

**Resolution Calling for Justice and a peaceful end to Palestine and Israel
Conflict**

August 2021

Whereas, the Palestinian territory of the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and Gaza have been under military occupation by Israel since 1967.

Whereas, Gaza, home to 2 million Palestinians, half of whom are children, has been under military siege and an economic blockade by Israel since 2007. This May, Israeli forces subjected Gaza to a devastating air and artillery attack. At least 248 people were killed, including 66 children, and nearly 2,000 injured. The attack was the fourth major military operation against Gaza since 2008.

Whereas, Israel has established more than [280 illegal settlements](#) in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. International law prohibits an occupying power to transfer citizens from its own territory to an occupied territory.

Whereas, Israeli settlements, home to more than 600,000 Israeli Jews, deny Palestinians the right to self-determination, equality, property, an adequate standard of living, water rights, personal dignity and security, and freedom of movement.

Whereas, [Human Rights Watch](#) and two leading human rights organizations in Israel ([B'tselem](#) and [Yesh Din](#)) have independently concluded Israel is guilty of the crime of apartheid.

Whereas, we have an urgent responsibility to stand in solidarity with the Palestinian people because of the \$3.8 billion in military aid our government gives annually to Israel.

Whereas, since 2005, over 170 Palestinian organizations of civil society have called on the international community to join the [BDS](#) (boycott, divestment and sanctions) campaign against Israel.

Whereas, On May 15 th 2021 over 500 people of our state participated in a peaceful rally in the city of Burlington.

Whereas, in a concerted effort to silence anti-occupation and anti-settlement movements and curtail free speech, at least [32 U.S. states](#) have passed legislation or enacted executive orders outlawing boycotts of Israel.

Therefore, be it resolved, the City Council of Burlington express its solidarity with the Palestinian people, condemns anti-boycott legislation, and endorses the Palestinian-led

[Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions](#) movement, which calls for nonviolent pressure on Israel until it meets three demands:

1. Ending the military occupation and colonization of all Arab lands and dismantling the Separation 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 under U.N. Resolution 194.

Therefore, be it further resolved, the City Council of Burlington calls on President Joe Biden to end all military aid to Israel, and calls on the Vermont Legislature and Governor Phil Scott to similarly demand an end to military aid to Israel.

Therefore, be it further resolved, the Burlington City Council strongly supports peace and calling for both Israelis and Palestinians to coexist and peacefully live together

Submitted to the _____ [insert date] meeting of the Burlington City Council.

Co-signed by _____.