

**FROM THE SPEECH BY MEIR VILNER,  
GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL  
COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY  
OF ISRAEL, AT THE 27TH CPSU CONGRESS**

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Dear comrades, the eyes of the ruling Zionist circles in our country are also focused on Moscow, yet in quite a different way. In the days of the Congress's work they have unleashed on an even greater scale their unbridled campaign of anti-Sovietism. As patriots and internationalists we rebuff the anti-Soviet policy as running counter to the true national interests of the Israeli people and the cause of peace.

The Israeli government was among the first to give its full support to the US "Star Wars" plans. The Israeli-US strategic alliance is spearheaded against the Soviet Union, the independent anti-imperialist states, and the national liberation movements in the Middle East, Africa, Asia and Latin America. The Israeli militarists continue to sow death and destruction in Lebanon. In the occupied Palestinian territories they are conducting an "iron fist" policy and trampling upon man's basic rights.

The militarization of the economy and the state budget, the result of the policy of war and occupation, has led to an acute moral, social and economic crisis. Unemployment has acquired a mass character. There have been drastic cuts in the allocations for education and public health. The real wages of the working people have gone down.

Yet it would be wrong to imagine everything that is going on in Israel in a bleak light. We are not doing our work in isolation. Resistance is growing to the policy of aggression and expansion which has also become a threat to Israel's future. The working people's struggle is gaining strength. The movement to prevent the spread of racism and the danger of fascism has acquired a mass character.

We are waging a consistent fight against the policy of national discrimination and confiscation of land belonging to Israel's Arab population.

We express solidarity with the Palestinians' just struggle to set up their own independent state alongside Israel under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization—the sole legitimate representative of the Arab people of Palestine.

We are fighting for the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all Arab territories occupied since June 1967 and all Palestinian territories including East Jerusalem, from the Syrian Golan Heights and southern Lebanon.

We demand the holding of an international conference sponsored by the UN to achieve an all-round just and lasting peace in the Middle East.