

**GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH 2009
ARCHIVES' RESEARCH REPORT**

RESOLUTION NO.: 2009-A039
TITLE: Wall Around Palestine
PROPOSER: Standing Commission on Anglican and International Peace with Justice Concerns
COMMITTEE: World Mission

Directly Related: (attached)

2006-A011 On the Topic of Peace Between Israel and Palestine (Rejected)
2006-A012 On the Topic of Israel's Occupation of Palestine (Rejected)
2003-D081 Oppose Construction of the Israeli Security Wall
1997-A107 Recognize Jerusalem as the Capital of Both Israel and Palestine
1994-D065 Recognize Illegality of Israeli Settlements in Gaza and the West Bank
1991-A147 Support a Two-state Solution for Israel and the Palestinian People
1991-A149 Urge a Full Accounting of the Use of Foreign Aid in the Middle East

Indirectly Related:

2003-D008 Urge Israel to End Policy of Demolition of Palestinian Homes
2000-B016 Affirm Refugee Rights of Palestinians and Israelis
1994-A103 Affirm 1993 Israeli-PLO Declaration of Principles
1991-A148 On the Topic of the Middle East (Rejected)
1991-B011 Urge Awareness of Anglican Primates' Statement on the Middle East
1991-D008 Urge a Peaceful Resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict
1988-D053 Affirm Goals of Justice, Peace and Reconciliation for Israelis and Palestinians
1982-B047 Call for Peace in the Middle East

In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions of General Convention for the period 1976 through 2006, selecting "direct" resolutions that have a substantive bearing on the proposed legislation. Committee members who are interested in obtaining copies of "indirectly related" resolutions, legislative history before 1976, or who require other research assistance should contact the Archives at 800-525-9329 before Convention or at Convention in the General Convention Secretariat.



Resolution Number: 2006-A011
Title: On the Topic of Peace Between Israel and Palestine
Legislative Action Taken: Rejected
Text of Resolution:

Resolved, the House of Deputies concurring, That the 75th General Convention reaffirm The Episcopal Church's commitment to:

1. the rightful existence of the State of Israel as a nation among nations;
2. the rightful existence of a State of Palestine as a nation among nations;
3. the recognition of Jerusalem as the shared capital of the two states;
4. the end of all violence and its crippling impact on Israeli and Palestinian societies;
5. the withdrawal by Israel from *all occupied Palestinian territories as established in 1967* ~~its settlements in the West Bank~~;
6. the return of all parties to the negotiating table rather than unilateral action by any party;
7. the eradication of the sin of anti-Semitism *and all other forms of racism*.



Resolution Number: 2006-A012
Title: On the Topic of Israel's Occupation of Palestine
Legislative Action Taken: Rejected
Text of the Resolution:

Resolved, the House of Deputies concurring, That the 75th General Convention declare that the following positions constitute policies of The Episcopal Church ~~and direct The Episcopal Church's Office of Peace and Justice Ministries to advocate:~~

1. an end to the isolation of East Jerusalem and Bethlehem from the West Bank created by the continued construction of Israeli settlements, settler roads and the *barrier Wall*;
2. removal of the *barrier Wall* by Israel where it violates Palestinian territory and termination of the policy and practice of terrorism by any constituency of the Palestinian Authority;
3. assurance of human rights for Palestinians *and Israelis*;
4. support for the return of sovereign control of Gaza's airspace *and coastline and borders* to the Palestinian people *and mutual respect for borders*; and
5. *elimination of corruption within the Palestinian Authority and appropriate financial transparency to better serve human and economic rights of Palestinians; and*
6. assurance that no U.S. tax dollars are used, *directly or indirectly*, to finance the building of the barrier and bypass roads that support the settlements ~~Occupation, directly or indirectly.~~



Resolution Number: 2003-D081
Title: Oppose Construction of the Israeli Security Wall
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 74th General Convention recognize that the 360 kilometer long Israeli security wall currently under construction and the proposed additional 240 kilometer extension are impediments to the implementation of the performance-based roadmap leading to a final and comprehensive negotiated settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict by 2005, as presented in President Bush's speech of 24 June 2002 and welcomed by the EU, Russia and the UN in the 16 July 2002 and 17 September 2002 Quartet Ministerial statements; and be it further

Resolved, That the 74th General Convention convey to the President, the Secretary of State and the National Security Advisor of the United States our support for their ongoing questioning of the construction of this wall.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Minneapolis, 2003* (New York: General Convention, 2004), p. 328f.



Resolution Number: 1997-A107
Title: Recognize Jerusalem as the Capital of Both Israel and Palestine
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred As Substituted and Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That this 72nd General Convention recognize Jerusalem as the seat of the Abrahamic peoples, acknowledge the historic presence of Jews, Palestinian Christians and Muslims and affirm:

1. **that Jerusalem should serve as the capital for two sovereign and independent states, Israel and Palestine;**
2. **the government of Israel should remove forthwith all roadblocks and obstacles preventing free access to Jerusalem for Palestinians;**
3. **the government of Israel should change its planning policies so that Palestinians have equal rights to build housing in Jerusalem and develop their institutions which have been restricted since 1967;**
4. **East Jerusalem, as an integral part of the occupied territories, should be included in all political arrangements relating to those territories, including self-determination, release of prisoners, right of return, and eventual sovereignty; and be it further**

Resolved, That this convention urge the government of the United States to use its diplomatic and economic influence in support of the above and to demonstrate a firm commitment to justice for Palestinians as it does for the security of the State of Israel; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be sent to the President of the United States, the Prime Minister of Israel, the President of the Palestinian Authority and appropriate members of the Congress of the United States.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Philadelphia, 1997* (New York: General Convention, 1998), p. 181.



Resolution Number: 1994-D065
Title: Recognize Illegality of Israeli Settlements in Gaza and the West Bank
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred As Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, the House of Bishops concurring, **That the 71st General Convention of the Episcopal Church recognize that Israeli settlements in the Gaza Strip and the occupied territories of the West Bank and East Jerusalem are illegal under international law and an obstacle to peace, and, therefore, calls upon the United States government:**

1. **to withhold funds equivalent to those used by Israel for any settlement activity;
and**
2. **to make those funds available to Israeli settlers leaving the occupied territories for resettlement in pre-1967 Israel and equally for Palestinians accepting the principles of compensation for their lands and homes in Israel;**

and be it further

Resolved, **That the General Convention commends the brave leadership of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Chairman Yassir Arafat for their bold steps towards peace.**

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Indianapolis, 1994* (New York: General Convention, 1995), p. 310.



Resolution Number: 1991-A147
Title: Support a Two-state Solution for Israel and the Palestinian People
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred As Substituted and Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, the House of Deputies concurring, **That the 70th General Convention of the Episcopal Church supports the existence of Israel as a sovereign state, the democratic and humanitarian inspired homeland for displaced Jewish people, and calls upon the Government of the United States:**

1. **To assist in the creation of a Palestinian State, and,**
2. **To assist Israel to secure the human rights of indigenous Arabs within Israel through:**

- a. **ending the violation of civil and human rights and by stopping the brutalities committed against individual, families, and groups which now occur;**
- b. **restricting the use of military force to measures and practices proportionate to the situation and suited to the control of civilian populations, and, to that end, to assure that military personnel and units, before assignment to duty, be given proper training in riot control and the techniques and practices of control of civilian populations;**
- c. **causing the State of Israel to discontinue the use of administrative detention and collective punishment;**
- d. **the permanent reopening of schools, universities, and other educational institutions for the Palestinians in the occupied territories;**
- e. **causing the State of Israel to be even handed and fair in the recognition and enforcement of the rights and interests of the Palestinians with respect to their personal safety, property rights, water rights, and rights of access to commercial markets; and**
- f. **encouraging the opening of candid and patient communication between the representatives of the Palestinians and the State of Israel and between the Palestinian and the Israeli peoples; and**
- g. **reestablishing and safe-guarding the City of Jerusalem as inter-religious municipality in which full respect is accorded the rights and interests of Christians, Jews, and Muslims.**

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Phoenix, 1991* (New York: General Convention, 1992), p. 794.



Resolution Number: 1991-A149
Title: Urge a Full Accounting of the Use of Foreign Aid in the Middle East
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred As Substituted
Final Text:

Resolved, the House of Deputies concurring, **That this 70th General convention of the Episcopal Church calls on the United States government to render a full accounting of all military assistance and sales of military equipment to all nations in the Middle East, and to develop a plan for reducing the amount of military arms in the entire region; and be it further**

Resolved, **That this General Convention urges the President of the United States and the Members of Congress, during this period of *de facto* annexation of Palestinian land, to develop a policy which requires the State of Israel to account to the Government of the United States for the use of all aid in whatever form that the United States grants to the State of Israel and its instrumentalities, in full compliance with all sections of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961; and be it further**

Resolved, **That this General Convention requests the President of the United States and the Members of Congress to take appropriate steps to ensure that no assistance provided the State of Israel shall be used to cause the relocation of Palestinian people from their homes, nor for new settlements to be located in the occupied areas of the West Bank, Gaza, and East Jerusalem; with further relocations and new settlements to result in the immediate curtailment of aid from the United States.**

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Phoenix, 1991* (New York: General Convention, 1992), p. 771.

08 - World Mission

A039

TOPIC/TITLE: International Relations: Wall Around Palestine

PROPOSER: Standing Commission on Anglican and International Peace with
Justice Concerns

C&C PAGE:

BB PAGE: 99

1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That the 76th General Convention, urge the
2 Presiding Bishop and the leadership of The Episcopal Church to use the authority and power of
3 this Church and of their offices to actively lobby to enforce Resolution A-149 and to influence
4 and change the policies and behavior of the Israeli, Palestinian and United States governments so
5 as to end the oppression and the ghetto-ization and to bring the Wall down.
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