



FRAUEN IN SCHWARZ (Wien) – WOMEN IN BLACK (Vienna)

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FOR AN END TO ALL HOSTILITIES IN IRAN, LEBANON, AND GAZA – AN END TO ISRAEL’S ANNEXATION OF THE WEST BANK, DISPLACEMENT, AND SETTLER VIOLENCE

Since last year, the U.S. and Israel have twice used diplomatic talks with Iran as a pretext to bomb the country.

For decades, Israel has been looking for pretexts to attack Iran.

This war is not about fighting terrorism; not about stopping nuclear development (Iran has no nuclear weapons, while the U.S. and Israel do); not about women’s liberation; not about paving the way for democracy in Iran.

What has been happening **since February 28** is described in a newsletter from Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP) as “the US-Israeli endgame: genocide and hypercapitalist imperialism.” Regime change and the liberation of the Iranian people from an authoritarian regime were and are nothing but pretexts for the attacks; they are lies and soothing words intended to silence or win the approval of the global public. People do not matter to the warmongers—not in Iran, not in Gaza, not in Lebanon.

The shared interest of the U.S. and Israel in waging this illegal war of aggression against Iran lies in reshaping the region in accordance with their own interests, in the service of their political and economic power. The US-backed Israeli genocide and mass ethnic cleansing in Palestine are only part of this grand strategy, whose long-term goal is to bring the entire region under a capitalist US- and Israeli-dominated order.

LEBANON

While Iran is being bombed, the Israeli state is also triggering a regional war by pursuing its expansionist and genocidal goals, bombing southern Lebanon, including Beirut and other areas, displacing hundreds of thousands of residents, turning them into refugees after having already occupied the area south of the Litani River militarily.

Here, too, the fight against Hezbollah is merely a pretext. Israel is employing the same strategies as in Gaza by bombing civilian residential areas, schools, and health facilities, killing medical personnel, etc.

GAZA

While the world’s attention is focused on Iran, Israel is intensifying its occupation and the total destruction of more than half of eastern Gaza, pushing forward with ethnic cleansing and the further destruction of Gaza, killing people on a daily basis, and maintaining the blockade of urgently needed aid supplies. Although one border crossing has been reopened, fewer than 200 trucks are allowed through. At least 600 are needed daily. Prices for the far too few food supplies have risen again. Most people could no longer afford food for the Iftar meals during the recent Ramadan or the Eid holidays.

The so-called ceasefire and Trump's much-heralded peace plan, which never was one, disappeared from the media. Trump's "Board of Peace" plans for the future of the Gaza Strip were rather for U.S. and Western billionaires to profit, while Palestinians would be forced into hyper-surveilled concentration camps.'

Medical care in Gaza is becoming increasingly precarious. People of all ages are dying from illnesses that are normally treatable, chronic conditions, or war injuries. After a complete halt, only a few seriously ill or injured individuals are once again permitted to cross the Rafah border to receive urgently needed medical treatment abroad. (More than 18,000 sick people need to leave urgently.) One small example of the way Israel is deliberately blocking aid supplies is their retention of 15,000 boxes of medicines for treating colds at the border on the grounds that the glycerin they contain could be used to make weapons(!)'

For the people of Gaza, hope and prospects for the future have dwindled to a minimum.

WEST BANK, EAST JERUSALEM

While Israel and the U.S. bomb Iran, violence, destruction, and displacement in the West Bank and East Jerusalem are escalating. The establishment of Jewish settlements is being accelerated, and the illegal annexation is proceeding. Radical settlers, backed by the military and often with soldiers at their side, raid villages almost daily with impunity, shooting or arresting people in cold blood, destroying homes, farmland, and cars, and spreading fear and terror. Under this pressure, Palestinians are leaving their villages, fields, and pastures, but usually do not know where to go.

Since the attacks on Iran, Israel has stopped issuing access permits for the Al-Aqsa Mosque. Even Christian churches and places of worship are also sealed off.

Israel's accelerated strategy includes economic blockades, roadblocks, blanket revocation of entry permits to Jerusalem, increasing house demolitions, intensified arrest raids, the initiation of legal proceedings to gradually legalize the annexation of the West Bank, and the arming of settler groups who invade villages and kill residents in large-scale pogroms and lynchings.

The world must break its silence—its ignorance, its support for all acts of war!

We demand:

- **Stop the war, stop the killing; launch sincere peace efforts and peace negotiations — no peace without justice**
- **End all colonialist and imperialist ambitions of the U.S. and Israel**
- **End Israel's expansionist ambitions in the Middle East**
- **End Israel's apartheid**
- **End the genocide in Gaza**
- **Stop the annexation of the West Bank and East Jerusalem**
- **Stop the ethnic cleansing and human rights violations against Palestinians**

Suspend the EU-Israel Association Agreement