

PIN Bulletin For Local Organizers

Volume 35, May 2022

***Will you strive for justice and peace among all people,
and respect the dignity of every human being?***



UPDATES ON THE 80th GENERAL CONVENTION



The revised dates : Friday, July 8 through Monday, July 11

Only deputies, bishops, some alternate deputies, and essential staff and volunteers will attend due to COVID. Visitors generally will not be allowed. There will be no exhibit hall and all church-affiliated organizations cannot hold events and receptions in Baltimore during July 8-11.

THIS MEANS THAT EPF PIN WILL NOT HAVE A PRESENCE AT G.C.

If you have already registered as a visitor, the General Convention Office has announced: *We will be cancelling all visitor registrations and issuing refunds back to the original payment method. Note that this will happen sometime in June and we will send out a communication when that happens. We appreciate your patience.*

PIN deeply regrets losing the opportunity to take our message of support for Palestinian human rights into the Exhibit Hall, the Leaflet Stations in the corridors, the closing testimony on resolutions and the floor of Convention in the person of our deputy caucus. With sadness we give up our plans for the EPF Reception at Old Otterbein Church, adjacent to the Baltimore Convention Center, where we would gather in fellowship with our many friends and co-workers to lift up peace with justice and present PIN's Cotton Fite Award and EPF's John Nevin Sayre Award.



Dick Toll



Linda Gaither

There are plans afoot, however, for local Receptions in the home cities of the 2022 Cotton Fite awardee, the Rev. Dick Toll in Portland, Oregon and the 2022 Sayre awardee, Dr. Linda Gaither in Ithaca, N.Y. As plans develop, the Bulletin will keep everyone informed.



The Status of Resolutions

Among the many uncertainties regarding the General Convention is the fate of social justice resolutions, including those that speak to Palestinian rights and the response of the Church to the ongoing, relentless Zionist ethnic cleansing of

Palestine. Some things are known now, but we will have more to report in the June *Bulletin*.

The legislative committees continue their evaluation of resolutions and, at this point, anticipate meeting at Convention in Baltimore. During its most recent online deliberations, the Social Justice and International Policy Committee made several important decisions on resolutions addressing matters related to Palestine.

Two resolutions were placed on the House of Deputies Consent Calendar, which is a bundle of resolutions on which a legislative committee has consensus. At Convention, resolutions in the Consent Calendar are voted upon as a group rather than individually, although there is a provision for any resolution to be pulled from the bundle and considered separately. It is also important to remember that resolutions must be passed by both Houses – Deputies and Bishops.

The first of the two Consent Calendar resolutions is, [Regarding Anti-Semitism and Palestinian Christians](#). PIN organized strong testimony against this resolution, which sought to silence the Episcopal Church from voicing opposition to Israeli policy on the grounds that it is sometimes interpreted erroneously as antisemitic. The Legislative Committee designated this resolution, “Consent to reject”. This is very good news! The second of the resolutions to be placed on the Consent Calendar is [a resolution supporting freedom of speech and the right to boycott](#). Four dioceses had submitted similar resolutions on this subject. The Committee will bring to the Convention a final form that draws upon these contributions. Again, this is good news.

The Committee felt the need for further discussion on resolutions addressing [Israeli apartheid](#) and [Christian Zionism](#). Those discussions will likely take place when the Committee gathers in Baltimore. Here again, there is good news. At its last online deliberation, Committee members heard expert testimony from Richard Falk, Professor Emeritus of International Law at Princeton and former UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian Territories occupied since 1967. Falk, who is Jewish, told Committee members that there has been no accusation of apartheid more thoroughly documented than the accusation against Israel. The Committee is seeking further testimony on the legal definition of apartheid.

Closely related to the resolutions that speak explicitly to apartheid is a resolution sent to Convention by the Diocese of Olympia, [Justice and Peace in the Holy Land – Our Call to Action](#). This resolution, which speaks forcefully to the content of apartheid, was reviewed favorably by the Committee. If no consensus on apartheid is reached, it seems likely that the Olympia resolution will be placed on the Consent Calendar.

FIFA: SUSPEND ISRAELI APARTHEID

WEBINAR SPEAKERS:
ROGER WATERS

MUSICIAN & ACTIVIST

SUSAN SHALABI

VICE PRESIDENT OF THE
PALESTINIAN FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

JONATHAN KUTTAB

CO-FOUNDER OF AL-HAQ &
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF FOSNA

SATURDAY, MAY 28

10 AM PACIFIC / 1 PM EASTERN / 8 PM PALESTINE
REGISTER ON ZOOM: bit.ly/ApartheidFreeFIFAWebinar

Just Peace Advocates
Mouvement pour une Paix Juste

FOSNA
FRIENDS OF SABBATH, NORTH AMERICA
A Christian Voice for Palestine



Last Minute Opportunity!

Register [HERE](#) for this FOSNA webinar today.

May 28, 2022, 1 pm EDT

FIFA: Suspend Apartheid Israel

Description

Israel has violated the principles of FIFA in a variety of ways that would normally warrant disciplinary actions and even a suspension of its membership. However, the politics of FIFA have prevented the organization in the past from taking such action. Its internal by-laws have even been amended to make it more difficult for the Palestine Football Association (PFA) to demand such action. Consequently, it is now the responsibility of civil society to apply the popular pressure necessary to bring this about.

Join Panelists

Roger Waters, musician & activist

Susan Shalabi, vice president of the Palestinian Football Association

Jonathan Kuttub, cofounder of Al-Haq & Exec Director of FOSNA

and others



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