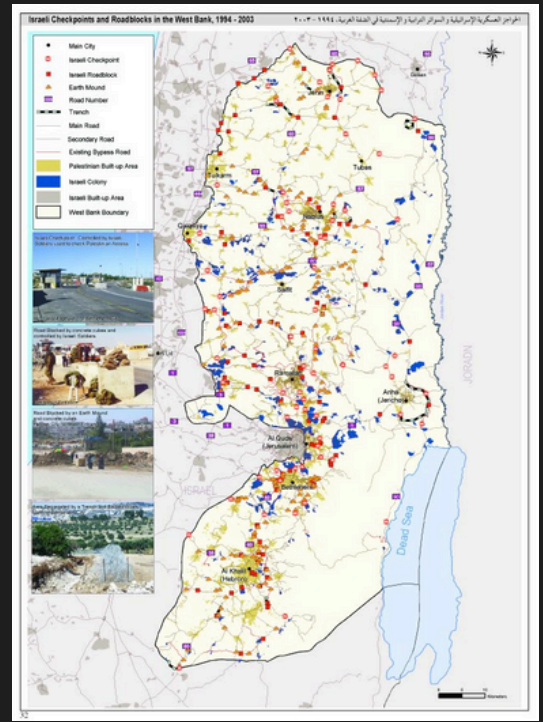
Closed military zones entail full control by the israeli military: deciding who can enter and leave, as well as possessing full control of land and water. Restrictions on movement have been imposed as a facet of the military occupation - checkpoints manned by military or border police have been installed to "protect" the illegal israeli settlements in occupied territories. Not only does their presence on Palestinian land entail abuse in daily life of thousands during the moment of crossing, they demonstrate the broader picture of settler colonialism with their forceful imposition and surveillance methods. Freedom of movement is a fundamental right to one's body and one's control over it. The arrival of checkpoints is accompanied by the degradation of this right; it persecutes people in their own home and separates land and people-useful for segregational military practices.

For some time following the year of 1972, restrictions on movement slightly changed as israel enacted an "open door policy", where Palestinian residents were allowed entry across israel and between the West Bank and the Gaza strip (except between 1 and 5 am). After the first Intifada in 1987, the general entry and exit rules were retracted, and permits became a requirement. In 1993, the full closure of the occupied territories was enacted. Following the second Intifada in 2000, the restrictions worsened, and the "iron wall" was built along Gaza's lines, containing multitudes of surveillance equipment.

Obstacles such as permits are complex as they vary and their bureaucracy is ridiculous. Physical obstacles such as earth mounds, trenches, roadblocks, road barriers, gates are also significant; which, combined with staffed checkpoints, allow the israeli army to separate the West Bank into territorial segments. Testimonies from checkpoints report appalling conditions, overcrowding, humiliation and harassment, and they showcase an increasingly permanent system of control; communities are isolated, with restricted access to natural resources and culturally or affectionately significant places.

As seen in other settler colonies, segregation serves a purpose - to repel native people from their land. Resources such as water are drained, soil damaged, public infrastructures that are necessary for life, including hospitals and schools, are undermined and targeted by occupational practices such as scrutiny, blockades and destruction. The creation and the existence of borders forming a demarcated piece of land with israeli sovereignty are part of a broader western colonial practice. International organizations have equally played a role in this creation- with the 1947 UN Partition Plan, the organization allowed for the separation of Palestinian land to be enacted when the british mandate was to end, in May of 1948. Borders are inherently tied to the formation of nation states and accumulation of capital; and Palestine finds itself in the center of an imperial project, in order to protect Western interest in the region and constrain Arab liberation movements.

As death tolls rise, the EU and the US deliver arms, creditors give out loans, and many other bilateral cooperation agreements are made with Israel. Borders are a crucial point in colonial contexts, as they are the example of a world structure created for capitalist purposes and exploitation. Since the intensification of the genocide, Israel has been worsening movement restrictions on Palestinian land. Palestinians are prohibited to exit while under attacks by the Israeli army. Forcible displacement became a tool of eradication. Lies accompany orders and more death ensues. Checkpoints are a facade of the continuing annihilation Israel inflicts onto Palestinian people and land. This restriction of movement is purposeful, it is a recognizable aspect of the settler colonial project. It is not the place of this text to describe what liberation would look like or entail, yet the aggressive reality of Palestinian movement being restricted and bound to the expansion and existence of Israel cannot continue; the need for connection to land and self-determination is unquestionable as opposed to the constant uprooting and decimation. Border abolitionism fights are connected to Palestinian resistance, as it is a fight against open-air prisons and hegemonic impositions of nationalistic delineations.



Political Prisoners and the Palestinian Liberation Struggle

Guest Article by



The Student Intifada

Any discussion about Palestine, particularly for a publication like the ROSA Magazine, must begin with a salute to all students and ROSA members for their steadfast dedication - their blood, sweat, and tears - in the Palestinian liberation struggle. Especially since the outbreak of the International Student Intifada in May 2024, students have been at the forefront of the resistance against Zionist genocide and its accomplices, including institutions like the Dutch state, the University of Amsterdam, and the Vrije Universiteit. The students stand as crucial part of a global liberation movement spearheaded by the Palestinian people and their resistance. A movement that is making

The Student Intifada underscores the historic vanguard role of students and youth in liberation struggles, particularly in Palestine. In Gaza, the majority of the population - and by extension the resistance - are students and youth. Historically, Palestinian youth have been the pioneers of resistance - as seen during great revolts in 1936, 1948, 1967, the First Intifada in 1987, and the Second Intifada in 2000. They have consistently pushed beyond the constraints of conservative, traditional leadership, demonstrating a revolutionary vision for liberation.

The Student Intifada and the mobilizations since October 7, 2023, represent a pillar of the new international Palestinian movement. Contrary to claims that the movement is slowing down, the reality is one of daily protests, events, and direct actions for Palestine. This is a stark contrast to a decade ago when mobilizations for Palestine were sporadic and smaller. Since the launch of Al-Aqsa Flood, new organizations like the United Front for Palestine in



Amsterdam have emerged, tens of thousands have taken to the streets, and even in the smallest Dutch towns Palestine solidarity groups have formed.

The Palestinian diaspora has played a crucial role in this resurgence, also within the student movement. Over the past decade, the diaspora in the Netherlands and Europe has grown significantly due to the war on Syria, the economic crises in Lebanon, and the repeated Israeli assaults on Gaza - all of which the Netherlands and European Union participated in heavily. Despite varying living conditions - some documented, others not - the diaspora has united in its struggle to liberate Palestine from Zionist colonialism. Positioned in Europe, the birthplace of Zionism, the diaspora's role in the liberation struggle will grow as it gains more and more experience, just like the broader international movement.



Repression and Resistance

The Student Intifada has faced severe repression, reflecting the broader crackdown on resistance movements. In the Netherlands, state repression has escalated under its most right-wing government in history. The Student Intifada was met with brutal police violence and mass arrests. Dozens have been imprisoned, some for days or weeks, others for months. Protesters have suffered serious injuries including broken bones and fractures.

Meanwhile, students and youth in Palestine endure even greater brutality. In the West Bank, hundreds of student leaders and activists are imprisoned and subjected to severe torture. Many are held under administrative detention - imprisonment without charge or trial - a practice introduced by the British colonial army and now widely used by the Zionist state. Alarmingly, far-right parties like the PVV seek to replicate administrative detention in the Netherlands.



Mass imprisonment is one of the colonial regime's most pervasive tools against the Palestinian people. It originated under British colonial rule and the scale of it is staggering: Since 1967, over one million Palestinians have been imprisoned. Every Palestinian family has been affected, with fathers, mothers, sons, daughters, and individuals from all professions targeted. While the Zionist regime can arbitrarily arrest any Palestinian at any moment, the majority of those imprisoned are targeted for their resistance. These prisoners are not mere victims but active strugglers who embody the ongoing fight for liberation. Their imprisonment reflects the larger colonial assault on the Palestinian people and underscores the centrality of their freedom to the broader liberation struggle.

Simultaneously, the prisoners constitute a vanguard and leadership for the liberation movement, embodied by people like Yahya Sinwar. He was a long detained and liberated prisoner, leader of the resistance in Gaza and martyr whose name will be remembered by all free people of the world as he fought the colonial army on the frontlines in Gaza until his very last breath.

Simultaneously, the prisoners constitute a vanguard and leadership for the liberation movement, embodied by people like Yahya Sinwar. He was a long detained and liberated prisoner, leader of the resistance in Gaza and martyr whose name will be remembered by all free people of the world as he fought the colonial army on the frontlines in Gaza until his very last breath.

Because political imprisonment is a colonial tool used by Zionism, it can only be ended by defeating Zionism. This is why we as Samidoun do not appeal to colonial courts or international bodies that participate in the colonization of Palestine. The only way to liberate the prisoners is through revolutionary action such as operation Al-Aqsa Flood. Our task is to amplify the voice of the prisoners and build real solidarity with the Palestinian people and their resistance.



The struggle for Palestinian liberation cannot be separated from the fight for the freedom of its political prisoners. As students, activists, and internationalists it is our duty to amplify their voices and support their resistance. The Student Intifada and Al-Aqsa Flood are testaments to the enduring spirit of liberation which continues to resist Zionism and fascism with courage and conviction.

We call upon everyone to keep struggling against the Zionist genocide and unite in the face of state repression. This also includes campaigns for the student prisoners, women prisoners, Georges Ibrahim Abdallah and initiatives such as the Popular Education in Gaza.

Long live the Student Intifada!

Long live the Palestinian people and their struggle for liberation and return!

Freedom for the prisoners, healing for the wounded and glory to the martyrs!

Victory to the resistance!



UvA Intifada – Who are we?

UvA Intifada is a student and youth-led organisation at the University of Amsterdam fighting for a liberated Palestine from the river to the sea.

We are anti-Zionist, anti-colonial, and anti-capitalist students standing in solidarity with the Palestinian resistance movement. We recognize that Palestinian liberation can only be achieved alongside the dismantling of all systems of oppression which operate across the world. We have formed at a moment where there is no student and youth-led group organizing explicitly for Palestine at the UvA. As students in the Netherlands, we operate in the belly of the beast: We recognize our specific role in the broader movement for a liberated Palestine as well as the power of youth in our collective struggle for liberation.



We uphold the Thawabet as outlined in the 1968 Palestinian National Charter. This entails:

- The right to resist
- The right to self-determination
- Jerusalem (Al-quds) as the capital
- The right of return for Palestinian refugees and their descendants
- One state, from the river to the sea
- We recognize that if we are to effectively support Palestinian liberation, we must respect the experiences and knowledge on the ground.
- We demand that the University of Amsterdam:
 - Cease all academic collaborations with Israeli institutions that participate in genocide, apartheid, and the exploitation of the Palestinian people and their land.
 - Cease all contracts with and divest from Israeli companies, and international companies or funds, that profit from genocide, apartheid, and the exploitation of the Palestinian people and their land.

INTIFADA REVOLUTION!

Interested in joining the struggle? Follow us on Instagram @uva.intifada



Report from the Rosa Luxemburg Conference

We arrived in Berlin at 6am on the morning of the 11th of January following a long journey on the overnight bus from Amsterdam. We had come for the commemoration of Rosa Luxemburg and Karl Liebknecht, leaders and founders of the Communist party of Germany, who were murdered by the Freikorps (government employed mercenaries) in 1919. For the past 30 years, the Rosa Luxemburg Conference has taken place on this date. This year was our first time as ROSA (together with a few of our comrades from UvA Intifada) participating in the event, which is currently the largest Marxist conference in Germany. For many of us, it was our first time getting to see such immense unity and strength amongst the international proletarian struggle. The experience was made particularly significant given that it took place in Berlin - a city rich in proletarian history - during a period of rising far-right extremism. With the resurgence of far-right populism, expanding imperialist campaigns, and war spreading around the world, we felt that it was especially important to attend this conference. The similarities between the conditions that Luxemburg and Liebknecht

found themselves in on the heels of the largest imperialist war the world had ever witnessed and the current crisis of imperialism, war mongering, and subjugation of people and workers that is worldwide today is striking. The parallels between their time and now made our trip an opportunity not only to honour Luxemburg and Liebknecht but also to continue their legacy in the struggle towards socialism. The theme of this year's conference, "The Final Fight - How Dangerous is Capitalism in Decline?", meant we got to hear from a diversity of viewpoints from political figures, intellectuals and proletarian leaders as they described the growing instability of late stage capitalism. Clare Daily, a former MEP (Member of the European Parliament),



the conference opened by emphasising the urgent need to put a stop to the corrupt bloodshed of imperialist nations, such as the genocide in Gaza, by confronting their warmongering head-on. Later, a "Young Workers" panel spoke on the transformation of the job market in late stage capitalism. It was fascinating to see how young people are engaging with union organizing, strikes, and class struggle. We also enjoyed the solidarity manifestation and a speech by a Central Committee Member of the Communist Party of Cuba as she stressed the importance of international solidarity. Besides the speeches, the conference acted as an occasion for rich exchange between comrades from various contexts. Our members had the opportunity to discuss ideas and swap suggestions with comrades from all over the world. The input from the conference even inspired many passionate discussions among ourselves as well (in between eating a preposterous number of kebabs) as we spent the weekend walking around Berlin. On the second day, we marched with thousands of comrades to the graves of Luxemburg and Liebknecht, laid flowers, and commemorated those who had given their lives to the cause. During breakouts of arbitrary police violence against the marchers, we were impressed by our German comrades' ability to defend themselves.



A rubric The ROSA rubric The ROSA rubric

What was taken and learned from in both the conference and the protest was the importance of international solidarity. Our respect for Rosa Luxemburg, Karl Liebknecht, and all the other revolutionaries that have brought us to where we are today has only grown thanks to our trip. Nonetheless, the struggle for liberation persists. As we sang "L'Internationale" at the conclusion of the conference, and later at the memorial, we knew that the fire of revolution would never cease. We hope to attend more conferences and events like this one in the future and would like to encourage everyone to join us for the next Rosa Luxemburg Conference in 2026.

Long live international solidarity!



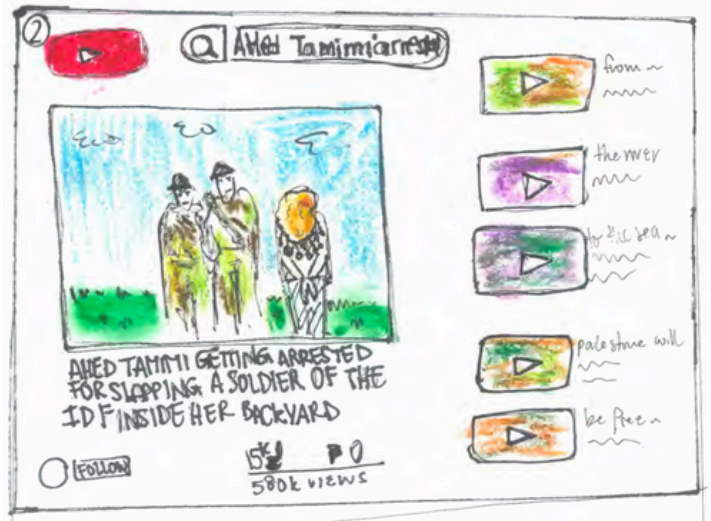
ROSA football club

ROSA Football Club is together with ROSA Antifa Boxing, our first sports team, formed in early 2024, and hopefully the first of many! ROSA FC organizes football training with the aim of exercising together and improving our football skills, while fostering a team spirit and comradeship! We have participated in one tournament so far, traveling to Nijmegen for the Camaraderie Football Tournament in April 2024, attaining second place. We are looking forward to attending many more tournaments, and organizing our own event!





IN 2016, 16 YEAR OLD AHED TAMIMI, A PALESTINIAN ACTIVIST, SLAPPED TWO IDF SOLDIERS AFTER THEY NON-CONSENSUALLY RAIDED HER HOME VILLAGE, NABI SALEM. THE SOLDIERS WERE STANDING IN HER BACK YARD WHEN THIS HAPPENED.



ON NOVEMBER 6TH, 2023, AHED WAS ARRESTED AGAIN, ON SUSPICION OF "INVOLVEMENT IN TERRORIST ACTIVITY AND ENACTMENT." AHED HAS RECENTLY BEEN RELEASED, AND TO THIS DAY CONTINUES TO RESIST ISRAELI OCCUPATION. HER ACT OF REBELLION HAS BECOME A SYMBOL OF PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE AND LIBERATION AND DEMONSTRATES HOW AN INDIVIDUAL ACT CAN BECOME A SOURCE OF UNION & COLLECTIVISATION AMONG THE VICTIMS OF IMPERIALISM, THE HIGHEST STAGE OF CAPITALISM.



Upcoming events

February 11:

ROSA bourel. location TBA

February 16 & March 16:

KARL (kitchen; arts & crafts; and Radical Learning) - 18:00 @ MKZ Eerste Schinkelstraat 16, 1075 TX Amsterdam

February 19:

Abolish the family educational event - 17:00
@CREA Theaterzaal

February 24:

Voku - Exact time TBA
@ Joe's Garage, Pretoriusstraat 43, 1092 EZ Amsterdam

February 25:

February strike memorial @ Dokwerker statue, Daniel Jonas Meijerplein



**find us on instagram:
@rosaradicalstudents**