Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions

BDS is a democratic, non-violent, international movement to pressure the Israeli government to respect Palestinian rights and international law.

The BDS movement was launched in 2005, when over 170 Palestinian civil society organizations appealed to the international community to impose a BDS strategy to pressure Israel.

All three BDS goals are in line with Canadian policy!

1. End the occupation and colonization of Arab lands, and dismantle the Wall

“Canada does not recognize permanent Israeli control over territories occupied in 1967”

“Canada not only opposes Israel’s construction of a barrier extending into the occupied territories, but also expropriations and the demolition of houses and economic infrastructure carried out for this purpose”

Global Affairs Canada Website, Canadian Policy on Key issues of Israeli Palestinian Conflict

2. Grant equal rights to the Arab-Palestinian citizens of Israel

“Canada has been a consistently strong voice for the protection of human rights and the advancement of democratic values. Canada takes principled positions on important issues to ensure that freedom, democracy, human rights and the rule of law, values that define this country, are enjoyed around the world”

Global Affairs Canada Website, Human Rights

3. Respect Palestinian refugees right to return

“Canada believes that a just solution to the Palestinian refugee issue is central to a settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, as called for in United Nations General Assembly resolution 194 (1948) and United Nations Security Council resolution 242. ... This solution should respect the rights of the refugees, in accordance with international law.”

Global Affairs Canada Website, Canadian Policy on Key issues of Israeli Palestinian Conflict

How do I participate?

Boycott

Consumer boycotts ask individuals not to purchase Israeli products or from companies that are complicit in violations of Palestinian human rights.

Divestment

Divestment occurs at an institutional level. The best way you can pressure your institution to divest from Israeli companies is to organize and run a divestment campaign. This is a way that you can directly support BDS in your own community, whether within a religious organization, campus, or union!

Sanctions

Since sanctions are imposed by countries, the best thing you can do as a Canadian citizen is to participate in BDS campaigns, become knowledgeable on why sanctions against Israel are justified, and talk to your elected representatives like your city councillor, your MPP, or your MP.

For more information, visit CJPME’s BDS Hub: www.cjpme.org/bds

Why BDS?

BDS is a form of peaceful protest.

BDS is a nonviolent tool that anyone can use to oppose Israeli apartheid and Israel’s settler-colonial exploitation of Palestinian land. As a supporter of BDS, you are using your democratic right to protest the dispossession of indigenous Palestinians.

Israel must respect international law.

Successive Israeli governments have ignored dozens of UN resolutions condemning Israel’s military occupation of the Palestinian territories and its systemic discrimination against Palestinians in Israel and the territories.