



## WILPF RESOLUTIONS

30th Congress  
San José, Costa Rica  
2011

During the WILPF International Congress 2011, held in San José, Costa Rica, the following resolutions were adopted:

### **WILPF Resolution on the Arms Trade Treaty**

The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), meeting at the Quadrennial Congress in San José, Costa Rica in August 2011,

Noting with distress that the global arms trade is valued at over 50 billion USD per year and that global military spending as a whole reached 1.6 trillion USD in 2010,

Understanding that weapons are principally tools of violence and repression by those that use them and tools of financial gain by those who make and sell them,

Deploing both the legal and illegal arms trade of "conventional" weapon systems and ammunition,

Recognizing that conventional weapons, especially small arms and light weapons, are often used to perpetrate acts of sexual or gender-based violence as a tactic of war in order to deliberately target civilians,

Recognizing further that arms transferred without regulation continue to kill or maim civilians; obstruct economic and social development, including through the loss of livelihood; impede post-conflict rehabilitation and reconstruction; delay or prevent the return of refugees and internally displaced persons; negatively impact on national and international peace-building and humanitarian assistance efforts; negatively impact local and global ecosystems; and have other severe consequences that can persist for many years,

Welcoming the initiation of the process in the United Nations to negotiate an international, legally-binding arms trade treaty (ATT) in July 2012,

Appreciating the discussions that have occurred thus far at the ATT preparatory committees held in July 2010, February 2011, and July 2011,

Recognizing that to be effective, an ATT must be comprehensive, and that to be comprehensive it must cover not just weapon platforms and systems but also their ammunition and components, arms and ammunition production equipment, and related materials, and that it must cover all aspects of the arms trade;

Believing that an ATT should not merely be used as a procedural authorization of arms transfers, but that it should be able to help prevent armed conflict, prevent the violation of human rights and international humanitarian law, and significantly reduce the culture and economy of militarism,

Believing further that the ATT should help build the foundations for not just the regulation but also the reduction of the arms trade, along with the reduction of military spending and the redirection of economic resources to meet human and environmental needs, including the Millennium Development Goals,

1. Insists that an ATT not be limited to proscribing procedures to authorize arms transfers, nor be used to legitimize the arms trade;
2. Calls for an ATT to include comprehensive prohibitions on the transfer of arms that are, among other things, likely to be used to violate international humanitarian law or human rights or to commit acts of genocide or crimes against humanity; that will have a negative impact on sustainable socioeconomic development or destroy the environment; that will provoke or exacerbate armed conflict or facilitate sexual- and gender-based violence;
3. Calls for an ATT to include all conventional weapon systems and armaments as well as small arms and light weapons, ammunition, components, and equipment, including not only those specifically designed for offensive combat operations but all types of military, security, and police weaponry, military data-processing and communication systems, and military equipment for transport and other purposes;
4. Calls for an ATT to cover all types of arms transfer transactions and processes including, inter alia, import, export, shipment, and brokering;
5. Calls for an ATT to require all state parties, with respect to victims of the arms regulated in this treaty in areas under its jurisdiction or control, to, in accordance with applicable international humanitarian and human rights law, adequately provide age- and gender-sensitive assistance, including medical care, rehabilitation and psychological support, as well as provide for their social and economic inclusion;
6. Calls for an ATT to include specific implementation requirements for all state parties, including among other things obligations on marking weapons and ammunition; on keeping records of all transfer transactions and on making these records publically available for monitoring and verification purposes; and on international cooperation and assistance; and
7. Urges that once the treaty is negotiated, any assistance from the United Nations to facilitate implementation of the ATT should by no means detract from the UN's core role in promoting disarmament and the effective regulation of armaments and that any ATT must not be used as an excuse to limit or curtail the UN's advocacy for more effective regulation and the strengthened application of international

humanitarian law and human rights law.

### **WILPF Resolution on women in the Arab Spring**

The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), meeting at the Quadrennial Congress in San José, Costa Rica in August 2011,

Recognizing that women have been playing a leading role in the Arab Spring uprisings, beginning in Tunisia and Egypt,

Recognizing that women in Egypt, following the downfall of Hosni Mubarak, are protesting that the country's 10 member constitutional committee did not include a single woman when it set to proposing amendments to the constitution, and noting that Egyptian women are outraged that this same constitutional committee is limiting Egypt's presidency to men,

Supporting the demand by Tunisian women to ensure the separation of church and state and their opposition to the potential introduction of the Sharia law proposed by some fundamentalist Islamist groups,

Sharing the concern expressed by Women throughout the Middle East that they will suffer backlashes following the uprisings similar to what happened in Iran following the downfall of the shah in 1979 and the imposition of a fundamentalist Islamic regime,

1. Fully supports the continued involvement of Arab women in their peaceful struggle for freedom, democracy, and dignity during these uprisings;
2. Condemns any efforts to set women back after the uprisings;
3. Recalls the obligation on all parties to comply with UN Security Council resolution 1325 and ensure the full participation of women in all aspects of state building, including all aspects of political reforms, participation in decision making, drafting of the new constitutions, and the guarantee of human rights/women rights;
4. Supports the demand of women for security and calls for the immediate cessation of military intervention and the embargo on the selling of weaponry and ordinance to the region; and
5. Reasserts the obligation to ensure the presence and participation of women in peace processes and negotiations everywhere.

**WILPF Resolution on the high-level meeting on the Durban Declaration** The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), meeting at the Quadrennial Congress in San José, Costa Rica in August 2011,

Reaffirming its support for the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of their adoption,

Continuing to work toward the eradication of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, considering these scourges as one of the root causes of conflict, including armed conflict, and of severe sufferings of large sectors of populations,

Expressing our full support for the aims of the International Year for the People of African Descent (2011), as proclaimed by the UN General Assembly,

1. Calls on all UN member states to actively participate in the high-level meeting of the 66th session of the General Assembly on 22 September 2011 in New York and commit to take effective measures to realize the aims of the Durban Outcome Documents.

### **WILPF Resolution on threats to Costa Rican unarmed democracy and culture of peace**

The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), meeting at the Quadrennial Congress in San José, Costa Rica in August 2011,

Recognizing the significant step towards peace that Costa Rica took when it abolished its army in its Constitution, article 12, in 1949, stating: "The Army as a permanent institution is abolished. There shall be the necessary police forces for surveillance and the preservation of the public order. Military forces may only be organized under a continental agreement or for the national defense; in either case, they shall always be subordinate to the civil power: they may not deliberate or make statements or representations individually or collectively,"

Concerned that some Parliamentarians want to reform this constitutional decision in a moment of heated border conflict and in a way that prioritizes a military response to this crisis rather than the promotion of peaceful ways to seek solutions,

Recognizing that Costa Rica is known around the world as a country devoted to peace and justice since our Constitutional Chamber on 8 September 2004 declared peace as a fundamental human right, and peace as a leading value, and reason and law as mechanisms to solve internal and external conflicts, thus becoming the first country in the world to state peace as a fundamental human right by a Court, such decisions evidenced by the speeches of official representatives in international forums in favor of peace in the world and the region, have gained admiration and praise;

Concerned about the threats to peace in Costa Rica, even before the so-called war against drugs, people, and weapons trafficking, and before we were more familiar with words such as "organized crime", wherein Costa Rica began to militarize its police, using camouflage uniforms, heavy combat weapons, and forming squads as in the military to "control" demonstrations, strikes, and civilians protests,

Concerned also about the military training given to the national police forces by the armies of Colombia and the United States and that Costa Rica continues to send police to be trained in the School of the Americas, located in a US Military Base, known for teaching military practices, abuse and torture,

Considering that war ships, helicopters, heavy weapons, and hundreds of uniformed army personnel regularly come to Costa Rica to fight a “war on drugs”, which are temporary but not part of an integrated program to eradicate drug consumption and the trade of illegal drugs,

Considering further that such incursions of troops are accompanied by pressure from the U.S. to have Costa Rican police that have previously been trained in a U.S. Military Base, which are part of a consistent effort to break Costa Rican authorities’ resistance to a military presence, affecting Costa Rican values of adherence to peaceful and judicial solutions to internal and external conflicts,

Understanding that being a peace loving country is part of the national identity of Costa Rica, and that such values need to be promoted, cherished, and guarded from threats and discourse that constitute a cultural fight against such values,

Noting that military actions connected with the war on drugs and organized crime, which have not been successful in other parts of the world, do not justify the presence of soldiers in impoverished areas with much natural wealth,

Noting further that the proliferation of light and heavy weapons rather than increasing security creates more human insecurity,

Observing that heavily armed police squads patrol marginal neighborhoods to arrest crack and marijuana vendors, which although a felony, does not address the urgent need of integral preventive security policies, which should encompass but not be limited to controlling drug use and trade in poor neighborhoods, strong educational programmes, recreational options, and physical spaces for youngsters to gather and connect as an alternative from falling into drug abuse,

Recognizing that drug trafficking and organized crime are serious problems and having seen how military responses worsen these situations, as illustrated by the Mexican reality, where the war between the army and the drug cartels have caused more than 35,000 deaths, and considering that a similar bloodshed must be avoided in this unique peace loving country,

Reaffirming our deepest belief that a military answer is not the solution to these problems,

Understanding the importance of work at the local level to ensure personal security in its communities,

Celebrating Costa Rica's first woman president and her devotion to dialogue and her understanding of security as a broad concept that encompasses social development, consultation, and involvement of communities and civil society organizations, as characterized by her discourse,

Understanding that the Costa Rica President has obtained international support for more police training, as part of her effort to combat drug trafficking, as a donation of thirty million dollars for that purpose, as has been recently announced in the media,

Aware of the need for more financial resources to ensure human security, enhancing social and economic living conditions of most citizens in the country, including the indigenous communities, the single female householders and their children,

Understanding the great concern among citizens of Costa Rica provoked by violent incidents in the streets, which have taken away many lives of youngsters and brought great sorrow to many families, from the student killing a professor, one driver killing a student, a drunk recently taking five lives with his car, elevating the anguish of many to the point that Marching for Peace in the streets of San José (24 July 2011) was called for by the families of victims of this violence,

1. Calls on the government, community leaders, local organizations, and the civil population in the country to continue engaging in finding ways to bring peace to communities by fostering formal and informal education, such as through the recovery of public spaces for neighbors to meet, share, and enjoy entertainment and cultural events;
2. Calls for the promotion of a culture of peace by providing opportunities in the media and in schools to reaffirm this trait of national identity at the local and national level, by celebrating special days such as the international day for peace, 21 September; the day against violence, 2 October; the Abolition of the Army, 1 December; as well as furthering WILPF Costa Rica's petition to the UN to declare Latin America an arms-free-zone;
3. Calls for a review of the Law of Arms to revise the trade and license mechanisms and connect this to the incidence of violence in the country and the killing of women in domestic violence instances with small arms and light weapons, specifically calling for the country of origin of the weapon used, as well as its manufacturer, to be made public in the media;
4. Calls for resistance to all pressure from government and corporations to increase militarization in the country under any pretext, irrespective of how sound that may seem;
5. Calls for the promotion in schools, in the media, and through any other possible means, nonviolent conflict resolutions on a daily basis in interpersonal and social relations;
6. Calls for the promotion of the concept of human security, understood as the security of human beings rather than the security of states, by taking its starting point in freedom from fear and life with dignity;
7. Calls for the transcendence of discourse and bringing into practice efforts to engage many individuals and organizations of civil society, irrespective of

- political parties, in different undertakings and actions, to promote citizen security, to stop violence in our streets, to control the use of small and light weapons, to prevent abuse of legal and illegal drugs, to promote better understanding among people, to ensure support of women committed to stop violent relationships and ensure them the conditions necessary to start a life free of violence with their children;
8. Calls for civil society to communicate these concerns and calls to the Costa Rican president and interested media and to divulge it in the social media; and
  9. Calls for the devotion of our international and national institutional resources to cooperate in every way we can with efforts being carried out in Costa Rica, in the direction stated above.

### **WILPF Resolution on WILPF and UN Women**

The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), meeting at the Quadrennial Congress in San José, Costa Rica in August 2011,

Welcoming the formation of United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), which was created in July 2010 by the United Nations (UN) General Assembly and looking forward to its leadership and coherent strategy,

Acknowledging the appointment of Michelle Bachelet, M.D., who will lead, support, and coordinate the work on gender equality and the empowerment of women at global, regional, and country levels as the first Executive Director of UN Women,

Recalling the UN Gender Equality Architecture Reform (GEAR) Campaign, which urged UN Member States and the UN Secretariat to create a UN gender equality entity, now known as UN Women,

Recognizing that WILPF was part of the network of working groups for the GEAR Campaign and endorses and supports the advocacy of GEAR.

Bearing in mind that UN Women will focus on peace and security as one of five priority areas fundamental to women's equality.

Acknowledging that women are disproportionately and uniquely impacted by armed conflict, that women play a central role in preventing conflict, and yet continue to be severely underrepresented in peace, security and reconstruction processes,

Reaffirming that the UN Security Council shall continue to be responsible for the implementation of Resolution 1325 and shall regularly work in collaboration with UN Women, inviting it to brief the Council and gaining from its expertise and information,

Considering the UN Security Council mandate, reaffirming that the Council shall remain a key focus for WILPF's work on monitoring and advocating for systematic integration of women, peace and security,

Encouraging UN Women to advance women's active role in total and universal disarmament, the abolition of all kinds of armed violence and the promotion of women's role in conflict transformation,

1. Supports and encourages UN Women in ensuring that women are represented in discussions, negotiations and policymaking regarding peace and security at local, national, regional and international levels;
2. Urges that UN Women shall ensure that threats to women's rights are identified and prevented and that women shall be at the centre of peace talks and post-conflict reconstruction;
3. Requests the engagement and participation of UN Women with civil society and WILPF members in all areas of work including peace and security, and we urge increased UN access and transparency for civil society in all forums including the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW);
4. Calls on UN Women to adopt a rights-based approach to fulfill women's rights and securing peace;
5. Urges UN Women to create a space and take measures in discussing key security issues, such as disarmament and reducing military spending;
6. Encourages UN Women to provide leadership and coordination across and within the UN system on gender and on women, peace and security; including on sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations Peacekeepers and personnel;
7. Demands all UN agencies, bodies and actors to fulfill their obligations and responsibilities on women's rights and gender mainstream and not use existence of the new agency as a derogation of these;
8. Offers to partner, monitor and assist UN Women in strengthening the UN system and promoting the continuous development and implementation of international law for the benefit of equality and human dignity; and
9. Demands that countries follow through on their commitments and monetary pledges given the need for comprehensive funding of the programs and field offices of UN Women in meeting the expectation of women around the world, without reduction to existing civil society support.

### **WILPF Resolution on National Action Plans**

The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), meeting at the Quadrennial Congress in San José, Costa Rica in August 2011,

Recalling WILPF's mission and work challenging the status quo, ending conflict, and promoting women's rights and dignity for all, and its role in advocating for the adoption of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 (2000),



Reaffirming the spirit of UNSCR 1325 as a holistic and meaningful policy for women affected by conflict,

Upholding the fundamental intent of UNSCR 1325 in the prevention of all conflict,

Asserting, in this context, that National Action Plans (NAPs) must focus on the prevention of conflict, including regulation of arms trade and disarmament to fully remedy violations of women's human rights in conflict,

Recognizing the potential of international policy, but also that implementation of the women, peace and security agenda must ultimately take place at the national and local level,

Recalling that UNSCR 1325 urges member states to take action at the national level in the key areas of women's participation in decision-making and peace processes, the protection of women and girls, and gender training,

Reiterating that NAPs have the potential of being an effective tool for the implementation of the spirit of UNSCR 1325 only if a comprehensive process is undertaken and that NAPs must be recognized as a means to an end rather than an end in and of themselves,

Emphasizing the vital importance of the participation of civil society and women's organizations in making international policy and law work for women and that the process of developing a NAP serves to promote awareness about the role of gender equality to peaceful nations,

Noting that to date, 26 NAPs have been adopted and that WILPF has and continues to participate in many of these process,

1. Urges all member states, not just states experiencing armed conflict or states recently emerged from conflict, to prioritize the women, peace and security agenda through the development and implementation of NAPs and urges the committee developing NAP to include 50% women;
2. Demands the application of a human security framework in the development of any NAP, specifying that under a human security framework, NAPs must reflect the holistic spirit of SCR 1325 and include obligations articulated in Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), Beijing Platform for Action, Critical Area E, calling for the control of excessive arms expenditure, and the UN Charter which calls for the "least diversion for armaments of the world's human and economic resources" (Article 26);
3. Demands early, extensive, and genuine consultation in the planning, development, implementation, and evaluation stages with civil society organizations including women's groups, and a broad constituency, in developing NAPs and regional action plans to make them the most effective;

4. Calls for NAP to be developed and adopted using a participatory, transparent process and for NAPs implementation to include mechanisms for accountability including indicators and specifically allocated budgets and resources;
5. Calls for NAPs to address all forms of conflict and the states' role in other violent conflicts outside its own borders, including the particular situation of occupation, political violence, and protracted violence, including transfer of arms;
6. Urges that NAPs recognize and incorporate issues of violence experienced and articulated by women with their own borders and regions;
7. Demands that states ensure that existing domestic policies, including immigration and asylum, do not adversely affect women who have fled conflict zones and all women who have been forcibly displaced within or outside their own states, and that these elements are included in NAPs;
8. Demands that all actors respect in their policies and actions the fact that gender based violence is a human rights violation and often constitutes a violation of international humanitarian law and is used as a form of torture;
9. Advocates for funding to be made available to civil society organizations, including women's organizations, to participate in developing and monitoring NAPs;
10. Encourages innovative processes, such as "twinning" or "cross-learning" with one or more countries to exchange ideas, experiences and resources to develop and implement NAPs; and
11. Urges states to present their annual reports to their parliament or government.

### **WILPF Resolution on Forced Migration and Asylum**

The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), meeting at the Quadrennial Congress in San José, Costa Rica in August 2011,

Recognising that the root causes of forced migration and the need to seek asylum are grounded in a lack of adherence to human rights,

Recognising the detrimental impact of militarisation on human security and its role in causing displacement,

Noting that the multiple causes of displacement and forced migration have been exacerbated in recent times by the effects of climate change, the increase in natural disasters, and the destruction of resources,

Recognising the gender dimension of displacement, migration, and the seeking of asylum, from the impetus for migration, through transit and travel, and throughout the process of temporary or permanent resettlement,

Recognising the vulnerabilities of those in transit to being trafficked and the

gendered and age dimensions of the forced labour outcome, in particular younger women being forced into prostitution,

Emphasizing the unique difficulties and threats faced by women in the migration process, including gender based and sexual violence, and in the legal processes for obtaining status,

Recognizing the need to tackle root causes of forced migration,

1. Urges all states to ratify the UN Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families, and to comply with international obligations to protect the human rights of those within its jurisdiction.
2. Calls on all governments to ensure that the rights of migrants, and refugees to be free from discrimination are upheld in particular in relation to access to education and employment;
3. Demands compliance with the obligations against non refoulement and protections against return where there is the real threat of human rights violations, and calls on states to recognise that the type of violations to which women may be subjected may be different from those of men and ensure their legal recognition;
4. Calls for strict regulation of private subcontractors undertaking border control; and
5. Calls on states to ensure access to humanitarian and legal assistance, and the early recognition of those in need of international protection.

### **WILPF Resolution on a federal democratic constitution for Nepal**

The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), meeting at the Quadrennial Congress in Costa Rica, in San José, Costa Rica in August 2011,

Recognising that Nepal is passing through a progressive political and socioeconomic transition since the defeat of its monarchy in April 2006 and that it is very important during this transition to establish sustainable peace,

Noting that due mainly to the denials and hesitations of the Unified Communist Party of Nepal (Maost) [UCPN(M)], the three major political parties have done nothing substantial, especially in accomplishing the basic tasks of peace process and preparing a unified draft of the Federal Democratic Constitution of the country to be carried out by the existing Constituent Assembly (CA), due to some sectarian attitudes of other major political parties,

Bearing in mind that the two year term of the CA has been extended twice, firstly, on 28 May 2010 for one year and secondly, on 28 May 2011 for three months up to 31 August 2011, and that during the second extension, the three major political parties of Nepal, signed a peace agreement,

Noting with distress that the 31 August 2011 deadline for this draft is approaching, and that the agreement reached by the three political parties to prepare a unified draft, if not carried out by the CA, may lead to the danger of a dissolution of the CA, which would lead to a chaotic situation and conflict situation,

Recognising that women are disproportionately and uniquely impacted by conflict;

Bearing in mind that United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 calls for action on the protection and participation of women during conflict and post conflict situation,

1. Calls on the international community to urge the political parties to start the process of promulgating a progressive democratic Constitution of Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal so as to prevent a possible conflict situation; and
2. Resolves to support and encourage the ruling parties to ensure that women are represented in the ongoing discussions and negotiations.

### **WILPF Resolution on Nuclear Weapons**

The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), meeting at the quadrennial Congress in San José, Costa Rica in August 2011,

Opposed to the continuing existence, possession, testing, development, modernization, and potential use of or threat of using nuclear weapons,

Recalling the unanimous commitment at the 2010 nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference of all states party to the Treaty "to pursue policies that are fully compatible with the Treaty and the objective of achieving a world without nuclear weapons,"

Recalling also the commitment made by the nuclear weapon states at the 2000 NPT Review Conference - and reaffirmed at the 2010 NPT Review Conference - of an unequivocal undertaking to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals,

Concerned with the plans and prospects of states possessing nuclear weapons to upgrade, modernize, or otherwise refurbish their nuclear arsenals and related infrastructure,

Disturbed that the US and Russian governments made ratification of the new Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (New START) contingent upon increased funding for nuclear weapons, delivery systems, and infrastructure,

Aware that increased funding for nuclear weapons will only prevent nuclear disarmament within our lifetimes and increase the risk of further proliferation and

potential use of nuclear weapons,

Appalled at the decision to allocate increased funds to nuclear weapons in the midst of a global economic crisis, wherein ordinary citizens in all countries struggle to meet their basic daily needs,

Recognizing that nuclear weapons are antithetical to human security and environmental sustainability,

Emphasizing that arms control treaties should be conducive to progressive disarmament that leads to a world safer for all humanity rather than to further armament and investment in the arms industry,

Recognizing that women are internationally underrepresented in discussions, negotiations, and policymaking regarding nuclear weapons,

1. Opposes the commitments to nuclear weapon modernization made by the US and Russian governments as conditions for ratification of New START;
2. Encourages governments to ensure the broader inclusion of women as decision- and policymakers on issues related to nuclear weapons, as a step toward implementing UN Security Council resolution 1325 on women, peace, and security;
3. Calls for an immediate freeze to all projects, programmes, and plans for the modernization of nuclear weapons, delivery systems, and related infrastructure by all states who possess nuclear weapons;
4. Urges governments to redirect funds spent on nuclear weapons to meet human and environmental needs;
5. Calls on all governments to pursue policies consistent with achieving nuclear disarmament, including ceasing the development, testing, modernization, and production of nuclear weapons; reducing and eliminating nuclear weapon arsenals bilaterally, unilaterally, or multilaterally; cutting funding for nuclear weapon programmes; and engaging in a multilateral process to develop a nuclear weapon convention to eliminate and ban nuclear weapons;
6. Urges all WILPF members, WILPF sections and other civil society and non-governmental organizations to oppose nuclear weapon modernization and to oppose “deals” by political elites that include nuclear weapon modernization as a condition of implementation of treaties or agreements; and
7. Calls on the WILPF congress to decide to develop a plan on how WILPF sections can together work to ban nuclear weapons by the promotion of a nuclear weapons convention.

### **WILPF Resolution on the Middle East**

The Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), meeting at the Quadrennial Congress in San José, Costa Rica in August 2011,

Reaffirming its previous resolutions on the Middle East, passed every year since 1989, which affirm the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people including the right to self-determination, the right of return, and the right to establish an independent state of Palestine at the pre-1967 borders and call for the implementation of UN Security Council resolutions 242, 252, 338, 465, 1322 and UN General Assembly resolution 194,

Continuing to strongly support the international Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions (BDS) movement against Israel and condemning the prosecution of the Israelis who support the campaign,

Emphasizing that any effort to seek diplomatic recognition for a Palestinian state must not undermine or detract from efforts to establish such a state or to achieve true equality for Palestinians and that diplomatic recognition must not be used as a mechanism for the continuation of the status quo,

Expressing concern that recognition of a Palestinian state that is still under Israeli occupation might do nothing to change the conditions or restore the rights of millions of Palestinians,

1. Demands the immediate cessation of Israel's illegal occupation of Palestine;
2. Demands that the submission of a resolution in September 2011 to the United Nations calling for the recognition of an independent sovereign state of Palestine based on the 4 June 1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital, not undermine Palestinian's pursuit of real liberation and self-determination; and
3. Condemns the illegal blockade of Gaza and calls on Israel and the international community to uphold international law and to facilitate the passage of humanitarian assistance.