

The Beirut Declaration

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Declaration of the international strategy meeting of anti-war and anti-globalisation movements in Beirut, Lebanon on 17-19 September 2004.

We are delegates from social movements, organizations, political parties, networks, and coalitions from 43 countries who are struggling for global peace and justice and who are committed to equality, solidarity, and diversity. We are from Latin America, North America, Asia and Pacific, Africa, the Middle East and Europe engaged in our own campaigns and struggles against militarization, globalization, nuclearisation, US bases and corporate globalization.

Gathered in Beirut at a critical moment in history, we welcome and celebrate this historic opportunity to deepen and strengthen our bonds with our friends and comrades in the Arab region. We reaffirm the principles of unity and plan of action articulated in the Jakarta Peace Consensus and commit to continue waging the struggle against the occupation of Iraq, Palestine, corporate-led globalization, and dictatorships.

We express our solidarity with the people in the region fighting for democracy and social, economic, political and civil rights and who are suffering repression because of their opposition to dictatorship.

The Middle East is the strategic battleground of US. Iraq and Palestine are the two critical focal points of aggression and resistance. The liberation of the Iraqi and Palestinian peoples is crucial to build global justice. Their struggles are ours.

We support the right of the people of Iraq and Palestine to resist the occupations. We call for the unconditional withdrawal of US and "coalition" forces from Iraq. We demand the end to the Israeli occupation of Palestine. We demand that the Right of Return be fulfilled. Until then, Palestinian refugees in the diaspora and internally displaced Palestinians need to be granted full economic, political and social rights. We denounce the racist and colonial character of Zionism, Israel's State ideology. We demand the dismantlement of the Apartheid Wall and all settlements. We ask for the release of all Palestinian and Iraqi political prisoners.

In commemorating twenty-two years of the Lebanese people's resistance and the anniversary of the Sabra and Chatila massacre, we salute the Lebanese resistance which has inspired us the world over, and we express our solidarity with the continuing resistance in Southern Lebanon.

We will build our solidarity through common campaigns and this positive dynamic of dialogue and common action must continue.