



What is IJAN?

We are an international network of Jews who are uncompromisingly committed to struggles for human emancipation, of which the liberation of the Palestinian people and land is an essential part. We are committed to the dismantling of Israeli apartheid, the return of Palestinian refugees, and the end of Israeli colonization of historic Palestine. We coordinate and support Jewish participation in local and international efforts to challenge racism, Islamophobia, separatism, and militarism, and to work towards a society premised on the economic, political, social and environmental rights of all peoples. Because Israel is an outpost of European colonialism and US imperialism in the region—and because Israel claims to act in our name as Jews—we work to overcome Zionism and de-colonize historic Palestine.

Where We Are and How It Works

IJAN chapters exist around the world and work locally in collaboration with other Palestine solidarity and anti-racist organizations and individuals. Each chapter organizes according to local context and the interests and capacity of participants. Chapters and affiliates also help develop international campaigns and activities. Communication and coordination across chapters is supported by an international Coordinating Committee.

Why Jewish?

We organize publicly as Jewish people because we believe that we can play a strategic role undermining the claim that Zionism speaks for all Jews. Attempts to silence critics of Israel with false charges of anti-semitism lose their force against groups that include Jewish people. Jews can powerfully challenge Zionist exploitation of the Nazi genocide and of the Jewish history of persecution.

We believe that it is important to challenge Zionism's influence on the rise of Jewish conservatism, and to reclaim Jewish histories of participation in collective struggles for liberation. We aim to expose the displacement and alienation of Mizrahi Jews with indigenous histories, cultures, languages and countries from a mainstream Zionist narrative. By imposing a national identity on diverse Jewish life, Zionism undermines our histories, political participation, cultures, and religious and spiritual practices.

Why International?

Prior to the establishment of IJAN, anti-Zionist Jews tended to organize in specific localities or as individuals. Though our work may have been important to Palestine solidarity work, it was unable to challenge the international scale of Zionism. IJAN believes that our work is useful both in local contexts and in debunking the myth that we are isolated 'self-haters' who can be discounted. In order to challenge the international nature of Zionism with its uncritical support from the United States and European governments, we must organize internationally.

We organize internationally—in contrast to Jewish nationalism—because we are committed to the struggle for dignity and justice for all peoples. In contrast to the Zionist assumption that Jews are safer when isolated, we embrace a collective struggle against isolation, militarism and war.