

Introduction from PSC Chair

In early 2021 two major human rights organisations came to the same conclusion following meticulous research. Israel is practicing apartheid. The titles of the two reports were very revealing. BTSELEM's report was entitled "A regime of Jewish supremacy from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea: This is apartheid", while Human Rights Watch headed its report "A Threshold Crossed: Israeli Authorities and the Crimes of Apartheid and Persecution".

The reports served to confirm what Palestinians living under Israel's oppressive, racist regime have been telling the world for decades. Amnesty International is reported to be close to releasing its own report, which will further confirm this.

Supporters of the Palestinian people welcomed the reports and felt emboldened to use the conclusions in webinars and meetings, which also brought some of the key members of the two organisations to PSC events, including briefings of key politicians in the UK.

The challenge remains how we as a solidarity movement, working with others, can utilise these reports to the full. Accusations of the crimes of apartheid and persecution are extremely serious and should bring accountability to the perpetrator.

The past year saw Israel continue with its oppressive policies against the Palestinians. This was clearest in Jerusalem, where it continued with its plans to judaise the city, through naked ethnic cleansing. Palestinians driven out of their homes through demolitions and evictions, and Jewish Israeli settlers replacing them. The names of Silwan, Baten Elhaw and Sheikh Jarrah became known to the world as places where this was taking place.

In Sheikh Jarrah a group of young people, whose families were threatened with eviction from 56 homes given to them by Jordan in 1956, appealed to the world through the hashtag #SaveSheikhJarrah. They used social media to the max to bring their plight to world attention. They certainly succeeded in doing this, but little did they know that events would escalate in May to a full confrontation between Palestinians and Israeli forces in all parts of historic Palestine, uniting Palestinians across the world.

Settlers set out on marches in Jerusalem, allowed by their government to shout 'death to the Arabs'. The Israeli forces attacked Palestinians in the holy month of Ramadan both at Damascus gate and while praying peacefully at Al-Aqsa Mosque. The intention was to clear the way for the racist flag march not only to break into the old city but into al-Haram al-Sharif itself. The Palestinians rose together as one to defy the occupier and to protect their holy places. Rather than stand with the Palestinians, hypocritical Western regimes including the UK stood with Israel, which attacked Gaza, snuffing out many lives including tens of children.

The reaction of the world was immense. PSC was proud to be the lead organisation, working with partners, to bring hundreds of thousands onto the streets of London and other cities and towns around the UK, united in their support for the Palestinian people and against Apartheid Israel's actions.

The Palestinians, especially in Gaza, continue to need our support more than ever. A change of Israeli government which removed Netanyahu and brought possibly a more extreme figure in Naftali Bennet has only resulted in further extremism. And while last year saw the back of Donald Trump, the new American President Joe Biden, a known supporter of Israel, has treated it with kid gloves, not even succeeding in reopening the Palestinian Mission in Washington or the US Consulate in East Jerusalem.

The general direction of travel continued to see the Palestinians as a people needing economic improvement in their lives rather than the attainment of their legitimate inalienable rights. Isolating them through growing normalisation agreements between Israel and Arab countries orchestrated to whitewash Israeli crimes and add to the pressure on them to exchange rights for a fistful of dollars. It has not worked and it will not work.

In the above context, it falls again on fair-minded people and supporters of human rights around the world to continue to support the Palestinians and to increase the pressure on their governments to act responsibly and hold Israel to account for its practice of apartheid, rather than treat it as a democratic ally. You only need to look at the way the occupation of Crimea by Russia has been opposed through action rather than words by governments, including the British government, but Israel's decades-long occupation of Palestine gets a pass.

PSC can reflect on a year when all members, staff and volunteers did our best to rise to the challenge. I thank all for their unwavering support for the Palestinian people.

The AGM offers us an opportunity to take stock and agree on a plan for the coming year that will rise to the challenges the Palestinians face. Alongside this and to help the organisation to continue to operate as it grows, the Executive Committee will be asking you to approve a constitution that will enable this to happen. From its beginnings in 1982 when a handful of people met and launched it, the PSC has grown to be the leading solidarity organisation in Europe with thousands of members, over 70 branches and a growing number of staff. Our constitution needs to be fit for that growth.

However, PSC is a solidarity organisation which focusses on campaigning, and that is what we should be doing every minute of every hour that each of us can dedicate to the cause.

Kamel Hawwash
Chair

PSC Objective 1: To Build Solidarity

2021 saw the rights of the Palestinian people under sustained attack as Israel continued to cement its system of apartheid. In May, as Palestinians in Sheikh Jarrah protested about the threat of expulsion from their homes of families who had lived in them for decades, Israel brutally repressed those protests and then launched a new assault on Gaza. Millions around the world rose in protest and in solidarity. Here in the UK, PSC led the response. In consecutive weeks we mobilised 150,000 and then 200,000 to march in London, whilst PSC branches helped organise simultaneous demonstrations in more than 70 towns and cities across the UK, from Worthing to Norwich to Newcastle to the Rhondda Valley.

For much of the year our work at branch and national level, to provide platforms for Palestinian voices to be heard and Palestinian stories to be told, happened online as we all continued to work and function under COVID-19. From April to December, over 30 webinars took place with Palestinians on the platform. As planned, these included webinars focussed upon exploring the reality of apartheid with additional events taking place as briefing sessions in Parliament where the keynote speakers were from B'Tselem and Human Rights Watch, both speaking to the groundbreaking reports they produced in 2021 detailing how Israel is practicing the crime of apartheid – whether visited upon Palestinians living under military occupation, siege, as unequal citizens of the state, or in exile denied the right of return. Two webinars were held which focussed specifically on Palestinian refugees and the Right of Return, including one held on the anniversary of UN resolution 194.

The planned additional “virtual tours” of Palestine to build on the one held successfully in the early part of 2021, as a replacement for being able to host physical delegations to Palestine, did not take place as the logistics of providing varied versions of these tours for different audiences proved too complex.

Alongside the national demonstrations in May, planned online events went ahead to mark the Nakba with a series of events organised by Branches linking up with different Palestinian communities to tell their Nakba histories. A major online rally took place on May 15th in partnership with Jewish Voice for Peace, the BDS Movement and the South African BDS Coalition.

We continued to promote Palestinian culture, with centrepieces being the “Art as Resistance” project which highlights the work of a different Palestinian artist each month and the regular cook-along sessions with Maha Salah, Palestinian chef.

We provided promotional support for the Big Ride, which had the active participation of many members and branches. The event was again a huge success, taking place over four days in August with over 200 riders per day and over £100k raised for the Middle East Children’s Alliance and Palestine Riders.

PSC Objective 2: To Strengthen Our Campaigning

Defending our Right To Campaign

A significant amount of resource at a national and branch level has had to be spent defending the right to campaign. Nationally PSC has been very active as part of a coalition of groups lobbying universities, particularly in the aftermath of renewed pressure from the government to adopt the IHRA definition. This has

included regular meetings with bodies representing universities, communications sent to every Vice Chancellor, and production of a toolkit for campaigning to resist the definition's adoption or rescind it within universities. In October we launched a website to provide a resource base to those campaigning against adoption of the IHRA definition in different arenas. We continue to work closely with the European Legal Support Centre (ELSC) coordinating strategy on defending the movement from attacks and ensuring individuals, where required, have access to legal support and advice. We have coordinated several open letters and op-eds on the shrinking space for media outlets and provided speakers for webinars addressing the issue. We have remained a key partner of an international coalition addressing the IHRA definition and other attempts to shrink space.

In September we were able to resource the recruitment of a full-time member of staff to coordinate all of our ongoing work addressing attacks on the movement. A key part of his work programme has been to begin work to pull together a coalition to campaign against the government's proposed "Anti-BDS Law" which we anticipate in 2022 and which will seek to prohibit public bodies from divesting from companies complicit in Israel's oppression of the Palestinian people and violations of international law.

PSC has also worked in a coalition with international partners addressing attempts to limit digital space for activism, with campaigns directed at Paypal and Facebook.

Alongside this crucial and necessary work to defend the space, we have continued to put most energy into "enlarging the space" by taking forward key campaigns.



Puma Campaign

We have continued to work within the international working group on Puma, which is led by Palestinian Campaign for Academic and Cultural Boycott (PACBI). PSC have led on the campaign in the UK organising a number of days of action, online in May, with physical days of action in July and September. These included branch demos outside sports shops on high streets across the country, and large protests outside the London flagship store.

BLM UK endorsed the Boycott Puma campaign, and a stunt PSC organised occupying the Puma store on Carnaby Street.

120,000 have signed the Sum of Us petition calling on Puma to drop its sponsorship of the Israeli Football Association. PSC organised a hand-in of the petition to Puma's HQ.

Pension Divestment

There are now over a dozen active local campaigns, urging Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) funds to divest from companies complicit in Israel's violations of Palestinian rights. Hackney has seen protests of hundreds outside their council offices, supported by scheme members, trade unions, and other local campaigning groups.

In February 2021, East Sussex Pension Fund divested funds from Elbit Systems, following months of pressure from local campaigners.

This sparked progress from other funds. Following May 2021, London Combined Investment Vehicle committed to ensure their "funds are not complicit in any violations of human rights or international law anywhere in the world."

The Northern LGPS pool has also adjusted its Responsible Investment policy to allow it to divest, where engagement with recalcitrant companies has not yielded progress.

A first National Day of Action for divestment was held in December.

Workshops have been held with UNISON branches and regions across the UK, to engage them in the campaign, and get them to lobby pension committees on scheme members' behalf.

We updated the database of complicit investment, which now holds information for 55 LGPS funds. We identified that the LGPS holds at least £4.4 billion of complicit investment.

We have worked with councillors across the UK to support them in raising this issue locally. This has included holding a workshop for Labour councillors.



Ending Trade with Settlements

Banning trade with settlements has been a core ask of two PSC lobby days this year. It has also been incorporated into every e-action to MPs and government, as well as parliamentary briefings.

We have had specific e-actions set up on the demolition of Palestinian homes, eviction of families, and expansion of illegal settlements.

We organised several webinars highlighting the case of Sheikh Jarrah and the ethnic cleansing of East Jerusalem. This included platforming Palestinian families and organisations like Grassroots Al-Quds.

We supported the EU Citizens Initiative on banning trade with settlements as part of the European Coordinating Committee on Palestine (ECCP). There was a significant court win against the EU Commission, which means this will be launched early in 2022.

Stop Arming Israel

We worked as part of the Stop the Arms Fair coalition to oppose DSEI, the world's largest arms fair, which returned to London in September 2021. This included PSC Office and East London and Redbridge PSC, working together to organise a hundreds-strong community march through Newham under the banner "Stop DSEI: Stop Arming Israel". On the Thursday of the fair, we brought Palestinian voices direct to its gates, holding a Palestinian-led rally, with poetry, speakers, and remembrance of those killed by Israel in May.

We worked nationally to support the impressive local coalition (with the PSC Liverpool Branch at its centre) Liverpool Against the Arms Fair, which opposed the AOC Europe 2021 arms fair, which took place at a council-owned venue in October. We worked to put direct pressure on the venue and council, and are still working with the coalition to campaign for the council to put measures in place to ensure no future arms fairs take place.

In our parliamentary work, we continued to centre the demand for a military embargo. This has been a central theme of PSC's lobbies of Parliament, and in our e-actions to MPs – especially during Israel's May 2021 bombardment of Gaza.



Child Prisoners

We organised an online film screening of 'Imprisoning a Generation' followed by a Q&A with the director and discussion panel with Defence of the Child International - Palestine (DCI-P).

PSC also joined a NEU webinar alongside DCI-P, and promoted a new DCI-P film premiere.

We tabled a new EDM on child prisoners, although this has not had nearly the same pick-up as the one in 2017, and launched a Child Prisoner e-action for people to write to their MP.

A planned child prisoner exhibition in Parliament has been put on hold because of COVID-19.

End the Siege on Gaza

At branch and national level, events – mostly online – have been held to bring attention to the impact of the ongoing siege. Israel's sustained military attack on Gaza in May, which was responded to by huge demonstrations in London and across the UK, provide a renewed focus on the ongoing siege. We produced several resources for social media explaining the context of the attacks and the realities of the siege, including facilitating a live Instagram link-up with a family in Gaza during the bombing.

Stop the JNF

We have continued to be part of the work of the Stop the JNF Campaign.

From February–March 2021, the campaign continued to hold webinars to deepen understanding of the role of the JNF in Israeli apartheid. Speakers included Salman Abu Sitta, Khalil Alamour and Richard Falk.

In July, a formal complaint to the Fundraising Regulator, lodged by 63 Jewish signatories, arguing that the JNF UK's activities were incompatible with their professed charitable purposes, was rejected.

The campaign worked to oppose the JNF's greenwashing of Israeli apartheid, through opposing its presence as part of Israel's delegation at the global climate summit, COP26. Working with Palestinian partners, the campaign co-ordinated a 'Keep the JNF out of COP26' declaration. Free Palestine/Stop the JNF presences at mobilisations for climate justice on the Global Day of Action, November 6th, took place in over 15 locations across the UK – including in both Glasgow and London.

JCB – Complicit in Apartheid

Work has focussed to date mostly on the campaign to compel NSPCC to cease accepting donations from JCB. The findings in November from Contact Point and the report by Amnesty, which both reinforce the extent of JCB's complicity with violations of international law, gave renewed focus for this work. Initial planning meetings have been held in January with Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions (ICAHN), Lawyers for Palestinian Human Rights (LPHR) and Amnesty International to look at coordinated work on this campaign.

PSC Objective 3: To Build Political Alliances

Parliamentary/Political Parties

We held fringe meetings at Labour and SNP Conferences. At the Labour Party Conference we worked intensively with our trade union allies, Labour and Palestine and Young Labour to secure the passing of the most progressive motion on Palestine yet passed by a major UK political party, with clear references to Israel's practice of apartheid and a clear sanctions call. Following the Labour Party



leadership's rejection of the motion, we met with the Shadow Foreign Secretary and Minister to address our concerns at this rejection and push for appropriate action.

In June, Parliament debated a petition with over 380,000 signatures calling for sanctions against Israel, and a ban on the sale of UK weapons. Ahead of this debate we invited MPs and Parliamentary staff to attend a special briefing session jointly hosted by Palestine Solidarity Campaign, War on Want, and Campaign Against Arms Trade. Over 60 MPs and staff registered to attend.

Further briefings were held during the year on HRW's report on apartheid, with Yasmin Ahmed HRW UK Director as key speaker, and on the activities of the Jewish National Fund.

We held two lobbies of Parliament, one in June to follow up on the events of May and the second in December. The focus of both was the clear evidence that Israel is practicing the crime of apartheid, as evidenced by the B'Tselem and HRW reports, and the need for meaningful action in response including calling for a ban on settlement trade, and supporting Richard Burgon's UK Israel Arms Trade (Prohibition) Bill calling for an end to the UK-Israel arms trade. The Winter Lobby also called for action in response to criminalisation of six Palestinian human rights organisations.

We worked with Richard Burgon in the drafting of his Bill and in promoting Early Day Motion 300 in support of it.

We have been a core partner in establishing the International Parliamentary Task Force, which hosts meetings for MPs from different countries.

PSC remains an active member of the European Coordination of Committees and Associations for Palestine (ECCP), but, post-Brexit, no longer participates in direct lobbying of MEPs.

Trade Unions

COVID-19 has had a huge impact on trade union work, putting a halt on physical delegations, physical conferences and also pushing international work down the priority list for many unions. That said, significant advances have been made. Following the Trade Union Congress passing in 2020 the most progressive motion it has passed on Palestine, for the first time utilising the apartheid framework, an even stronger motion was passed in 2021, clearly acknowledging Israel's practice of the crime of apartheid. As noted above, trade union support was crucial in securing the passing of the motion at Labour Party Conference.

PSC held a number of online events for trade unions, including fringe meetings at Conferences. In October we were able to hold a well-attended in-person fringe at Unite's Conference.

UK affiliated trade unions have supported a number of campaigns, with UNISON being a key partner in the LGPS Divest Campaign and NEU continuing to push forward work on Child Prisoners.



Youth and Students

Student Campaigning has also proved challenging with students largely physically absent from campus for much of 2021. During Israeli Apartheid Week (IAW), we worked with the Boycott National Committee (BNC) to host, jointly with PalSocs, two national online events, featuring speakers such as Omar Barghouti, Larissa Kennedy (NUS President), and Lubnah Shomali. We also supported students hosting their own events, by providing speakers, resources, and advice. Over 20 events were held throughout the week on campuses across the UK, mostly online.

Coming out of lockdown in July, we held our first ever student-led demonstration for Palestine in London. Over 300 students marched across London, demanding UK universities end their complicity in Israeli apartheid.

In September 2021, we held a Summer School for Palestine, to bring together students and young activists who wanted to learn more about the movement and get involved. The sessions aimed to provide participants with a deeper understanding of Israeli apartheid, and how to stand with the Palestinian struggle.



In the Autumn, as universities moved out of lockdown, a key focus of our work was supporting student groups to begin in-person campaigning again. To this end, we send Freshers Packs to student societies, and have been working behind the scenes to provide other advice and support.

We aimed to build the prominence and visibility of the fantastic work of our Youth and Student Committee, launching a Twitter account, the first of the YSC's social media channels.

Working with the European Legal Support Centre, we continued to provide students campaigning for Palestine with support when facing repression, including through the employment of the IHRA definition of antisemitism. This included providing formal legal advice and support when necessary.

The work of the YSC has been significantly boosted by recruitment at the end of 2021 which has taken membership up to 18. In November we also successfully recruited to the post of a full-time Youth and Student Officer who is beginning work at PSC in January, significantly increasing our capacity to support student work.

Faith and Community Groups

Work with faith groups continues to be a key part of our alliance-building, particularly at branch level. At a national level we have good partner relations with the Amos Trust, Sabeel, and the Quakers who regularly support PSC campaigns and initiatives. Friends of Al Aqsa and MAB (Muslim Association of Britain) are key conduits to the Muslim community and close partners with PSC when mobilising for demonstrations. We have good partnerships with a range of Jewish groups including Jews for Justice, Jewish Voice for Labour, Na'amod and globally Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP), with whom we have organised several online events and campaigns.

PSC Objective 4: To organise for growth

2021 saw a huge upsurge of support for PSC in the aftermath of the huge demonstrations we took the lead in organising in May. Membership grew by 15%, exceeding the target of 10% growth set at the beginning of the year. This included a doubling of the number of youth members. Income increased by £215k, representing a 39% growth on 2019/20. This represented the highest level of growth in income since 2014. The surplus in income generated enabled PSC to begin a recruitment drive to significantly increase organisational capacity and strengthen in particular our very thin management structure. In September we successfully recruited PSC's first Deputy Director with oversight of Campaigns, alongside recruitment of a Campaigns Officer with specific responsibility for addressing and responding to efforts to limit the space for campaigning and our right to protest. In November we successfully recruited a full-time Youth and Student Officer and a Media Officer, who will both begin work early in 2022. We also recruited an external consultant to advise on PSC's ongoing strategy to build for sustainable growth.

2021 also saw the largest growth in PSC branch numbers for many years with 12 new branches formed.

The online fortnightly branch fora established in 2020 to respond to COVID-19 have continued to attract consistently high levels of attendance. A number of training workshops were held with branches including on Social Media Training and on Building Pension Divestment campaigns.



Introduction

The Annual plan sets out the key priorities for PSC with four key overarching objectives within which campaigns are developed and work organised: Building Solidarity, Strengthening our campaigning, Building political alliances, Organising for growth. A key principle is to focus on a number of core campaigns which pending developments, and on review, we sustain from year to year until won.

In previous years, prior to life under COVID-19, we have held a weekend Branch Forum after the AGM with workshops to put more detail on the activities to be carried out in accordance with the plan agreed by the AGM, creating a calendar of key campaigning dates for the year. If an in-person meeting is not feasible in April we will aim, as last year, to hold workshops on key elements of the campaign plan online.

In 2022 we will build on some core themes that we have established that provide an overarching narrative framework for our campaigning, reflecting the political landscape:

- Continuing the work to mainstream the understanding that Israel has established a state that is practicing the crime of apartheid and that this reality applies to Palestinians living under occupation, as unequal citizens of the state and in exile denied the right of return. The motions that we shepherded through TUC in 2020 and 2021 laid the foundations for the motion passed by the Labour Party Conference in 2021, which foregrounded the apartheid narrative. The reports by B'Tselem and HRW have been crucial in taking this mainstreaming task forward, and in 2022 we anticipate a further important report from Amnesty International on which we need to build (unreleased at time of writing).
- As an adjunct to the above, we have continuing work to do to push back against efforts by Israel and its allies to continue to frame the issue not as one of justice and injustice but as a conflict between equally legitimate claims that requires resolution through projects of “coexistence and peacebuilding” between peoples. This framework, which sidelines considerations of international law and rights, provides the ideological justification for support for the illegitimate Abraham Accords, which promote alliances between Israeli apartheid and authoritarian Arab regimes and for the promotion of coexistence or “People to People projects” which seek to bring Palestinians and Israelis together, wilfully ignoring the structural inequalities and systems of injustice which divide them.
- Linked to both of the above is to establish the struggle for Freedom Justice and Equality in Palestine as part of the broader struggle against systems of injustice, including those that sustain racial inequalities and fuel climate injustice. This requires building on alliances established in 2021 with the Black Lives Matter movement, other liberation movements and climate justice groups.

Work to defend the “shrinking space” through countering attempts to conflate antisemitism and legitimate defence of Palestinian rights, and to introduce measures to limit the right to undertake BDS campaigns will continue to be a necessary part of our work. As mentioned above, we have recruited a new member of staff to coordinate this work and central to that role will be building a coalition to tackle the anti-BDS bill that the government intends to introduce.

PSC Objective 1: To Build Solidarity

Finding platforms to allow the Palestinian story to be told and Palestinian voices to be heard will remain central to PSC's work in raising awareness and building solidarity. This includes creating space at branch and national level for Palestinians to speak to decision-makers and to the broad public. Webinars and virtual rallies will continue to be central to this work.

Key themes we want to explore in 2022:

- The Abraham Accords and how they are being used to sideline the Palestinian struggle.
- 100 years of UK complicity to tie to 100th anniversary of League of Nations imposed mandate.
- Continuing work to mainstream the understanding of apartheid especially in the aftermath of anticipated Amnesty International report.
- The links between the Palestinian liberation struggle and other struggles for liberation and against racism and colonialism.
- Linking with women's groups in Palestine to focus on the role of women within the Palestinian liberation struggle.
- Shrinking space – focussed on shrinking Palestinian civil society especially in the aftermath of Israel's illegitimate designation of six Palestinian NGOs as terrorist.
- Palestinian prisoners.

Commemorating the Nakba in May will continue to be a central part of our awareness-raising work. We are proposing to hold a march on May 15th in London to mark Nakba 74, led by 74 British Palestinians. Additionally, as part of the build-up to Nakba Week, we propose to create videos from Palestinians speaking about their experiences of 1948 as direct survivors or family members, for release on social media.

We propose to continue to build awareness of the reality of apartheid by completing the project to produce a series of short films explaining different aspects of how apartheid is imposed upon Palestinians to complement the video produced in 2021.

We will continue and expand upon the work to promote Palestinian culture, building on the "Art as resistance" project by linking with Palestinian art and cultural groups and collectives and holding events to promote their work. A spoken-word event with Palestinian poets will take place in March in partnership with MARS. We will continue to hold online cook-alongs, both as a fundraiser but also to raise awareness of Palestinian cuisine and its history.

At a national level we will again provide promotional and logistical support to the Big Ride as required and requested, and encourage the support of branches and PSC members and supporters for the ride. In 2022 the Big Ride is planning to cycle from Derby to Manchester, via Stoke, on the last weekend of July.

PSC Objective 2: To Strengthen Our Campaigning

1. Defending and broadening our political and campaigning space

Objectives:

- Develop strategy and systems to effectively monitor and respond to attacks on the space for Palestine solidarity work in the UK.
- Pro-actively defend and work to broaden our organising space, especially through building resistance to the impending anti-BDS bill and the IHRA Definition.

Main work areas:

- Support university students, faculty, and staff under attack for speaking up for Palestine.
- Build up the campaign to stop the IHRA, using our website as an informational resource and hub for action.
- Work with academic and legal allies to produce a report with key evidence on how the IHRA is being used to silence advocacy for Palestinian rights.
- Protect the right to boycott: building a broad coalition to fight the government's impending legislation designed to ban public bodies from undertaking campaigns of boycotts, divestment, and sanctions.
- Deepen our work in support of digital rights, against the censorship and shutting down of Palestinians and Palestine solidarity voices on digital platforms, including but not limited to Facebook, Instagram, and PayPal.

2. Key Campaigns

Settlements

Objectives:

- Raise public awareness about illegal settlements and their impact on Palestinians, highlighting policies of forcible transfer and demolition.
- Support Palestinian partners resisting settlements, including actions in response to planned village demolitions and forcible transfer.
- Build support within Parliament for a settlements trade ban.

Main work areas:

- Deepen public understandings of the impact of settlements, by hosting specialised briefings and public webinars focusing on the settlement enterprises, and impacts with Palestinian partners directly impacted and leading the pushback on the ground.
- Keep the settlement trade ban as a key ask of MPs, including on the lobby days.
- Work with partners in the UK to increase awareness of the UN list of settlement-complicit companies, and to push the UK government to recognise and implement appropriate sanctions for UK companies on the list, including JCB.

- Progress the strategy for a settlement trade ban in the UK, in parallel with similar campaigns in the EU, including the European Citizens Initiative to be launched in early 2022.

Stop Arming Israel

Objectives:

- Mobilise public pressure on the government to implement a two-way arms embargo on Israel, and to end collaborations between UK-based companies and Israeli military/policing industries.
- Pressure UK companies, including financial institutions, to end involvement in the arms trade with Israel.

Main work areas:

- Increase support and awareness in Parliament by promoting Richard Burgon's 'Israel Arms Trade' bill as a concrete step MPs can take to build pressure on the government.
- Expand the energy and resources we put in to opposing arms fairs that host Israeli government and military/policing companies, taking place in locations across the UK in 2022.
- Explore new targets and leverage points:
 - Discuss with key stakeholders the possibility of a renewed focus on complicity of financial institutions with high street locations.
 - Scope the potential for targeting companies and investors in surveillance technologies originating with the Israeli military and high tech industries.

LGPS Divest

Objectives:

- Divestment of Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) and other pension schemes from companies involved in/supporting the Israeli occupation and human rights violations against Palestinians, particularly the settlement enterprise.

Main work areas:

- Build connections:
 - Further facilitate local level campaigning, by building crucial links between branches and unions representing scheme members in their areas.
 - Build engagement and involvement with allies working on LGPS divestment as a part of the climate justice movement.
- Face key challenges:
 - Develop a strategy for this divestment work to continue however possible once the government introduces legislation to ban it. Don't be defeatist on language.

Child Prisoners

Objectives:

- Raise public awareness about the plight of Palestinian children under occupation by highlighting the pressing issue of Israel's arrest and detention of children.
- Work with Defence for Children International - Palestine to redevelop and launch a new campaign in the UK around children impacted by occupation with clear objectives and strategy.

Main work areas:

- Taking leadership from Palestinian experts:
 - Partnering directly with DCI-P on their No Way to Treat a Child campaign. DCI-P is the foremost Palestinian expert on this issue, and has developed successful strategies around it in other countries. We will serve as DCI-P's key partner in this campaign in the UK for a redeveloped campaign to launch this year.
- Strengthening our joint work with trade union partners:
 - New events on the issue, including the planned parliamentary exhibition, together with DCI-P, UNISON and NEU.
- Broadening the scope:
 - Given the need for a wider focus on the issue of Palestinian political prisoners more broadly, as well as the other issues facing Palestinian children aside from detention, we will use connections developed through this campaign to explore future areas of work.

End the siege on Gaza

Objectives:

- Build pressure on the UK government to demand that Israel end the siege on the Gaza Strip.
- Raise public awareness of Palestinian culture and activism in Gaza by platforming Palestinians from and living there.

Main work areas:

- Host a series of online events that focus on distinct aspects of the siege in terms of its impact on Palestinian lives including health, children's rights, employment, and suppression of culture; highlight inspiring Palestinian activism from and in Gaza to uplift their resilience and spirit.
- Develop a series of short videos focused on the above.
- Mark the 15th anniversary of the siege in June through an online rally, parliamentary event, or some other appropriate activity.

Boycott Puma

Objectives:

- Press Puma to end its sponsorship of the Israeli Football Association.

Main work areas:

- Contribute to international strategy on the campaign as a key member of the PACBI-led international working group.
- Target sponsorships and brand ambassadors to convince them to distance themselves from Puma for as long as it remains complicit.
- Target clubs in the UK that have connection to Puma.
- Expand and re-engage our group of local partners supporting the campaign.
- Consider new ways to publicise the campaign, including branch-led apartheid-free football events, creative days of action, and campaign merchandise.

Stop the JNF

Objectives:

- Expose and document the role of the JNF in the ongoing ethnic cleansing of Palestine.

- Raise awareness of the Nakba and Israel's ongoing forced displacement of Palestinians.

Main work areas:

The campaign working group, which includes reps from PSC Head Office and branches, will meet early in 2022 to map out plans for the campaign in 2022. A focus on British Park is emerging as a key theme. Additionally, focus will include developing work on the JNF's role in the environmental destruction of Palestine, continuing Stop the JNF's work on JNF-driven dispossession of Palestinians in Jerusalem, and developing and continuing to campaign against the charitable status of JNF UK.

JCB: complicit in apartheid

Objectives:

- Mobilise public and parliamentary pressure on JCB to end sales of its machinery to Israel.
- Raise awareness about demolitions and settlement-building using JCB as a case study.

Main work areas:

- Convene and coordinate with UK and Palestinian partners to exert sustained pressure on JCB to end its complicity, with a specific focus on its UK partnerships such as the NSPCC.
- Highlight JCB as an example of UK complicity in Israel's occupation and apartheid regime, especially through the role of demolitions and settlement-building.

3. Other campaigns

No Tech for Apartheid

- PSC will continue to participate in the international working group looking at the development of a 'no tech for apartheid' campaign off the back of US American tech workers' petitions on the topic in autumn 2021.

PSC Objective 3: To Build Political Alliances

Parliamentary/Political parties

The shifts in mainstream understanding of the apartheid narrative as trade unions and civil society organisations become more comfortable with this discourse is still not being reflected in changes in government and opposition party policy. We need to build increasing pressure on MPs, and direct lobbying is a key part of this. We are working with key allies who work in parliament to increase the regularity of briefings for MPs. The utilisation of more online lobbying opens the potential for us to increase organised lobby days beyond the established pattern of a single annual National Lobby. We propose to work with branches with a series of preparatory workshops and trainings to build a core of activists confident and resourced to organise more regular lobbying of their MPs.

We will work with relevant partner organisations within political parties to build

support for a shift in party policies to meet core PSC campaign demands. Within the Labour Party in particular we will use the leverage of the motion passed at Labour Party Conference in 2021 to push for its core demands for meaningful action, including an end to all trade with settlements and an end to the two-way arms trade to become fully incorporated into party policy.

We will continue to sit as a member of ECCP but not, post-Brexit, be involved in direct lobbying of the European Parliament.

Trade Unions

PSC's Trade Union Advisory Committee (TUAC) will continue to be the key vehicle for coordinating PSC's work with Trade Unions, chaired by the Trade Union Liaison Officer. Key priorities for 2022 will include:

- Working across individual unions to move their established policies to adoption of full support for BDS.
- Continue work to build affiliations at regional and branch level.
- Restart delegations to Palestine (COVID-19 depending) in the autumn.
- Work with unions to highlight and campaign for the Palestinian right to decent work and quality public services.
- Hold (provisional date Oct/Nov) a conference with trade union activists to build support for and engagement with relevant PSC campaigns at a grassroots activist level.
- Work with unions to ensure the necessary processes and information are in place for them to resist potential efforts to desist from their activism for Palestinian rights, including efforts to pressure them to adopt the IHRA definition.

Youth and Student Work

The YSC is now 18-person strong, post-recruitment drives in November 2021. PSC has also recruited a full-time Youth and Student Officer who began work in January. Together they will be working early in 2022 to draw up full action plans for work priorities. Key areas will include:

- Building on campaigns already active across UK campuses for universities to divest from companies complicit in Israel's oppression of the Palestinian people using the database of investments built by PSC as a key tool in this work.
- Enabling and supporting students to plan activities to raise awareness of campaigns during Israel Apartheid Week.
- Rebranding YSC social media work under a "Young PSC" banner. This will allow us to connect with young activists more directly and create a visual synergy across the planned Young PSC website and additional social media platforms.
- Organise workshops/day schools to support student activists.
- Revisiting and renewing our strategy for creating young activist networks for non-students.

Faith and Community Groups

We will continue to work to build alliances with faith and community groups to strengthen our campaigns, and to support the building of such alliances at a branch level.

PSC Objective 4: To organise for growth

PSC saw significant levels of growth in 2021 in income, membership and numbers of branches. We plan to build on this growth in 2022 across all of these areas.

Membership

We are setting a target of 15% growth in membership in 2022. We ended the financial year 2020/21 with 7551 members – PSC's highest ever figure. Growth would have been higher, given the numbers of new members joining PSC, if it had not been for members lapsing. Most of these are members on standing orders. We have been encouraging most members to move to direct debits which reduces lapsed figures and the new CRM system to be introduced in 2022 will significantly improve our ability to communicate with members and turn supporters of PSC into members through targeted communications. We intend to hold three key membership drives including one focussed on increasing youth members. TUAC will coordinate strategies to increase the number of affiliations of trade unions at regional and branch level.

Branch Support and Development

PSC saw its most significant growth in branches in 2022 in the aftermath of the May demonstrations with 12 new branches formed, taking our total to an historic high of 74, with many established branches also reporting increases in branch members. The recruitment of new staff has increased our capacity for branch support including for new branches in formation and to identify areas for potential proactive establishment of new branches.

It is proposed to continue with the virtual fortnightly branch fora established under COVID-19 to replace thrice-yearly physical meetings. We will consult with branches about the reestablishment of some physical meetings, including weekend branch fora post-AGM. We also want to review how the current online fora are being used and what changes would be helpful to branches, including looking at creating regular space for branches to share good practice and success in their local campaigning.

We will consult with branches about topics for further training and support webinars including specific support for newly established branches. We will also look to ensure the regular updating and distribution to branches of physical resources, such as leaflets, to help with their local campaigning.

Income Generation

Based on two years of increased income generation we are currently investing in staff recruitment to build campaigning strength, including strengthening our management structure via recruitment in October of a Deputy Director with oversight of Campaigns. We plan to recruit a second Deputy with oversight of Funding and Development in 2022. We are investing in a new CRM database to increase our capacity to analyse patterns of donation and membership growth and shape ongoing membership recruitment and fundraising drives. Additionally, PSC plans to move office in 2022 to larger premises. PSC employed some external consultancy support at the end of 2021 to help inform the next stages of sustainable income

development to build on this progress, with a report anticipated (at the time of writing) in early 2022. Areas of focus will be:

- Continue to build affiliations and donations from trade union branches and regions working through TUAC.
- Improved and more focussed digital fundraising from PSC supporter base.
- Increase in level of major donors and legacy donations.

John Ellis, Treasurer

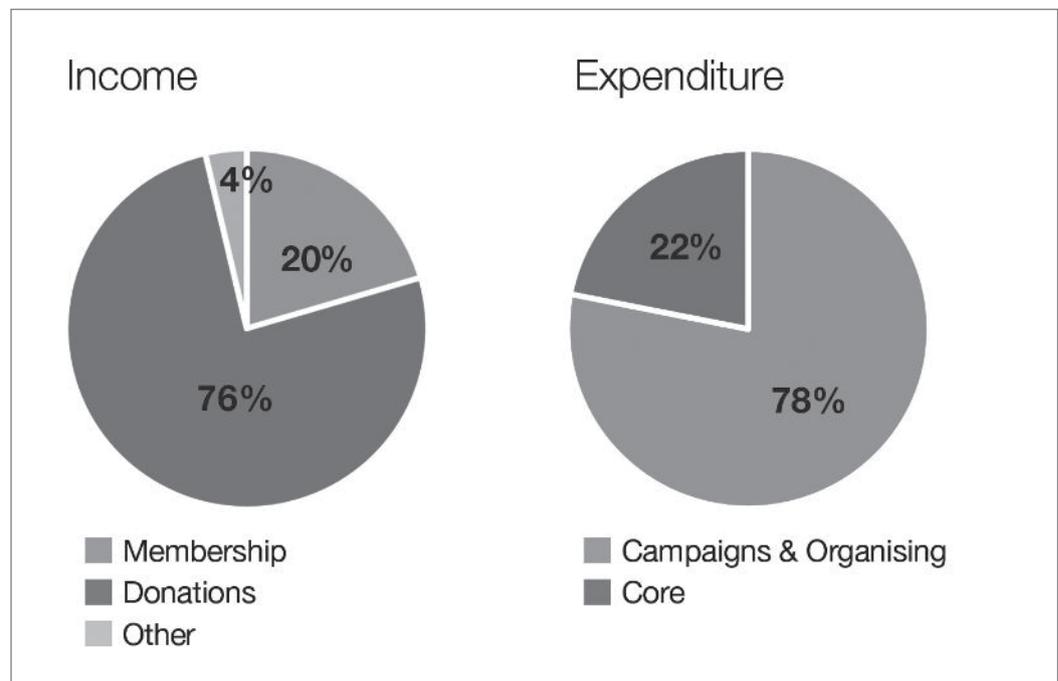
There was an operating surplus for 2020/21 of £233,960 compared with an operating surplus of £56,954 in 2019/20 which, together with exceptional income in that year of £86,670, gave a total surplus for 2019/20 of £143,564. The exceptional income in 2019/20 was the repayment by the Government of costs of £86,670 following our victory in the Supreme Court of the BDS Judicial Review.

This result for 2020/21 was after the Executive had originally budgeted for a small surplus and was on target to meet it. However the brutal suppression of the protests against the expulsion of Palestinians from their homes and the launching of a new assault on Gaza led to a magnificent response from the public and over £240,000 of unbudgetted donations and an increase in membership of almost £20,000.

The resulting demonstrations PSC organised incurred unbudgetted costs including over £50,000 for staging and other equipment.

The Executive have now budgetted a deficit in 2021/22 to spend the surplus on recruiting more staff for the campaign.

The charts below show graphically how PSC’s income and expenditure is made up, with detailed figures on page 24.



Funds

PSC holds funds designated for specific purposes. These are:

The Emergency Campaign Fund is to ensure sufficient funds are available to respond to any emergency in Palestine or for the Campaign. In previous years this fund has enabled PSC to launch a campaign following assaults on Gaza and the repression of protests, for which there were no budgets. This now stands at £55,000.

The Campaign Development Fund is used to continue to develop PSC. This stood at £195,000 at the beginning of the current financial year and is being used to cover the costs of additional staff.

The Working Capital Contingency Fund is essential to cover fluctuations in income, any unexpected expenditure and to provide working capital. PSC has targetted

to have a fund for these purposes equivalent to three months' expenditure, being recommended practice in the Voluntary Sector. This has now been achieved with the fund standing at £175,000.

The Premises Fund is to enable an office relocation without the costs incurred affecting campaigning activities. This now stands at £20,000.

Accounts and independent examination

The accounts information on this and the next page has been taken from PSC's annual accounts which were approved by the Executive on 15 January 2022. A copy can be obtained by members by emailing the office.

The accounts were examined by independent accountants, Knox Cropper Chartered Accountants, who have given them a clean assurance report.

Income & Expenditure Account

Year to 31 August 2021

31 Aug 2021
£

31 Aug 2020
£

Income

Membership	159,241	129,926
Donations	591,086	381,374
Other income	2,240	35,073
Merchandise sales surplus	26,694	17,038

Total income	779,261	563,411
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Expenditure

Campaigning & organising	113,041	126,533
Staffing	338,632	314,250
Office, administration & overheads	93,628	65,674

Total expenditure	545,301	506,457
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Surplus for the period before exceptional items	233,960	56,954
Exceptional item – BDS Judicial Review		86,670

Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	£233,960	£143,624
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Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2021

31 Aug 2021
£

31 Aug 2020
£

Fixed assets , net book value	2	171
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Current assets

Stocks	11,003	14,336
Debtors & prepayments	16,181	53,739
Cash at bank	491,644	209,552
	518,828	277,627

Current liabilities

Creditors, taxation and social security	26,270	17,106
Income in advance	18,815	20,907
	45,085	38,013

Net current assets	473,743	239,614
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Net assets	£473,745	£239,785
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Represented by

Designated funds

Emergency campaign	55,000	55,000
Campaign development	195,000	45,000
Working capital contingency	175,000	125,000
Premises	20,000	10,000

Total designated funds	445,000	235,000
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General funds brought forward

Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	233,960	143,624
Transfers (to)/from designated funds:		
Emergency campaign fund		(18,839)
Campaign development	(150,000)	(45,000)
Working capital contingency	(50,000)	(65,000)
Premises	(10,000)	(10,000)

Total general funds	28,745	4,785
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Accumulated funds carried forward	£473,745	£239,785
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Motion 1: Motion to amend PSC's constitution

Proposed by: The Executive Committee

This AGM resolves to amend the Constitution and Articles of Association of Palestine Solidarity Campaign by adopting the following text. This shall constitute a Special Resolution under the Companies Act.

The Companies Acts 1984 and 2006

A Company Limited by Guarantee and not having a Share Capital

Articles of Association, and Constitution of Palestine Solidarity Campaign Ltd

PART I: PRELIMINARY

1. Name of Organisation

1.1. The name of the organisation is Palestine Solidarity Campaign Ltd, abbreviated to PSC.

2. Registered location

2.1. The organisation is registered in England.

PART II: AIM, OBJECTIVES and VALUES

3. Aim

3.1. The Aim of the Palestine Solidarity Campaign is to support the Palestinian people's struggle for freedom justice and equality. We campaign in support of:

3.1.1. the right of self-determination for the Palestinian people;

3.1.2. the right of return of the Palestinian people;

3.1.3. the Palestinian struggle to end the systems of settler colonialism, apartheid, and military occupations, motivated by Zionism, which deny the realisation of those rights.

4. Objectives

4.1. To build a mass campaign in support of the rights of the Palestinian people.

4.2. To expose and campaign against all actions by the Israeli state and those complicit in suppressing the rights of the Palestinian people.

4.3. To foster political, cultural and social links with Palestinian organisations seeking to achieve self-determination for the Palestinian people.

4.4. To expose, challenge and end the complicity of UK government public bodies, companies and corporations, and any other international entities complicit in supporting Israel's suppression of the rights of the Palestinian people.

4.5. To build the maximum unity in action possible in support of these objectives.

5. Values

5.1. The values that inform the PSC's work and activities include:

5.1.1. the promotion of positive cooperation and respect between all those seeking to campaign in support of the rights of the Palestinian people and who share the Aims, Objectives and Values of the PSC;

5.1.2. a commitment to equality and seeking to ensure that discriminatory acts are not committed against anyone by the PSC, its members or its staff as outlined within the Code of Conduct;

5.1.3. the opposition to all forms of racism, including Islamophobia and antisemitism;

5.1.4. the promotion of the voices of Palestinian civil society, ensuring that this is inclusive of those who may face additional barriers in having their voices heard relating to aspects of their identity; and

5.1.5. independence from any political party or government.

PART III: MEMBERSHIP

6. Membership

6.1. Membership of the PSC is open to all those who agree with its Aims and Objectives and who uphold the Values of the campaign.

6.2. The Executive Committee is responsible for determining admission to, and where necessary termination of, membership.

7. Rights of members

7.1. Members are entitled to participate in national Annual General Meetings (AGMs) and Extraordinary General Meetings (EGMs) and, once they have three months' membership, are entitled to vote at such meetings.

7.2. Members' contact details will be made available to branch officers for the purposes of PSC business only.

7.3. Members are entitled to participate in Branch Forum meetings on behalf of their branch.

8. Liability of members

8.1. The liability of the members of the Company is limited.

8.2. Each member promises that if the Company is wound up while they are a member (or within one year after they cease to be a member), they will contribute a sum not exceeding £1 to the assets of the Company, to be applied towards:

8.2.1. payment of the Company's debts and liabilities contracted before they cease to be a member;

8.2.2. payment of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up; and

8.2.3. adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves.

9. Responsibilities of members

9.1. Members must support and promote the Aims, Objectives and Values of the PSC as set out in this Constitution.

9.2. Members must abide by the Code of Conduct and Constitution.

9.3. Members must pay the required membership subscription.

10. Resignation and termination of membership

10.1. A member may resign from the PSC in writing by letter or e-mail sent to the PSC office.

10.2. Where an annual subscription remains unpaid six months after the renewal date, that membership ceases.

10.3. The Executive Committee may, by a two-thirds majority, reject, terminate or suspend the membership of an individual member found to have breached the Constitution or Code of Conduct.

10.4. A suspension or termination may be appealed against in line with the Appeal Process referred to in the relevant Regulation.

PART IV STRUCTURE

11. Amendments to the Constitution

11.1. Any proposal to amend the Constitution:

11.1.1. must be submitted as a motion in accordance with the rules governing motion submissions to an AGM or EGM (collectively a General Meeting) as referred to in section 15 of this Constitution; and

11.1.2. requires at least 75% of votes cast at the relevant quorate General Meeting in order to be passed.

12. Interpretation

12.1. Where a dispute arises about the meaning of any part of this Constitution, the matter will be referred to the Executive Committee for decision.

12.2. Such decisions may be challenged at the following General Meeting.

13. Branches

13.1. The Executive Committee may approve the formation of local branches.

13.2. New branches or branches wishing to rename shall incorporate Palestine Solidarity Campaign within their name.

13.3. Existing branches which for historical reasons do not include Palestine Solidarity Campaign within their name may keep that name, but shall reference the Palestine Solidarity Campaign within their constitution.

13.4. All branch names shall be approved by the Executive Committee.

13.5. All branches shall adopt the PSC Code of Conduct and have a responsibility for upholding it in relation to activity associated with the branch.

13.6. All branches shall have a constitution, approved by the Executive Committee.

13.7. The branch constitution shall state:

13.7.1. that the branch executive, elected officers and other individuals acting prominently on behalf of the branch shall be national members of the PSC;

13.7.2. that all branch members shall abide by the PSC's Aims, Objectives, Values and Code of Conduct;

13.7.3. the procedure for electing the branch executive and elected officers;

13.7.4. that it shall put in place an appropriate accounting and auditing framework;

13.7.5. that the branch must hold AGMs no more than 15 months apart; and

13.7.6. that members are entitled to participate in local branch meetings and are entitled to vote at such meetings.

14. Affiliates

14.1. An organisation that supports the Aims and Objectives of the PSC may apply

to, or be invited by, the Executive Committee to become an affiliate of the PSC.

14.2. All affiliations must be approved by the Executive Committee.

14.3. Affiliates must pay an annual fee determined from time to time by the Executive Committee.

14.4. Affiliates may send an observer to Branch Forum meetings.

14.5. Affiliates of the PSC remain independent of the PSC and remain solely responsible for their conduct and the conduct of their members.

14.6. The Executive Committee has the power to suspend or revoke the affiliation of any organisation that acts contrary to the Aims, Objectives, Values or Code of Conduct of the PSC.

14.7. A suspension or revocation of affiliation may be appealed against in line with the appeal process referred to in the relevant Regulation.

PART V: GOVERNANCE

15. Annual General Meetings and Elections

15.1. The Annual General Meeting shall be the policy making body of the PSC.

15.2. The PSC shall hold an AGM once in each calendar year. Not more than 15 months shall elapse between the date of one AGM and the next. The AGM may be held in-person, online or a combination thereof at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

15.3. The Agenda of the AGM shall include:

15.3.1. the presentation for approval of an Annual Plan for the coming year;

15.3.2. the Annual Report of the work of the PSC since the last AGM;

15.3.3. the presentation of accounts;

15.3.4. membership and affiliation report;

15.3.5. motions submitted by members, branches, affiliates, the Executive Committee and any duly constituted committees of the PSC as approved by the AGM;

15.3.6. the election of the Executive Committee and any other posts contained within the Constitution or Regulations of the PSC, or which are approved by the AGM;

15.3.7. speakers who may be invited to attend and address the AGM by the Executive Committee on behalf of the membership.

15.4. The Executive Committee shall begin preparing for the AGM at least three months in advance of the scheduled date, publicising the date of the meeting, opening registration and inviting motions and nominations from members, branches and affiliates.

15.5. Motions and nominations for the AGM must be submitted in writing or online to the PSC office at least eight weeks before the scheduled AGM. Amendments to the motions must be received in the PSC office at least fourteen days before the AGM. The Annual Report and accounts, the Annual Plan, motions and nominations shall be circulated to members, branches and affiliated organisations at least six weeks before the scheduled date of the AGM. Amendments to motions shall be circulated to members, branches and affiliated organisations at least seven days before the scheduled date of the AGM.

15.6. Motions and amendments shall be for the purpose of establishing the political positions and campaigning priorities of the PSC or for considering matters of internal

organisation. Motions must not contain language contrary to the PSC's Code of Conduct or place the PSC in legal jeopardy. If a motion or amendment is ruled out of order by two thirds of the votes cast in a quorate Executive Committee meeting, the proposers will be informed before the AGM.

15.7. Except for amendments to this Constitution, motions shall be no longer than 500 words and amendments no longer than 250 words.

15.8. Motions on an emergency subject may be submitted in writing or online, together with a proposer and seconder, until 5pm on the day preceding the AGM. Emergency subjects shall be items that could not reasonably have been submitted in line with the ordinary motion or amendment deadlines and where a failure to consider the item would substantially impair the work of the PSC. The eligibility of a motion submitted under this procedure shall be determined by the Chair, who shall inform the AGM of the decision. Motions deemed ineligible shall be remitted for discussion at the following meeting of the Executive Committee.

15.9. Any member who has been a member for at least six months before nominations open is eligible to submit a nomination or stand for election to elected posts.

15.10. Motions and amendments must have the name of the proposer and seconder, who shall be either individual members, branches, affiliates, the Executive Committee or a duly constituted committee of the PSC. Nominations must have the name of the proposer and seconder who shall be individual members.

15.11. The format for submission of statements to support nominations shall be determined by the Executive Committee and contained in the Election Regulations.

15.12. The Election Regulations shall be made by the Executive Committee and shall include advertisement of elections, receipt of nominations, confirmation of eligibility of candidature, candidature publicity, the election and counting of votes; procedure in the event of a disputed election; and procedure for electing candidates to posts for which no nominations have been received.

15.13. Executive Committee members shall serve until the end of the AGM following their election. Retiring Executive Committee members are eligible for re-election.

16. Extraordinary General Meetings

16.1. An Extraordinary General Meeting may be authorised by the Executive Committee or an Annual General Meeting, whenever either body considers sufficient reason exists. Notice of why such a meeting is deemed necessary together with any relevant motions to be considered must be given. Such meetings require that at least 21 days' notice be given to all members, branches and affiliates.

16.2. The Executive Committee will also convene an EGM relating to a specific area of PSC policy or activity if it receives a request to that effect supported by at least 5% of the individual membership having the right to attend and vote at General Meetings.

16.3. Notice shall be inclusive of the day on which it is served and the day of the meeting.

16.4. A notice in writing may be made by email or post.

17. Proceedings at Annual General Meetings and Extraordinary General Meetings

17.1. The Chairperson, or if required one of the Vice Chairs, shall preside at every General Meeting. If no Chair or Vice Chair is present within 15 minutes of the time appointed, or if either Chair or Vice Chair is present but unwilling to do so, then the members present shall elect a member of the Executive Committee to preside. If no member of the Executive Committee is present or willing to do so, then the

members present shall elect one of their number to preside.

17.2. No business shall be transacted at any General Meeting unless a quorum of members is present. A quorum shall consist of 100 members or 10% of the membership having a right to attend and vote at that meeting, whichever is the lowest.

17.3. If a quorum is not present within 30 minutes of the time appointed for holding the General Meeting, the Executive Committee shall determine whether it be dissolved or adjourned to such a day, time and place as it thinks fit, with notice of at least 21 days being provided to eligible attendees.

17.4. The proceedings at General Meetings will be conducted as laid down in the General Meeting Standing Orders.

17.5. Each fully paid up member who has been a member of the national PSC for three months before a General Meeting shall have one vote.

17.6. All persons voting must be individual members of the national PSC or representing a nationally affiliated organisation.

17.7. Delegates from national organisations affiliated to the PSC will have three votes if they have a minimum of 100,000 members or one vote if fewer.

17.8. PSC branches and nationally affiliated organisations will have one vote.

17.9. All delegates, whether individual members or those duly nominated by their branch or nationally affiliated organisation, must be registered with the PSC national office at least two clear days before the meeting.

17.10. Unless otherwise specified in the Constitution or Standing Orders, all votes will be determined on the basis of a simple majority, with the Chair holding a casting vote in the case of a tie.

18. Executive Committee

18.1. The Executive Committee shall be accountable to the membership for:

18.1.1. the implementation of the PSC's Annual Plan;

18.1.2. the proper management of the affairs of the PSC including financial affairs; and

18.1.3. decisions made between AGMs.

18.2. The Executive Committee shall consist of:

18.2.1. the Chair;

18.2.2. two Vice-Chairs, at least one of whom shall be a woman;

18.2.3. the Secretary;

18.2.4. the Treasurer;

18.2.5. the Trade Union Liaison Officer;

18.2.6. two representatives of the Trade Union Advisory Committee, at least one of whom shall be a woman;

18.2.7. one representative of the Student and Youth Committee; and

18.2.8. eight other elected members, at least four of whom shall be women.

18.3. The Executive Committee shall have the power to co-opt a further three persons without voting rights onto the Executive Committee if this is felt necessary to aid its work and deliberations.

18.4. The Executive Committee, except for co-opted members, shall constitute Palestine Solidarity Campaign Limited's Board of Directors.

18.5. The Executive Committee shall meet not less than six times per year and will endeavour to hold meetings by video or remotely unless the Officers Group decides that a physical Executive Committee meeting is preferable.

18.6. The Executive Committee shall make the minutes of its meetings available on request to all duly constituted PSC branches subject to any confidentiality requirements and/or matters which would materially and adversely impact the PSC if made public.

18.7. Every duly constituted branch of the PSC has the right to place an item on the Executive Committee agenda and to send a representative to participate in the relevant portion of the Executive Committee meeting at which it is discussed.

18.8. Members attending Executive Committee meetings shall withdraw from any agenda item which causes or may cause a conflict of interest.

18.9. The Officers Group shall be a sub-committee of the Executive Committee.

18.9.1. The Officers Group shall consist of the Chair, Vice-Chairs, Secretary, Treasurer, and up to two others to be elected by the Executive Committee. The Director will be invited to attend all Officer Group meetings.

18.9.2. The Officers Group shall be responsible for ensuring the implementation of policy and for decision-making between Executive meetings.

18.9.3. The Officers Group shall create and maintain a register of major risks to the PSC and propose recommendations to the Executive Committee for risk mitigation.

18.9.4. The Officers Group shall be accountable to the Executive Committee.

18.9.5. The Officers Group must report its decisions to the Executive Committee at every Executive Committee meeting.

18.10. The Staffing and Management Committee (SMC) shall be a subcommittee of the Executive Committee.

18.10.1. The SMC shall consist of the Chair, Vice-Chairs, Secretary and Treasurer.

18.10.2. The SMC shall oversee staffing matters.

18.10.3. The Director shall report to the SMC, with the Chair holding formal management responsibility for the Director.

18.10.4. The SMC shall monitor the PSC's finances and budget plans.

18.10.5. The SMC shall review the accounts and finances of the PSC and make recommendations to the Executive Committee.

19. Branch Forum

19.1. The PSC Branch Forum shall be a meeting for members and branch representatives primarily for the interchange of information, discussion, and training.

19.2. The PSC Branch Forum shall meet physically or virtually at a frequency agreed by the Executive Committee in consultation with the Branch Forum.

19.3. The PSC Branch Forum may make recommendations to the Executive Committee, which must be considered and given due weight.

20. Patrons

20.1. The Executive Committee may invite prominent supporters of the Aims of the PSC to become Patrons of the organisation. The position of Patron is purely honorary and confers no executive authority or democratic rights in the organisation.

21. Regulations

21.1. The Executive Committee shall make provision for regulations governing the PSC's activities, including the following:

- 21.1.1. Terms of Reference for the Executive Committee and other committees that the Executive Committee may from time to time deem necessary;
- 21.1.2. definition of roles and responsibilities of elected post holders;
- 21.1.3. definition of the role of staff, including the Director, within the organisation;
- 21.1.4. Complaints Procedure;
- 21.1.5. Appeals Procedure;
- 21.1.6. Code of Conduct;
- 21.1.7. openness and accountability of the Executive Committee;
- 21.1.8. Standing Orders for meetings.

21.2. Nothing in the Regulations shall be contradictory to the provisions of this Constitution.

21.3. The Regulations may be amended by the Executive Committee with a majority voting in favour.

PART VI: FINANCE

22. Finance

22.1. Subject at all times to the relevant Companies Act, statutory and regulatory requirements:

22.1.1. The PSC is responsible for ensuring that funds provided to it are used only for those activities which are in accordance with its Aims and Objectives.

22.1.2. The Executive Committee is required to:

22.1.2.1. ensure that accounts and accounting records are kept in accordance with the relevant regulations and laws, and that accounting information is prepared and presented in accordance with normal accounting principles;

22.1.2.2. ensure the preparation of annual accounts and their availability to Members at the AGM;

22.1.2.3. ensure that an appropriate system of internal financial management and control is maintained; and

22.1.2.4. take responsibility for the determination of the pay, terms and conditions of service of any staff employed by the PSC.

22.1.3. Independent examiners or auditors shall be appointed by the AGM.

PART VII: WINDING UP

23. Winding up

23.1. A motion to wind up and dissolve the PSC requires at least 75% of votes cast at the relevant quorate General Meeting in order to be passed.

23.2. The net assets of the PSC following dissolution shall go to one or more organisations having similar aims as decided by the General Meeting and in accordance with the provisions of the relevant sections of the Articles of Association relating to the winding up and dissolution of the PSC.

Motion 2: Administrative Detention

Proposed by Carol Stavris
Seconded by Pam Parsons

The Palestine Solidarity Campaign strenuously opposes Israel's widespread use of administrative detention to hold Palestinians for long periods of time without charge, trial or conviction.

Administrative detention by an occupying power is only allowed in rare, exceptional circumstances under International Law yet Israel continually uses this method with impunity, especially against political activists. Thousands of Palestinians have been held in this way, sometimes for years. Those under 18 years old and even young children are not exempted. Those detained have no real opportunity to mount a defence as judges routinely accept prosecution demands to keep evidence secret on the grounds of national security.

The British mandate of 1945 Defence (Emergency) Regulations, amended 1979, is the legal basis which allowed Israel to form its Law on Authority in States of Emergency, including administrative detention, so Britain bears a responsibility to call Israel to account for its misuse. Israeli military forces use weapons and equipment sold by Britain when carrying out house arrests.

PSC therefore resolves to spotlight Israel's use of administrative detention by:

- Launching a Campaign, targeting the British government's toleration of this method of imprisonment which is contrary to International Law.
- Providing up to date material on the issue for use by local groups with information on how to get active in the Campaign.
- Highlighting the sales of British armaments and equipment used in the arrest methods of Israeli security forces.
- Having at least one public event during the year specifically on administrative detention.
- Continuing to give support and publicity to the struggle for freedom of all those who are held without trial in Israeli prisons.

Motion 3: Oppose UK-Israel collusion – direct action

Proposed by Dave Chappell
Seconded by Amal Ghusain

1. PSC AGM notes:

A. The November 2021 UK – Israel memorandum of understanding that “will enable closer working in diplomacy, defence and security, cyber, science, technology, and many other areas. Through the Roadmap, we will elevate the UK-Israel relationship to a strategic partnership.”

(With no reference whatsoever to human rights being considered or respected in this ‘partnership’.)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-israel-strategic-partnership-memorandum-of-understanding-2021>

B. The UK Government awarding an increasing number of contracts to Israeli arms company Elbit Systems UK, including £102 million (February 2021) to produce 'Dismounted Joint Fire Integrator' (automated shooting systems) for the British Army.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/102-million-investment-in-detect-and-destroy-system-for-british-army>

2. PSC AGM believes:

A. Israel seeks to profit from selling technologies 'battle tested' on the Palestinians, with Israeli politicians themselves at times involved in the process.

B. Israel uses military technologies to perpetrate war crimes against Palestinians.

C. Under international law and universal jurisdiction, people and nations have a duty to stop / prevent such crimes.

D. Acts to prevent greater crimes can be a vital and legitimate legal defence for civilians undertaking direct action.

3. PSC AGM condemns the UK Government's ever-more shameless ignoring, or condoning of Israel flouting international law, and the Labour Party for failing to challenge these developments (noting that Richard Burgon's private members' Israel Arms Trade (Prohibition) Bill, while worthy, has only a small number of Labour MPs amongst its 54 cross-party supporters).

4. PSC AGM resolves:

A. To publicise and campaign against the UK Government's increasing collusion with Israel.

B. To recognise, publicise, and where possible support the efforts of activists who, in response to Israeli breaches of international law, and the UK political establishment's collusion, take direct action to try and stop or prevent these crimes.

Motion 4: Palestine Action

Proposed by Tony Greenstein

Seconded by Iola Davies

This AGM welcomes:

1. The closure of the Elbit Ferranti factory in Oldham.

2. The recent acquittal of 3 activists in Newcastle-under-Lyme

This AGM notes:

1. That this victory would not have been achieved if not for the sacrifices made by the activists of Palestine Action, 36 of whom are currently facing charges in different courts.

2. That since its inception PSC had consistently criticised Palestine Action for its tactics and approach e.g. in distributing legal advice warning against giving any support to Palestine Action.

3. In its statement welcoming the closure of the Oldham factory PSC failed even to mention Palestine Action.

4. That many PSC members and branches have, notwithstanding the advice of PSC, given support for Palestine Action.

This AGM resolves:

1. To donate £1,000 to Palestine Action for support to the defendants who are awaiting trial.
2. Cease all criticism of Palestine Action and instead to publicise their activities and offer them solidarity.
3. To invite them to address the next branch forum.

Motion 5: Palestine Authority

Proposed by Tony Greenstein

Seconded by Iola Davies

This AGM notes:

1. The murder by the Palestine Authority (PA) security forces of Nizar Banat in June 2021.
2. That the PA security forces attacked peaceful demonstrations protesting Banat's murder e.g. Nizar Banat killing: Witnesses recount Palestinian Authority's violent crackdown on protests, Middle East Eye 29.6.21.
3. That the PA has little support amongst Palestinians. Its primary support comes from the Israeli state and western donors.
4. When Trump cut off aid to the Palestinians the one exception was US funding for the PA.
5. That Trump said:
"I... applaud the Palestinian Authority's continued security coordination with Israel. They get along unbelievably well. I had meetings, and at these meetings I was actually very impressed and somewhat surprised at how well they get along. They work together beautifully." – Donald Trump, 2017
6. That Abbas has described the PA's collaboration with Israel's security forces as 'sacred'.
7. That the PA's security forces are not there to protect Palestinians but to protect Israel.
8. That the PA's budget for its security forces is around 30%, the highest in the world. The security sector consumes more of the PA's budget than education, health, and agriculture combined.

This AGM resolves:

1. To condemn the PA for the murder of Nizar Banat, its use of torture and its violent attacks on Palestinian demonstrations and its collaboration with Israel's security forces.
2. To give no support whatsoever to the PA which is a subcontractor to the Israeli military and to make our criticisms explicit.
3. That Abbas's regime is an enemy of the Palestinians and no different from the regimes that the South African state installed in the Bantustans.
4. To call for fresh elections, which the PA cancelled at Israel's behest.

Motion 6: Two States Solution is an Apartheid Solution

Proposed by Tony Greenstein
Seconded by Iola Davies

This AGM notes:

1. That it is the Zionists not the Palestinians who today support the two state solution.
2. They do this because they know it cannot happen and that the two state solution acts as a smokescreen for the continuing expansion of Israeli settlements.
3. That no section of the Palestinian population now supports this discredited apartheid solution which accepts the continued existence of an apartheid Israeli state
4. That the two state solution had at its heart the continued existence of an Israeli settler colonial state.

This AGM resolves:

1. To support a unitary state solution in what was Mandate Palestine between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea.
2. To support a State based on equal rights for all regardless of religion or ethnicity.

Motion 7: Helping more people to boycott

Proposed by Stephen Watters
Seconded by Rada Daniell

In addition to the PUMA campaign and the JCB campaign currently being figured out, in addition to responding to requests from the Boycott National Committee (BNC), PACBI and appropriate others for support on initiatives that develop through the year, it is proposed to enhance BDS, the boycott element, by listing other existing boycott campaigns or new campaigns that PSC members can choose to support. As examples, past or present: AirBNB, Booking.com, Axa, Teva, but it can be random luck if people find out about them. That needn't be PSC staff identifying; it could be by a PSC branch, select branches, or any individual notifying PSC. PSC can check it's validity and keep on a list in the resources section of the website. It is not for PSC to take on as an additional core campaign, just check and list it, should anyone wish to pursue as a boycott. This way, widen the BDS net, capture people who use these companies but know nothing about Palestine, a way to introduce more people to the Palestine cause, and further the Palestinian call for BDS.

Motion 8: Helping branches grow and new members learn

Proposed by Stephen Watters

Seconded by Rada Daniell

To assist branches with growth, it could help if they set what they feel is an achievable target and timeframe for their size of branch, they figure a strategy, ideas for doing so, and they review their results and strategy at the end of that timeframe. Branches are encouraged to meet periodically to discuss what works well and what doesn't. Branches can assist the learning of new members by sending them the short series of films that PSC is making explaining how Israel meets the definition of an apartheid state.

PSC Executive Committee 2022 nominations

Chair

Kamel Hawwash

The Palestinians faced an escalation of oppression in 2021 and looked to PSC, as a key solidarity organisation, to mobilise support for their struggle. PSC rose to that challenge. We mobilised major demonstrations in May and further developed our campaigning. We grew our membership and added more staff to advance our work. I was proud to be a part of PSC's efforts and if elected again as Chair, I will do everything I can to help PSC grow our campaigning in support of the Palestinians in their legitimate struggle to attain freedom, justice, and equality.

Proposer: Chris Kamis

Secunder: Martin Sullivan

Vice-Chair

Louise Regan

I am the current Vice Chair of PSC, the chair of Nottingham PSC branch and a NEU national officer.

I have been centrally involved in organising demonstrations, meetings, campaigns and fundraisers for Palestine in Nottingham. I have also attended and spoken at national rallies and events.

I have led a number of trade union delegations to Palestine. I have been active in the child prisoners campaign speaking at meetings and organising trade union events. I am absolutely committed to campaigning for justice for the Palestinian people, particularly building the BDS campaign through the trade union movement and civil society.

Proposer: Bernard Regan

Secunder: Angie Mindel

Secretary

Ben Sofa

I'm seeking re-election as Secretary to continue building PSC's strength and impact. We must expose the apartheid reality Israel has created, reaching beyond our existing base to translate sympathy into effective action. This requires a broad, outward-facing campaign which keeps its focus on challenging the Israeli state's racism and its continued denial of rights. I bring years of campaigning experience but also professional skills which help PSC develop – from writing the software that powers our online actions to designing our join/donate platform that delivers so much of our income, I wish to continue serving our movement.

Proposer: Kamel Hawwash

Secunder: John Ellis

Treasurer

John Ellis

I am a chartered accountant who has worked primarily with the not-for-profit sector for over forty years. I was Treasurer for Rock Against Racism and am currently director of a charity that uses photography to highlight identity, representation, human rights & social justice. This involvement has made me aware of the difficulties experienced by voluntary organisations, particularly in the current financial and political climate. I have worked with PSC for many years and feel passionately about the injustice suffered by the Palestinian people and would be honoured if re-elected Treasurer.

Proposer: Kamel Hawwash
Secunder Ben Soffa

Trade Union Liaison Officer

Simon Dubbins

I am the Director of International for Unite the Union and been an active member of PSC for many years. For the last twelve months I have served as PSC's Trade Union Officer been a member of the PSC Executive. My union has a proud record of active solidarity work with the Palestinians and in my role as Trade Union Officer I have sought to further strengthen and develop real solidarity throughout the wider trade union movement. With your support I would like to continue working towards this goal in the coming year.

Proposer: Mark Beacon
Secunder: Kamel Hawwash

Ordinary Members (8 Places)

Iyas Al Qasem

I chair Kingston & Richmond PSC, and am lucky to work with an active and dedicated committee. Last year, it was my privilege to chair the group assigned to take the AGM online. This year, I had a similar privilege chairing the working group to redraft the PSC constitution. My fortunate knack seems to be that I can support great people to work together to do challenging things. At work, I help company leaders implement values-led strategies, and in my spare time, run a small charity supporting Palestinian children in refugee camps or under occupation. I am Palestinian from Nablus.

Proposer: Salim Alam
Secunder: Sorcha Thomson

Sybil Cock

I have been an energetic member of the EC, and a PSC volunteer, for several years and feel I have more to contribute. My priorities are local campaigning with my branch in East London and pushing the Israeli Apartheid narrative in as many arenas as possible. It is important that PSC is guided by the voices of activists on the ground, and that we also give full support to our excellent staff. I have helped to set up new branches. In the next year I hope again to facilitate visits of Trades Unionists to Palestine, and visiting speakers, especially women.

Proposer: Miriam Scharf
Secunder: Guy Shennan

Ed McNally

I'm standing for re-election to help make PSC even bigger and stronger in 2022. It's been a privilege to serve on the EC during an important year of growth for PSC. I've consulted on the development of our political strategy and trade union liaison work, assisted with youth & student organising, and been proudly involved in coordinating speakers for the massive demos.

Proposer: Kamel Hawwash

Seconder: Averil Parkinson

Bernard Regan

Current PSC Executive Committee Member. Enfield Branch. Activist for 40 years. Former PSC Trade Union Liaison Officer. I have spoken on webinars and in schools, universities, Labour Party, and trade unions. Author 'The Balfour Declaration' (Verso). I wrote the groundbreaking 2006 TUC motion on Palestine. I have worked to build a broad-based inclusive campaign, like the Anti-Apartheid Movement, to end British government complicity in the oppression of the Palestinians.

I would like the Branch Forum to be used to exchange ideas and information on how to reach out to wider groups like Black Lives Matter and Climate Change activists.

Proposer: Kamel Hawwash

Seconder: Louise Regan

Neha Shah

I'm seeking re-election to the EC to continue building PSC's impact and strength. I bring campaigning experience as a committed member of Oxford PSC, PSC's Youth and Student committee and as an NEU activist. I am also an experienced anti-racist and migrant justice organiser.

Proposer: Iyas Al Qasem

Seconder: Pam Parsons

Julia Simpkins

As a member of Manchester PSC and have been active locally in the action to close the Elbit factory in Oldham. In May we held the largest demonstration ever seen in Bolton town square during the increased bombing of Gaza. I visited Palestine with two NEU delegations and several times alone to bring a group of Palestinian children to Bolton. I have addressed many groups around the country on the situation in Palestine. I am the vice chair of the NEU's International Solidarity Officers forum. I seek re-election and want to continue working to support the people of Palestine.

Proposer: Eileen Murphy

Seconder: Sue Piper

Alex Snowden

As Chair of Newcastle PSC since 2009, I have been centrally involved in organising many demonstrations, conferences, fundraisers, campaigns and public meetings for Palestine in north-east England. This includes important marches and rallies in Newcastle last May. I have a long record of organising in Stop the War Coalition and am international solidarity officer in my National Education Union branch. I am

a current PSC Executive Committee member, committed to helping PSC become the mass anti-apartheid movement we need. Top priorities include a sustained focus on BDS campaigns, popularising the apartheid narrative and building alliances, especially with trade unions.

Proposer: Louise Regan

Secunder: Sybil Cock



Palestine Solidarity Campaign



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