

Euro-Mediterranean counter-summit. Barcelona, November 2023

International meeting of organizations and activists in solidarity with the Palestinian people

Palestine is experiencing a historic moment. The Zionist state is carrying out a terrifying, unprecedented massacre in Gaza. Confident of impunity, it is committing war crimes with the support of the United States and the EU, which are complicit in this extermination. At the same time, all the pillars on which Israel had based its security for decades are collapsing.

A very important factor in this collapse are the mass mobilizations that have been taking place. International solidarity has irrupted everywhere, from Oakland to Sydney, and shown that the Palestinian cause is still very much alive as a symbol of the struggle against oppression, colonialism and imperialism. In Jordan, Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco... protests are challenging regimes that thought their power was firmly entrenched. In Germany, France and the United Kingdom, people are joining in mass demonstrations that have been banned or heavily controlled. The mobilizations in the United States are putting pressure on Biden.

It's time to coordinate this wave of resistance, to define priorities and strategies, to better organize ourselves to strengthen international solidarity with the Palestinian people. And we think that Barcelona could be a good place to start. On 27 and 28 November, the heads of state and government of the 42 countries of the Union for the Mediterranean (the 27 EU states and 15 in North Africa, the Near East and Southeast Europe) are due to meet in Barcelona. This summit, which was planned to further seal Fortress Europe against immigrants seeking a safe place to live, will inevitably be marked by the situation in Palestine.

We think it is a good time to organize a counter-summit of Palestinian activists and solidarity organizations from different countries that will enable us collectively to better understand the new situation and how to respond to it. We know this call is a little hurried, but we don't want to let the opportunity slip away.

The call comes from the open meeting that organized the demonstration of 70.000 people with a manifesto signed by 300 organizations from all over Catalonia. The proposal is to hold a working meeting in Barcelona on 25 November and the following day join the mass demonstration against the Euro-Mediterranean summit and in solidarity with the Palestinian people that we are preparing in the city.

We attach a proposal for the meeting, which we envision as a working meeting that will allow us to better coordinate our efforts and thus be more effective.

In addition, public events are being organised for the 27th and 28th to analyse the origin and evolution of the current situation in Palestine, and call for mass participation in all mobilizations and other activities in solidarity with the Palestinian people. And, needless to say, on the 29th, there will be a major activity to mark International Solidarity Day, although exactly what it will consist of is yet to be decided.

We think your participation would be very important. Accommodation will be available in the homes of members of the solidarity movement, but we are unfortunately not in a position to cover travel expenses.

Looking forward to hearing from you as soon as possible so we can make practical arrangements for the meeting. Please contact us at comunitat.palestina@gmail.com with "Euromed.Meeting" as the subject.

With international solidarity greetings from Barcelona