



BOYCOTT THE FILM AGREEMENT

Campaign Statement

In 2005, Palestinian civil society issued a call for a campaign of 'Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions' (BDS) against Israel until it complies with international law with regard to Palestinian rights. This includes the rights of refugees in exile, Palestinians under occupation in the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem, as well as the Palestinian citizens of the Israeli state.

We are concerned that the 'Agreement on Film Co-Production Between the Government of New Zealand and the Government of the State of Israel', signed in March 2016, makes our country complicit in Israel's systemic racism and military occupation. Israel relies heavily on exporting its cultural brand to maintain its legitimacy in the eyes of the world. Although this facade of a tolerant and progressive culture is starting to crumble, by signing this agreement, New Zealand is complicit in Israel's attempts to whitewash over half a century of blatant, relentless, daily subjugation of the Palestinian people.

We oppose the film co-production agreement and call for the New Zealand government to revoke the agreement based on the principles of BDS, until Israel complies with international law on human rights, return of Palestinian refugees and withdrawal from the Occupied Palestinian Territories.

Increasingly in the last few years and especially the last few months, governments, international organisations, labour organisations, universities, academics, faith groups – including many Jewish groups and individuals, artists and other cultural figures have responded to the Palestinians' call for BDS.

New Zealand has a proud history of standing up to racism and discrimination internationally. For instance, our protests against the South African Apartheid-era Springbok tour in 1981 were a defining moment in the anti-apartheid movement.

We want New Zealand to stand on the right side of history once again.

www.boycottfilmagreement.nz

Authorised by the NZ Palestine Solidarity Network

PO Box 86022, Mangere East, Auckland 2158

Contact Sian: admin@palestinesolidaritynz.net

