

Anna Athow, Workers' Revolutionary Party – Hornsey and Wood Green

Our party's answer to your questions is affirmative and I am forwarding the relevant section from our May Day manifesto to clarify our position. "We send our greetings to the struggling masses of Palestine, especially to its heroic 1,600 hunger strikers, led by Marwan al Barghouthi, who are braving Israeli barbarism and standing up for the national rights of the Palestinian people.

Ongoing clashes erupted across the occupied West Bank on Friday, with many Palestinians injured, in a 'Day of Rage' called for by the Fatah movement – in support of the hunger-striking Palestinian prisoners who have now entered the 15th day of a mass hunger strike.

Israeli forces fired tear-gas bombs, rubber-coated steel bullets, and live fire during the clashes in cities, villages and refugee camps in the West Bank. The Palestinian masses are outraged that the Trump administration has given Israel a clear go-ahead to establish one state in Palestine, with the Palestinian people as its colonial slaves.

Trump has even declared that the US embassy will be moved to Jerusalem, and has recognised that city as the capital of Israel. This has emboldened Israel and encouraged it to expand its settlements and even to begin a regular bombing of Syria.

The UK working class cannot stand idly by and watch the massacre of the Palestinians. The Tory government has been asked by the Palestinians to apologise for the Balfour Declaration made 100 years ago, under which Britain handed over Palestine to the Zionists. The Tories have refused and indeed are now celebrating the centenary of the Balfour Declaration!

The Palestinians have also asked the UK government to recognise the state of Palestine and it has also refused. The UK trade unions must organise massive demonstrations in support of the Palestinians and also impose a trade union boycott of Israel.

The Labour Party must include a UK apology for the Balfour Declaration and a pledge to recognise the state of Palestine in its Election Manifesto for the general election on June 8.'

Our daily paper News Line has excellent coverage of the Palestinian struggle and reports of the prisoners hunger strike you can read it online at www.wrp.org.uk.