



# Motions and Amendments

## PSC AGM 2025

### Motion 1: Tackling anti-Palestinian racism

Proposer: Taalib Shamsuddin

Seconder: Suleman Sarwar

Anti-Palestinian Racism (APR) is pervasive and has a profound detrimental impact on the Palestinian peoples and their supporters.

According to UK or international laws, racism can manifest in several ways including but not limited to intent, harassment, hostility, stereotyping, disparate treatment, disparate impact, exclusion, segregation, defamation, victimisation, prejudice, bias, marginalisation, erasure, dehumanisation, vilification, systemic oppression, unconscious bias, microaggressions, and intersectionality.

To tackle APR, we must: define it; continuously improve the definition and examples; and systematically oppose it.

Thus the AGM resolves to:

1) Adopt, as a starting point, the 2022 Arab Canadian Lawyers' Association (ACLA) definition:

“APR is a form of anti-Arab racism that silences, excludes, erases, stereotypes, defames or dehumanises Palestinians or their narratives. APR takes various forms including: denying the Nakba and justifying violence against Palestinians; failing to acknowledge Palestinians as an indigenous people with a collective identity, belonging and rights in relation to occupied and historic Palestine; erasing the human rights and equal dignity and worth of Palestinians; excluding or pressuring others to exclude Palestinian perspectives, Palestinians and their allies; defaming Palestinians and their allies with slander such as being inherently antisemitic, a terrorist threat/sympathizer or opposed to democratic values.”

2) Adopt these as other examples of APR:

- a) The systems of apartheid imposed on Palestinians, supporting these racist systems, or denying or minimising apartheid's existence.
- b) Not unconditionally and immediately recognising Palestine as a state, while similarly recognising Israel.
- c) Not calling for safety and security for Palestinians or a Palestinian state while also calling for a safe and secure state of Israel.
- d) Recognising and accepting the right of return to Israel for Jewish populations worldwide while denying it to indigenous Palestinian populations, refugees, or their descendants.
- e) Politicians and officials failing to engage with Palestinian victims of war crimes and racism, while demonstrably engaging with other racial groups.
- f) Requiring Palestinians or their supporters to criticise unlawful acts more vociferously than others, or collectively holding them responsible or requiring them to apologise for the acts of others.
- g) Not applying and upholding the same principles of international law and humanitarian law for Palestinians while upholding them for other racial or national groups.
- h) Additional examples listed in the July 2024 ICJ Advisory Opinion on the Legal Consequences of Israeli Policies in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem.

3) Regularly review the definition and examples.

4) Collaboratively develop resources, training, and systems to help members, branches, and the movement as a whole to identify, challenge, report, document, and archive incidents of APR.

5) Collaboratively advocate for governments, public institutions, universities, trade unions, and political parties to adopt policies that recognise and combat APR.

6) Collaboratively conduct research to contextualise APR within governmental, institutional, and individual responsibilities as defined by anti-racism policies, the Equality Act, the Human Rights Act, and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD), or other legal frameworks.

7) Collaboratively make regular submissions to ICERD, Equalities and Human Rights Commission, and other bodies.

## Motion 2: For Palestinian independence and unity

Proposer: UNISON North West Region

Secunder: Logan Williams

The AGM of the PSC welcomes the Composite 17 Resolution of the 2024 Congress of the TUC and the solidarity expressed by the NEU in their Motion 77.

It notes in particular that 'Israel's offensive in Gaza follows decades of violations of Palestinian human rights and international law, ethnic cleansing, and the imposition of a system of oppression against all Palestinians, including those living under military occupation and Palestinians who are citizens of Israel, which is recognised internationally as meeting the legal definition of apartheid'.

Israel's renewed assault upon Palestinians in the North of Gaza, has passed new thresholds of horror. Alongside its relentless and brutal military assault, Israel has again cut off aid supplies, continued to escalate its violence into Lebanon killing thousands, and launched attacks on UN bases.

And yet still, Israel is granted impunity by the British government. The reality, of course, is that no state has the right to use force to impose a military occupation, sustain a system of apartheid, and unleash a genocide. The UK government refuses to sanction Israel as it continues to commit grave violations of international law.

Our task is to channel the rage we all feel into escalated actions, as demanded by our core Palestinian partners within the BDS movement.

The TUC Resolution notes in addition that 'the International Court of Justice has found South Africa's case, that Israel is committing genocide in Gaza, to be plausible' and the International Criminal Court has finally issued arrest warrants for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and former Minister of Defence, Yoav Gallant.

The TUC called upon the UK government to 'Immediately recognise the State of Palestine' and provided a rapturous reception to the Palestinian Ambassador Husam Zomlot in his address to Congress.

It called for a 'renewed strategy of boycotts, divestment and sanctions', and the banning of export licences for arms directly traded with Israel. It also called for the restoration of funding to UNRWA in the rebuilding of housing, hospitals, schools and universities.

Palestinian trade unions have called on their counterparts to end all complicity with Israel's crimes.

The PSC AGM calls for:

1. all UK institutions to cease any co-operation with sister institutions in Israel.
2. the UK government and all institutions to adhere to international law and the Human Rights Conventions of the UN and other international institutions
3. the British Government to recognise the State of Palestine in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions
4. the warmest welcome and widest dissemination of the Reconciliation Agreement agreed by all Palestinian factions within the framework of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation and their determination to form a government
5. a permanent ceasefire on all fronts and the release of all hostages and political prisoners held without charge under administrative detention
6. an immediate two-way arms embargo with Israel
7. opposition to any attempt by the new United States administration to intervene in the situation in Palestine.

## Motion 2 Amendment A

Proposer: PSC Executive Committee

In Paragraph 8 to Delete: *“and the banning of export licences for arms directly traded with Israel.”* And to replace with *“end all licences for arms trade with Israel.”*

Delete *“1. all UK institutions to cease any co-operation with sister institutions in Israel.”* and replace with *“1. All UK institutions to cut ties with complicit Israeli institutions and corporations, and with international corporations implicated in Israel's genocide and underlying apartheid regime”.*

Delete: *“3. the British Government to recognise the State of Palestine in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions”*

Delete: *“4. the warmest welcome and widest dissemination of the Reconciliation Agreement agreed by all Palestinian factions within the framework of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation and their determination to form a government”*

Delete: *“7. opposition to any attempt by the new United States administration to intervene in the situation in Palestine.”* And replace with *“7. Opposition to ongoing US military, political and financial support for Israel's genocide and aggressive expansionism”.*

## Motion 3: That PSC give a little support to a Consumer Boycott, as well as focusing on BDS targets

Proposer: PSC Southampton

Seconder: Glyn Oliver

We totally support BDS wish to focus on its identified targets. However, now PUMA are not a target, the remaining BDS Consumer boycott focused targets – ie Carrefour, RE/MAX, SIEMENS, AHAVA, Chevron, sodastream, Caltex, AXA, hp – these apart from Barclays, are not so well known and are not common consumer purchases.

And so, as well as totally supporting focusing on the boycott of these targets, including of course Barclays, we are proposing that PSC should also just publish a short list or leaflet of a dozen or so other common consumer companies and products, including what BDS itself has identified as “Organic boycott targets.”

These are common consumer products that people see and buy every single day in their supermarkets, takeaways, coffee shops, etc. This would not detract from the focused campaigns at all.

While there are lots of lists already, it would be very useful and easy for PSC to produce a reliable and definitive list or leaflet identifying these and why we should boycott them. PSC just needs to make this available eg via its website, that is all it needs to do, it doesn't need to campaign on them. And so PSC could still spend 100% of its time and energy focusing on key BDS targets such as Barclays, Carrefour, RE/MAX, etc.

With the horrors that we see now every day we now have considerable public support. 70% of the public now support our ceasefire aims. And so we really should harness all this public support by providing a very simple and easy way for them to show their support, in a way that is easily sustainable, will have a massive financial impact, and be of long lasting benefit.

And so this simple list of consumer products to boycott would address this. It is very simple, quick and easy for PSC to do, and it would enable millions of ordinary people (who do not bank with Barclays or sign petitions) to also be able to show their support for Palestine by the simple act of choosing one product over another in their weekly shop.

Given all the horrific atrocities happening every day, supporting this proposed consumer boycott motion is the morally correct thing to do. It does not compete or take away from focusing on BDS key targets in anyway whatsoever. Indeed BDS has said of its list of organic targets. “The BDS movement did not initiate these grassroots boycott campaigns but supports them due to these brands' complicity in Israel's genocide and apartheid against Palestinians.” And these consumer boycott campaigns such as in Malaysia and in the US, have been incredibly successful. It is very simple, extremely effective and would gain massive public support and take up, and so there is really no good reason for PSC not to support it. PSC has absolutely nothing to lose by doing this and the active support of millions of people to gain.

# Motion 4: PSC and Stand Up to Racism

Proposed by: Helena Aksentijevic

Seconded by: Luca Salice

Camden PSC notes:

The Israeli Occupation force has carried out a year long slaughter of Palestinians in Gaza and carried out illegal Military activity in the West Bank and Lebanon.

Over 40,000 have been killed, half of them women and children. 90,000 have been injured. These numbers are expected to increase when others are found and identified under the rubble.

This branch also notes:

Stand Up To Racism has not condemned the Israeli genocide and in the past has allowed Zionists to join its anti-racist marches, notably in Glasgow.

Therefore, this branch demands:

That National PSC enter talks with SUTR to convince them to:

1. Denounce Israel and confirm it is an apartheid state.
2. Denounce Israels' genocidal actions and denounce Zionism.
3. Agree and put our statement that Zionism is inherently racist and therefore Zionists have no place in any anti-racist movement.

When SUTR agrees to these points, PSC can mobilise to support SUTR.

We also demand:

1. That PSC clarifies its position with reference to SUTR to their members.

## Motion 4 Amendment A

Proposer: PSC Executive Committee

Delete demands 1 onwards and replace with:

PSC reaffirms:

1. Its staunch position as an anti-Zionist campaigning organisation.
2. That this position is founded in our recognition of Zionism as a form of racism and racial discrimination, used to justify the ongoing oppression and denial of rights to the Palestinian people.
3. Its belief that any coherent anti-racist movement must oppose all forms of racism, including Zionism, all forms of colonialism, including Israel's settler-colonisation, all forms of apartheid, including that which is imposed on the Palestinian people by Israel, and all forms of genocide, including that which Israel is currently subjecting the Palestinian people to.

PSC notes:

1. The importance of forming and retaining a united front against fascism in Britain.
2. That the PSC executive committee are already in extended talks with SUTR leadership about the issue outlined in this motion,

3. That SUTR's previous failures to adopt a clear position of opposition to Israel's system of racist oppression has meant that PSC has not been able to give its full support to SUTR's mobilising efforts for anti-fascist marches and demonstrations.

4. That PSC's director has spoken at two such anti-fascist rallies, organised by SUTR, stating explicitly PSC's belief that Zionism is racism, and that the presence of Zionist campaigners on anti-fascist marches is antithetical to the march's values.

PSC believes:

1. That ongoing discussions with SUTR by the executive committee should be approached in good faith and without prior ultimatums, as this provides the best means of shifting SUTR's position without fomenting fissures within the Palestine solidarity movement and the broader anti-racist movement in Britain.
2. That ongoing discussions with SUTR must be focused on trying to encourage them to adopt a clear position of opposition to Israel's system of racist oppression, in line with their stated values of anti-racism.
3. That in line with these principles, PSC maintains its position, under review by the EC, of not actively mobilising for SUTR demonstrations but being prepared to send speakers who reassert PSC's anti-Zionist position.

## Motion 4 Amendment B

Proposer: Robert Ferguson

Seconder: Anne Alexander

After "This branch/AGM also notes" delete para from "Stand Up To Racism..." to "...in Glasgow" and insert:

1. The immense danger of the rise of the far right and fascist movements internationally.
2. The continuing discussions between SUTR and PSC over their differences in strategy.
3. The support for the mobilisations against violent fascist and far right movements by other coalition partners.

Delete "demands" and insert "calls for" in "Therefore this AGM demands"

Delete all from "That national PSC enter talks..." to "... support SUTR" and insert:

National PSC to continue talks with SUTR over differences in strategy on the basis of the understanding:

1. That the Palestinian mass movement is an essential element in throwing back the potentially existential threat from far right and fascist movements
2. That speakers from PSC / coalition be invited on SUTR platforms with complete freedom to express views on Israel and Palestinian freedom, and strategy for opposing racism and fascism.
3. That Palestinian flags, banners etc are welcome on SUTR counter-mobilisations against the far right and fascists.
4. That Islamophobia and racism towards Palestinian protestors must be robustly and publicly countered.
5. That while discussions over differences in strategy continue, national PSC calls on support for counter-mobilisations against the far right and fascist threat called by SUTR on the basis of points 1-4 above.

In "We also demand", delete "demand" and insert "call".

# Motion 5

Proposer: Geoff Lee

Seconder: Luca Salice

- To endorse the PACBI campaign to suspend Israel from international football associations FIFA and UEFA until Israeli racism is suppressed.
- To explore opportunities to build awareness, solidarity and pressure through football nationally and locally through PSC branches.

## Why

Israel has killed 344 Palestinian footballers in the Gaza genocide (PACBI, 14 Nov 2024) and left many with life-changing injuries. It has also destroyed many Palestinian football grounds.

This is on top of the use of the Yarmouk Stadium as a detention/interrogation camp, the suspension of football across Palestine, the affiliation of settlement clubs to the Israeli Football Association and all the everyday obstacles Israel places in the way of Palestinian football.

The November 2024 violence by Israeli football fans from the Maccabi FC playing in Amsterdam exposed both Israeli racism and the bias of the mainstream media to protect Israel's image.

The anti-apartheid movement ran campaigns to boycott South African sports and expel South Africa from international sports federations.

The use of sports to protest apartheid helped raise awareness and support for the movement. It also highlighted South Africa's sportswashing, a tactic also used by Israel and its allies.

## How

- PSC nationally to explore links with people and groups within the football world who are engaged on the issue of Palestine including high profile individuals and relevant fan groups. Such links especially with relevant fan groups attached to local football clubs can also be developed by PSC branches. Some PSC branches have already been running football campaigns, e.g. Kick Israel out of FIFA campaigning at Wembley Stadium matches in Brent.