

CREATING & LINKING  
COMMUNITIES OPPOSED TO OPPRESSION



*For freedom, justice and equality*

**APARTHEID**

**FREE**

**ZONES**

*in solidarity with the Palestinian people*



[www.apartheidfree.ie](http://www.apartheidfree.ie)



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# TOGETHER WE CAN BUILD AN APARTHEID FREE IRELAND

Apartheid Free Zones (AFZ) are an exciting new global initiative that will help to transform our local communities into spaces of solidarity with the Palestinian struggle for freedom, justice and equality.

By pledging to **support the global Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) campaign** that aims to help Palestinians to win their freedom, and publicly declaring themselves to be an Israeli Apartheid Free Zone, shops, restaurants, businesses, community organisations, trade unions and other groups, and even local councils can make an important statement.

AFZs are a grassroots initiative, building from the bottom up, with the ultimate aim of making all of Ireland an Apartheid Free Zone.

Across the world, spaces such as **cafes, retailers, community centres and cultural institutions are declaring themselves to be Israeli Apartheid Free Zones.** They are pledging to publicly support the boycott of Israel.

As more and more businesses and organisations within a city, town, village or community declare themselves to be Apartheid Free Zones, it will help to **build a real and deep culture of solidarity within the community.**

A business or organisation that wants to be an **Apartheid Free Zone commits to supporting the principles of the BDS movement, to boycotting Israeli products and institutions, and international companies that profit from Israeli human rights abuses,** and to publicly declaring that it is an Apartheid Free Zone.

Apartheid Free Zones allow all kinds of organisations – **from a community group to a business to a municipal council** – to show their support for the Palestinian struggle for their basic rights, and encourage individuals to build support among organisations in their community.

In Ireland, **over 100 businesses, spaces and other groups have declared themselves to be Apartheid Free, and the number grows every day.** At least seven local councils, including Dublin City Council, and eight Student Unions have voted to support BDS. **We ask you to support the Palestinian people in their fight for freedom, justice and equality by joining them and saying 'YES TO BDS!'**



## Are you a business owner?

You can turn your business into an AFZ, pledging to support the principles of the BDS Movement and boycotting Israeli products and institutions, and international companies that profit from Israeli human rights abuses. You can show your support by putting an AFZ sticker on your premises, and educating your staff and customers about why you've supported the AFZ initiative.

## Are you a venue owner or a member of a collective space?

You can turn your space into an AFZ, pledging to support the principles of the BDS Movement and boycotting Israeli products and institutions, and international companies that profit from Israeli human rights abuses. You can show your support by putting an AFZ sticker on your premises, and educating your staff/co-op members and patrons about why you've supported the AFZ initiative.

## Are you involved in a community or sports group?

You can turn your group into an AFZ, pledging to support the principles of the BDS Movement and boycotting Israeli products and institutions, and international companies that profit from Israeli human rights abuses.

## Are you involved in a political organisation, trade union, student group or NGO?

You can turn your organisation, union or group into an AFZ by pledging to support the principles of the BDS Movement and boycotting Israeli products and institutions, and international companies that profit from Israeli human rights abuses. Trade unions, branches and local TUCs can decide to declare themselves an AFZ, or submit a policy motion to become one. Student groups can work to make Student Unions and societies into AFZs. You can declare your group's office or space to be an AFZ, put an AFZ sticker on your premises, and educate your staff/co-op members/co-workers/volunteers and funders about why you've supported the AFZ initiative.

For more information & to sign up see:  
[www.apartheidfree.ie](http://www.apartheidfree.ie)

## Are you a politician?

You can declare your support for the AFZ initiative by pledging to support the principles of the BDS Movement and boycotting Israeli products and institutions, and international companies that profit from Israeli human rights abuses. You can declare your constituency office or party office to be an AFZ, put an AFZ sticker on your premises, and educate your staff/co-workers/volunteers and constituents about why you've supported the AFZ initiative.

## Are you a festival organiser, musician/artist or musical/artistic collective?

If you are a festival organiser, you can declare your festival's support for the AFZ initiative by pledging to support the principles of the BDS Movement and boycotting Israeli products, and international companies that profit from Israeli human rights abuses. This would include refusing any funding from the Israeli state which seeks to 'culturewash' its apartheid regime, or from any complicit companies, many of whom use culture as means to whitewash their involvement with human rights abuses. In the case of musicians and other artists, you can sign the **Irish Artists' Pledge to Boycott Israel**, which has already been signed by over 650 of your peers (see: [www.ipsc.ie/pledge](http://www.ipsc.ie/pledge)).

## Are you none of the above? You can still help!

You can declare your own house to be an AFZ and pledge to support the principles of the BDS Movement and boycott Israeli products and institutions, and international companies that profit from Israeli human rights abuses. Put a sticker in your window, mailbox or car window. Talk to people in your community about AFZs. Talk to anyone you know who runs a business/venue/space or is involved in political or NGO work, or is a politician, artist, organiser, etc. You can choose to patronise business or venues that have signed up to the AFZ principles.

## Creating communities opposed to oppression and racism

Unlike Apartheid Israel's propaganda machine, we don't have endless funds to throw around, and the Apartheid Free Zones campaign can only grow with public support and engagement. **AFZs allow each one of us to be part of a collective and anti-racist movement for justice for Palestine!**

**We hope that the AFZ initiative will grow in Ireland (and beyond), creating anti-racist communities and spaces that are oppression-free, and linking these communities together nationally and internationally, to show the people of Palestine that they are not alone in their heroic struggle for freedom, justice and equality.**

Thank you for your support!

**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO BECOME AN APARTHEID FREE ZONE, PLEASE CONTACT US AT: [afz@apartheidfree.ie](mailto:afz@apartheidfree.ie) or 00353 (0)1 8727798**  
**Check our website at [www.apartheidfree.ie](http://www.apartheidfree.ie)**

The Apartheid Free Zones Campaign is a joint initiative of the Ireland-Palestine Solidarity Campaign, Trade Union Friends of Palestine, Academics for Palestine, Jewish Voice for a Just Peace – Ireland, Students for Justice in Palestine, Comhlámh Justice for Palestine, Gaza Action Ireland, Kairos Ireland, and is supported by the Palestinian Boycott Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) Movement.