

PETITION TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

Whereas:

1. Canada has ratified the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), which, according to Article 12 asserts that “Everyone lawfully within the territory of a State shall, within that territory, have the right to liberty of movement and freedom to choose his residence. Everyone shall be free to leave any country, including his own... No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of the right to enter his own country,”
2. Canada voted in favor of United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/RES/ES-10/13, on October 21, 2003, demanding “that Israel stop and reverse the construction of the wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,”
3. The UN Secretary-General’s Report (A/ES-10/248) of November 24, 2003, pursuant to Resolution ES-10/13 states that, “Israel has not complied with that demand [of resolution ES-10/13.] It has not stopped or reversed the ongoing construction of the Barrier,”
4. The UN Secretary-General’s Report (A/ES-10/248) of November 24, 2003, pursuant to Resolution ES-10/13 also states that, “On 2 October 2003, [the Israeli Army] issued a series of legal instruments ("the Orders") pertaining to land in the north-west part of the West Bank that lies between the Barrier and the Green Line ("Closed Area"). The Orders provide that "no person will enter the seam zone and no one will remain there" and will affect 73 square kilometres and approximately 5,300 Palestinians living in 15 communities [affected by Phase I of the Wall.]” (paragraph 19)
5. Without direct international pressure, there is no apparent hope to ease the harsh oppression imposed on West Bank Palestinians living in and next to the “Closed Zone,”

We call upon the House of Commons to apply direct pressure on the government of the State of Israel – to respect the human rights of Palestinians – via one or more of the following mechanisms:

- The unequivocal condemnation of the ongoing construction of Israel’s Wall within the Occupied Palestinian Territories,
- The exclusion of imports from Israeli settlements (located in the Occupied Palestinian Territories) from the Canada – Israel Free Trade Agreement,
- The blocking of tax-free donations from Canadian citizens intended for the construction, expansion or enhancement of Israeli infrastructure – including settlements – in the Occupied Palestinian Territories,
- The suspension of funding of, and participation in the Canada-Israel Industrial Research and Development Foundation

SIGNATURES <i>(Sign your own name; do not print)</i>	ADDRESSES <i>(Give your home address, city, province or postal code)</i>

