



How did we arrive at such a situation (that UN General Assembly debates on the racist character of the Zionist ideology and practice)?

It is the direct result of Israel's occupation of Arab territories continuing now the ninth year already, which also is a constant danger to peace in the region and the world. It is the direct result of the absolute negation (from the side of Israel's rulers) of the national rights of the Arab Palestine people, its right to self-determination and to establish its own sovereign state alongside Israel. It is the direct result of the brutal oppression practised against the Palestine inhabitants of the occupied territories, the suppression of freedom of speech and freedom of the press there, of mass arrests and imprisonment, of expulsion (of political leaders, among them many communists) from their homeland and the destruction of homes as a 'collective punishment', the massive infringements of international conventions and the Human Rights of the best sons of the Arab Palestine people, who long for peace with Israel on the basis of mutual respect of national rights.

The deliberations in the UN General Assembly are taking place precisely at a time when the (Israeli) colonization of the occupied areas in the Golan Heights, the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, the Rafah region (northern Sinai) and in Eastern Jerusalem is intensified. (Official) statements are made every so often that there will never be a withdrawal (from occupied territories) even as a price for peace.

The deliberations at the UN General Assembly are taking place precisely at a time, when inside Israel herself the policy of discrimination and suppression of the national (Arab) minority is intensified. Plans are ready (and published) for the expropriation of the rest of the landed property of the Arab citizens of Israel - and this after the Arab fellahen and beduins have already been robbed of most of their landed property and expelled from it long since. The blueprint for the so-called (renewed on an intensified scale) 'Judaisation of the Galilee' is ready. This is a plan of development of Jewish settlements and towns in this (northern) district and the establishment of new ones, while strangling Arab villages, towns and 'resettling' the Arabs by expulsion. The policy of confiscation of Arab soil and the absolute refusal of giving any construction and building licences in Arab towns and villages aimed at restricting the Arab population.

These things - and they are only a small choice of examples - are shocking to all conscious minded people in Israel and to people all over the world.

This policy is not only directed against the Arab people of Palestine, but it also engenders a grave danger for Israel, her future as a state in the Middle East and for the Israeli people in a neighbourhood of Arab peoples.

And such a policy is *defined by you* (the government) as *zionism and its practical implementation*.

Alas, what great wonder, that the policy of national discrimination and oppression, the policy of occupation and territorial annexations is defined as exactly what you yourself defined it!

We Jews especially, who suffered so much in history at the hands of racists and anti-semites, should avoid using a policy of national discrimination and suppression (against the national minority) in Israel and from a colonialist policy against the Arab Palestine people and the neighbouring Arab states. Precisely because we, the Jews, have suffered so much from racism, the policy of the government (of the Jewish State), combined with that of the (right extremist 'opposition') Likud block, is a tenfold shame.

Fighting this policy, we, the communists, not only defend justice in respect to the Arabs, but not less so, we defend the existence, the security and the future of Israel, and the prospects of peace. And there are now real possibilities to reach peace. If you would have given a hand to the efforts to reach a real peace, instead of sabotaging them, while nourishing illusions that with the support of Washington you may be able to annex (Arab) territories and avoid the establishment of a Palestine state - then, many things would have appeared in another light.

Our opposition to zionist ideology and practice are well known. We do not look upon zionism as being a 'national liberation movement', but as it is in fact, namely, as a bourgeois-nationalist and reactionary movement.

It is a *gross perversity and a crude distortion of facts*, if (as the zionist leadership and the Israeli government circles do) *the concept*

*'zionism' is equated with the concept 'Jews', 'Israel', or 'Israeli people'. Therefore it is absurd to talk of the UN resolutions on zionism being resolutions 'against Jews', or 'anti-Israeli', 'anti-semitic' ones.*

• We are convinced that precisely the government policy - together with the one of Likud - is anti-Israeli, because it very gravely endangers Israel.

We, the Israeli communists, view as the most important and most crucial task at the present, the struggle for peace and avoidance of a new sanguinary war, the saving of the lives of our youth from further slaughter. For these, our holy tasks, we call for a united front of all forces, circles and personalities with a realistic outlook, with a heart for national responsibility towards the fate of Israel and her people - notwithstanding their political affiliation or adherence to ideological outlooks and among them also zionists. The decisive division of forces in present Israel should not be on an ideological basis, but on a definite political one: Who is for a just, realistic and lasting peace - or, Who is against it? The decision upon this is the one which will decide our future.

Therefore, we also think, that the deliberations in the Knesset on the ideological field, as put upon the agenda in relation to the UN resolution on zionism and its racial character, serves only to divert the mind from the most important matters, such as the struggle for a just and lasting peace, for avoiding new bloodshed, and from the workers' class struggles.