



**Statement on the decision of the German Bundestag:
"Resolutely countering the BDS movement - fighting antisemitism"**

May 17th, 2019 was a dark day for freedom of expression in Germany and a stain in the history of the Bundestag. All political parties of the house of representatives have submitted motions which attempt to legitimize the crimes practiced by the State of Israel, including the Crime of Apartheid - a crime against humanity. It is even more preposterous to use the struggle against antisemitism to justify that.

The Palestinian-led BDS campaign, which these motions were directed against, is rooted in international law and universal principles of human rights. It demands freedom for the Palestinians living under military occupation, equality for Palestinians under Israeli apartheid, and justice for the Palestinian refugees who have been in forced exile for the past seven decades.

These demands for equality, freedom and justice are the basis of any free society. It is therefore troubling that the entirety of the German Bundestag chose to distance itself from such values and cast them as illegitimate.

Standing for equality, freedom and justice the BDS campaign is strictly opposed to all forms of racism, including that of antisemitism. Claiming that only one group of people deserves to be free and equal while another one, in this case Palestinians, are doomed to be oppressed and subjugated is the very essence of racism or group focused enmity.

It is not too late for German parties and institutions to respect the tenants of European and International law, protect freedom of expression - what they tirelessly pretend to do so.

BDS Berlin, May 27, 2019

Infos to the statement:

UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia: [Israeli Practices towards the Palestinian People and the Question of Apartheid](#)

[BASIC LAW: ISRAEL - THE NATION STATE OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE](#)

[Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court](#)