



## The BDS-Gruppe Berlin with the support of the BDS Gruppe Munich invites to the BDS-workshop in Berlin on September 17<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> 2011

### “The European Campaign against Agrexco”

**BDS – Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions** – signifies the worldwide campaign the Palestinian civil society has called for on July 9th, 2005. Referring to former movements against politics of apartheid of the South African governments, BDS is part of an international network that works in all civil society fields and especially on the political level.

**BDS** as a non violent resource of the civil societies is in response to the failure of international politics to induce Israeli governments to give up its policies of occupation, apartheid and colonisation.

*“... These non-violent punitive measures should be maintained until Israel meets its obligation to recognize the Palestinian people’s inalienable right to self-determination and fully complies with the precepts of international law by:*

- 1. Ending its occupation and colonization of all Arab lands and dismantling the Wall*
- 2. Recognizing the fundamental rights of the Arab-Palestinian citizens of Israel to full equality; and*
- 3. Respecting, protecting and promoting the rights of Palestinian refugees to return to their homes and properties as stipulated in UN resolution 194...”<sup>1</sup>*

### **Why Agrexco?**

The company Agrexco symbolises the Israeli politics of colonisation, occupation and apartheid more than any other company. Agrexco markets 60-70% of the agricultural produce grown in Israeli settlements in the occupied territories. Amos Orr, General Manager of Agrexco UK at that time, testified that in a court case in November 2006. And in November 2010 the Russell Tribunal on Palestine concluded that the Israeli trading company Agrexco is complicit in the contempt of the rights of the Palestinians in the occupied territories. In the international coalition against Agrexco civil society organisations from Palestine are also engaged.

Starting from the first European forum of the campaigns against Agrexco on June 4<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> 2011 in Montpellier (France) the workshop in Berlin will act as a stimulus to bring forward the European campaign against Agrexco in the German-speaking area countries and to prepare November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011 as the Europe wide Day of Action against Agrexco. The BDS National Committee (BNC) has proclaimed November 26<sup>th</sup> 2011 to be the Europe-wide Day of Action against Agrexco

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<sup>1</sup> (see the BDS-call of July 9<sup>th</sup> 2005, <http://www.bdsmovement.net/call>)



## Speakers:

**Michael Deas**, Europe-Coordinator of the BDS National Committee (BNC) will speak about "The international BDS campaign" and "The campaign against Agrexco"

**Shir Hever**, Alternative Information Center (AIC) will speak about "Agrexco in crisis" and "Agrexco – Symbol of Israeli politics of occupation, apartheid and colonisation"

**Inna Michaeli**, Coalition of Women for Peace / who profits? (CWP) will speak about German companies profiting from the occupation, and lessons from successful economic campaigns around the world"

**Ahmed Shah** will introduce into the theater-pedagogic contents

## Why BDS?

### Why boycott?

Boycott is the possibility of individuals to use their power at the base of the society by refusing themselves. The Non-Buying of products from South Africa for example precipitated the collapse of the racist apartheid regime. Transferred to Israel this means that consumers can practise direct influence in boycotting companies which profit from the Israeli politics of occupation, apartheid and colonisation.

### Why divestment?

Claim of withdrawal of economical investments and participation in companies which directly profit from the Israeli politics of occupation.

### Why sanctions?

Claim of state sanctions against Israel because of its ongoing violation of Human Rights and its violations against International Law.

**The workshop** will start on Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at 12 (noon) and will end on Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at 4pm

**Location:** Deutsch-Arabisches Zentrum, Uthmannstr. 23, 12043 Berlin-Neukölln  
(subway-station Karl-Marx-Straße)

The participation in the workshop needs a binding registration.

Please send an email no later than September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011 to the BDS Gruppe Berlin  
[bdsmovement-Berlin@web.de](mailto:bdsmovement-Berlin@web.de)

Contribution is 20, - € including beverages and food



## **Agrexco-workshop on Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

- 12:00 (noon)      **Welcoming** and introduction of participants
- 1 – 3 pm:          **BDS Gruppe Berlin**  
Overview of the campaign against Agrexco so far.  
The meeting in Montpellier
- Michael Deas**, Europe-Coordinator of the BDS National Committee (BNC)  
The international BDS campaign - why emphasise on Agrexco?
- Shir Hever**, Alternative Information Center (AIC)  
The company Agrexco – symbol of Israeli politics of occupation, Apartheid  
and colonisation
- 3 – 3.30 pm        Break with coffee, tea, beverages, snacks
- 3.30 –6 pm        **1. workgroup**  
**Ahmed Shah:** Introduction in theater-pedagogic contents to prepare actions  
in the public space.
- 6 – 7.30 pm        **2. workgroup**  
Exchange of experience about BDS-actions so far in the German-speaking  
area. Representation of flyers, posters and banners.
- 8 pm                **Dinner**



## **Agrexco-workshop on Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

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|------------------|--|
| 9 – 10 am        | <b>Breakfast</b>   |
| 10 – 11 am       | <b>Shir Hever, AIC:</b><br>The company Agrexco in crisis – The [then] actual situation of Agrexco, what starting points are suitable for intervention                                      |
| 11 am – 12.30 pm | <b>3. workgroup</b><br><b>Ahmed Shah:</b> Practical performance of actions in public areas with theater-pedagogic elements.  |
| 12.30 – 1 pm     | Break with coffee, tea, beverages, snacks  |
| 1 – 2 pm         | <b>Inna Michaeli, Coalition of Women for Peace (CWP) / Who profits?</b><br>German companies profiting from the occupation, and lessons from successful economic campaigns around the world |
| 2 – 2.30 pm      | <b>Michael Deas</b> , European Coordinator of the Boycott National Committee (BNC)<br>The international BDS campaign – what is expected from the campaign against Agrexco?                 |
| 2.30 – 3.30 pm   | Discussion about the Europe-wide Day of Action against Agrexco on November 26th, 2011  |
| 3.30 – 4 pm      | concluding discussion, feedback  |
| 4 pm             | Lunch and end of the workshop  |