BNC salutes Jewish Voice for a Just Peace in the Middle East - Germany

The Palestinian Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions National Committee (BNC), the broadest coalition of Palestinian civil society, congratulates Jewish Voice for a Just Peace in the Middle East (JVJP) in Germany for the peace award they will receive on 9 March from the Roland Röhl Foundation.

We believe this award underscores the intrinsic commitment within our joint struggle to the principles of peace, justice, freedom and equality and our common unwavering opposition to racism and discrimination in all their forms.

The BNC, which leads the global BDS movement, wants to emphasise our deep appreciation of the role that JVJP plays in our inclusive, nonviolent struggle against Israel's regime of military occupation, apartheid and settler-colonialism.

The anti-Palestinian lobby advocating for the far-right Israeli regime, mainly through its allies in Germany, is at the forefront of suppressing democracy and freedom of expression, demonizing any critique of Israel’s crimes against the Palestinian people and undermining intersectional solidarity among people and struggles. In response, the undeterred efforts of movements such as JVJP, that continue to stand with all oppressed communities, including Palestinians, in pursuit of justice, are central in maintaining unity and strength and defending freedom of expression on Palestinian human rights.

We strongly condemn the attacks and slander against Jewish Voice for a Just Peace, particularly the fraudulent and libelous smear of antisemitism. A statement issued in 2018 by more than forty progressive Jewish groups worldwide, including JVJP, on this smear said:

“We live in a frightening era, with growing numbers of authoritarian and xenophobic regimes worldwide, foremost among them the Trump administration, allying themselves with Israel’s far right government while making common cause with deeply antisemitic and racist white supremacist groups and parties.

From our own histories we are all too aware of the dangers of increasingly fascistic and openly racist governments and political parties. The rise in antisemitic discourse and attacks worldwide is part of that broader trend.

At times like this, it is more important than ever to distinguish between the hostility to or prejudice against Jews on the one hand and legitimate critiques of Israeli policies and system of injustice on the other.”

Together, we will achieve freedom, justice and equality for all.

BNC Secretariat