

Histadrut  
For the attention of Ofer Eini  
President  
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***Open letter to our colleagues of the Israeli union Histadrut***

Dear President,

During a mission to Palestine in November 2007, we had already told you about our incomprehension towards your attitude of unconditional support to the policy of the Israeli State towards the Palestinian workers and citizens.

You have never disapproved the Jewish settlements, neither the discriminations and humiliations undergone by the Palestinian workers, nor the non-respect of the international Conventions.

Remaining silent is being accompliced! Whereas the Palestinian trade union PGFTU has condemned the launching of rockets on Israel.

Today we are confronted with the horror of the war led among million of civilians.

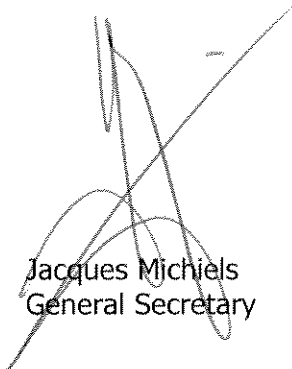
Hospitals, mosques, schools have been bombed. Entire families were decimated. The press is prohibited from entering, isolated from the inhuman behaviors, under the pretext of protecting the journalists. If the political authorities keep quiet, the unionists have to react. "Who wants peace prepares the war", stated coldly Israeli diplomats. This can't be the language of unionists.

The unionists can't make the same mistake as the European Commission that opens the doors of the European Union to Israel without requiring the respect of the International Conventions in return.

A union organization has to strive for peace between the populations; otherwise it disavows its engagement.

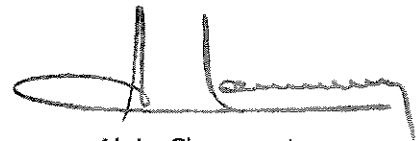
Colleagues, spokespersons of the Histadrut, call for peace without condition, before losing credit and dignity. If not, we will ask our representatives to remove you from the trade-union authorities such as the International Trade Union Cooperation (ITUC). To isolate you seems to us the only way to follow in this context.

Yours faithfully,



Jacques Michiels  
General Secretary

For the Centrale Generale FGTB,



Alain Clauwaert  
President

The Centrale Generale is a blue-collar union, affiliated to the FGTB, with more than 360.000 members, representing the workers in various sectors, among others the construction, industry and services sectors.