

PIN Bulletin For Local Organizers

Volume 36, June 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 Status of Resolutions: FINAL ROUND-UP

Since publication of the May *Bulletin*, legislative committees have conducted more Zoom hearings and sessions for deliberation, making final decisions on individual resolutions.

Legislative Committee 07, Social Justice and International Policy, has acted on all resolutions addressing issues related to Palestine and Israel. Four resolutions have been placed on the Consent Calendar and three resolutions have been forwarded for consideration at the 81st General Convention in 2024.

As described in the May Bulletin, the Consent Calendar [C.C.] bundles

together resolutions on which legislative committees have reached consensus. At Convention, resolutions posted to the C.C. are voted upon as a bundle rather than individually. The General Convention Office has requested that legislative committees use the C.C. wherever possible to expedite voting.

Committee 07 has placed one resolution, [Regarding Anti-Semitism and Palestinian Christians](#), on the C.C. with "Consent to Reject." 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. This is very good news!

Three resolutions have been posted to the C.C. with "Consent to Affirm": [a resolution supporting freedom of speech and the right to boycott](#), a resolution rejecting [Christian Zionism](#), and a resolution sent to Convention by the Diocese of Olympia, [Justice and Peace in the Holy Land – Our Call to Action](#). A revised version of the latter has been posted to C.C. Note that there is a provision for any resolution to be pulled from the bundle and considered separately.

Committee 07 voted to forward three resolutions addressing [Israeli apartheid](#) for consideration at the 81st General Convention. The vote acknowledged the need for floor debate in both House of Bishops and House of Deputies on the still contentious topic of naming apartheid as a reality in the State of Israel.

The General Convention Office has created an on-line Information Hub. The Hub offers links to the websites of our church's many advocacy groups who would ordinarily be meeting deputies and bishops in hallways, food courts and at booths in the Exhibit Hall. EPF is listed and PIN has submitted a request for listing.

<https://www.generalconvention.org/advocacy-groups>

RESOURCES FOR ACTIVISTS

"Gaza Unlocked" -- <https://gazaunlocked.org/>

Gaza Unlocked is a project of the American Friends Service Committee [offering analysis, stories, and background information](#) about Gaza.

"Sheikh Jarrah: Ethnic Cleansing in Jerusalem"

<https://www.madamasr.com/en/2022/06/20/feature/politics/sheikh-jarrah-ethnic-cleansing-in-jerusalem/>

Scroll down to access forensic architecture's simulation.

"Visualizing Palestine" -- <https://www.visualizingpalestine.org/>

Visualizing Palestine creates data-driven tools to advance a factual, rights-based narrative of the Palestinian-Israeli issue. Images are free to download.



Here is Visualizing Palestine's most recent image:

"Gruesome milestone: 15 years of Israel's military closure and blockade of 2 million Palestinians in Gaza. Our latest visual with [Al-Mezan Center for Human Rights](#) and [Adalah Justice Project](#) puts this devastating 15 year period in context as part of over three decades of escalating Israeli closures designed to permanently isolate Gaza from the rest of historic Palestine. "


ISRAEL'S CLOSURE OF GAZA STARTED LONG BEFORE THE BLOCKADE

Israel's current military closure and blockade of the Gaza Strip represent an intensification of decades of escalating Israeli policies that made closure a way of life in Gaza.

During the 1948 Nakba, 200,000 Palestinian refugees fled to Gaza, tripling its population overnight. The Gaza Strip, a fraction of the pre-1948 Gaza District, was severed from the rest of historic Palestine, creating a densely populated, economically dependent territory. These events set the stage for Gaza to be subjected to some of the harshest Israeli policies of military closure and blockade.





VISUALIZING PALESTINE



- 2007 BLOCKADE IMPOSED**
land, air, sea blockade represents most extreme closure to date
- 2006 CLOSURES INTENSIFY**
amidst Palestinian elections
- 2005 UNILATERAL SEPARATION**
Israel withdraws settlements in Gaza and continues military occupation from Gaza perimeter. PM Ariel Sharon states: "Gaza cannot be held onto forever. Over one million Palestinians live there, and they double their numbers with every generation"
- 2004**
- 2003 FAMILY SEPARATION POLICY**
Gaza residents living in the West Bank are forcibly expelled to Gaza, dividing families. A Palestinian resident of the West Bank can move to Gaza only if they permanently sign away their right to return to the West Bank.
- 2002**
- 2001 ISRAELI FORCES BOMB GAZA AIRPORT**
destroying only Palestinian airport
- 2000 ISRAELI FORCES BOMB GAZA SEAPORT**
closures imposed during Second Intifada become permanent, including ban on students from Gaza studying in the West Bank. Israel adopts tight restrictions on imports into Gaza
- 1999**
- 1998 WORK PERMITS AND PERMITS FOR FAMILY VISITS BECOME RARE**
- 1997**
- 1996 GAZA ECONOMY LARGELY SEVERED FROM WEST BANK**
exports of goods from Gaza to West Bank decline dramatically; Israel restricts access to Palestinian territorial waters
- 1995**
- 1994 ISRAEL BUILDS FENCE AROUND GAZA**
deepening control over movement of people and goods
- 1993 FIRST SWEEPING CLOSURES**
Israeli closure becomes permanent structural reality in Gaza
- 1992**
- 1991 INTRODUCTION OF PERMIT SYSTEM**
for the first time, no one can exit Gaza without an Israeli permit

SOURCES bit.ly/vp-gazaclosure [WWW.VISUALIZINGPALESTINE.ORG](http://www.visualizingpalestine.org)

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Episcopal Peace Fellowship Palestine Israel Network | 2045 West Grand Ave, Suite B, #40058, Chicago, IL 60612-1577

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