Women in Black *London*

Only justice for Palestinians can bring peace for Israel

In these tragic days, Women in Black London urge restraint by all parties to prevent greater bloodshed in this escalated conflict. We see that life for Palestinians in Israel, the West Bank and Gaza and for Israeli's, has become ever more violent. Hundreds have been killed. As with all acts of military violence, women and children are the most vulnerable and their rights too often ignored. Violence and counter violence simply exacerbate years of injustice.

In recent months there has been political turmoil in Israel as assaults are made on democracy, the rule of law and the independence of the judiciary. At the same time, we have seen increased Israeli settler and Israeli Defence Force violence towards Palestinian communities, and young people in particular. The ongoing occupation of Palestine, and the violence that accompanies it, has been ignored by the world for too long.

This occupation includes the demolition of Palestinian homes and commercial buildings. The arrest and detention without trial of children. The clearing of Bedouin communities from their land and lifestyle.

We offer solidarity to women in Palestine and Israel who work for peace and justice.

Women in Black in London stand in solidarity with Palestinian women in the Occupied Territories in their struggle for justice, peace, well-being and a secure, prosperous and nonviolent future for themselves and their children. We stand with Israeli partners too, such as Women in Black Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, the Coalition of Women for Peace, Machsom Watch and other organizations in which Jewish and Palestinian Israeli women work together for a peace agreement and sustain contact with Palestinian women in the West Bank and Gaza. With them, we call for full equality in Israel for Jewish and non-Jewish citizens alike.

To the Prime Minister, 10 Downing Street, London SW1A 2AA

Dear Prime Minister: As we see an escalation of violence in Israel and Palestine, I appeal to the British Government to use all means in its power call for a ceasefire and de-escalate the violence in Palestine and Israel. We also call for an independent monitoring of the abuse women and children in particular in both Palestine and Israel. At the same time we call for long-term measures that

- Seek justice and accountability for Palestinians, and action over forced evictions, displacement, settler violence and ethnic cleansing.
- An end to the arms trade between the UK and Israel. The weapons and military technology that we buy and sell are used to enforce the illegal occupation of Palestine.

signature ….. …… name ……..

address …….. postcode……

Women in Black hold vigils every Wednesday between 6-7 pm at the Edith Cavell Statue, opposite the door of the National Portrait Gallery, St.Martin's Place, London WC2. Our vigils are silent, women-only and if possible we wear black. We welcome all women who support our call for an end to militarism and war.
Contact us: Twitter @WIB_London FB @womeninblack.london

Donations for leaflets most welcome ***October 2023***