

Vote YES on Ceasefire: Res 24-FA-01

24-FA-01: THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF WISCONSIN CALLS FOR AN IMMEDIATE CEASEFIRE IN GAZA

WHEREAS, 66 Congress members called for immediate ceasefire in Gaza, with Representative Pocan “warning that without one, this war leads to further loss of civilian life and risks dragging the U.S. into unwise conflict”;

WHEREAS, 28,000+ Palestinians have been killed, majority being women and minors;

WHEREAS, collective punishment of Palestinians is an egregious violation of humanitarian law and is, according to South Africa’s ICJ case, genocide; and,

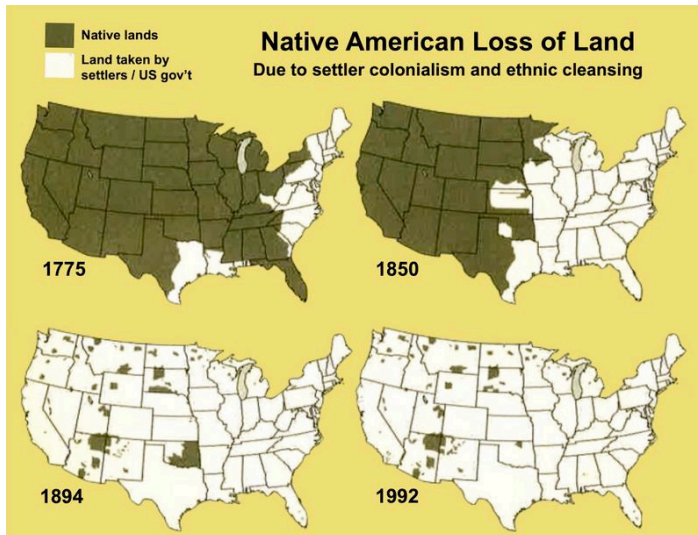
WHEREAS, the U.N. Secretary General, General Assembly, WHO, Jewish Voice for Peace, and 80% of Democrats, according to polls, support an immediate ceasefire;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW calls for an immediate, unconditional ceasefire.

THE FACTS

- 89 Members of Congress support a ceasefire, including Tammy Baldwin & Mark Pocan. **President Joe Biden has also called for a ceasefire.**
- Multiple Democratic Leaders & State Parties, government bodies, major institutions, & labor unions have called for a ceasefire, including Wisconsin State Representatives, Madison City Council, Milwaukee & Dane County Boards, & the WI Public Health Association.
- 35,000+ Palestinians have been killed in the genocide, with 80,000+ injured. That’s 5% of Gaza’s population of 2.3 million.
- Leading human rights institutions - ICJ, ICC, Secretary General of UN, UN Security Council - have condemned Israel’s campaign on Gaza, calling for a ceasefire and finding Israel has violated the Genocide Convention. It has been found that Israel’s actions, plus statements from Israeli officials, meet the requisite for genocidal intent.
- Estimates say 70% of Gaza’s infrastructure - including homes & hospitals - have been damaged or fully destroyed.
- Israel has dropped 70,000 tons of bombs on Gaza - mostly US made - which exceeds the amount of bombs dropped in WWII on Dresden, Hamburg, and London combined.

Palestine & the Zionist Project: A Story of Settler-Colonialism



Both the United States and Israel began with conquest and with the goal of possessing and colonizing already inhabited lands—to cleanse the land of its indigenous inhabitants.

Palestine 101

- The colonization of Palestine started in the early 1900s, leading to the Nakba of 1948 that displaced 750,000 Palestinians and killed untold thousands. The conditions of the Nakba - displacement, violence, occupation, ethnic cleansing - are ongoing.
- In the Naksa of 1967, Israel occupied the Palestinian West Bank & East Jerusalem and has not ceased since, controlling movement & land across the territories.
- Over 700,000 settlers live across 200+ illegal Israeli settlements in the West Bank & East Jerusalem, in violation of international law.
- Gaza has been under siege since 2007, and under total blockade by Israel since Oct. 9, 2023.
- The right for occupied Palestinians to resist is enshrined in international law.

Zionism 101

- Zionism is a political ideology that resulted in the establishment of a Jewish nation-state in the land of historic Palestine.
- While it had many strains historically, the Zionism that took hold and stands today is a settler-colonial movement, establishing an apartheid state where Jews have more rights than others.
- Zionism was a false and failed answer to the desperately real question of how to protect Jewish lives from murderous antisemitism in Europe.
- "Anti-Zionism" is a loose term referring to criticism of the current policies of the Israeli state, and/or moral, ethical, or religious criticism of the idea of a Jewish nation-state. Criticism of Zionism is not to be conflated with antisemitism.

Sources

- <https://www.palestinechronicle.com/trails-of-deception-what-palestinians-and-native-americans-share/>
- <https://www.jewishvoiceforpeace.org/resource/zionism/>
- <https://www.commondreams.org/news/genocide-gaza>
- <https://101.visualizingpalestine.org>