

April 2017: Northwest Palestine solidarity and BDS organizations in support of Omar Barghouti

Palestine Solidarity Committee - Seattle , the Northwest Regional BDS Coalition, and Seattle Mideast Awareness Campaign (SeaMAC) stand in full support of Omar Barghouti, one of the founders of the Palestinian movement for Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS). We are united in our commitment to justice for the Palestinian people, and join other civil and human rights activists globally in denouncing this latest assault by the Israeli government on a civilian leader of grassroots, non-violent resistance.

For years, Israel has engaged a program aimed at intimidating, silencing, and discrediting Omar Barghouti. This has included threats to revoke his permanent residence status in Israel, the imposition of a travel ban, and suggestions he be the target of “civil elimination,” a euphemism for assassination. Now, in its latest effort, Israel is investigating alleged tax evasion by Barghouti and his wife. This is a desperate attempt to tarnish Barghouti’s reputation and discredit BDS globally.

This latest assault on Barghouti takes place in a context of increased repression, threats, harassment, intimidation, and attempts to delegitimize Palestine solidarity activists globally. But no amount of bullying will stop human rights defenders from mobilizing, organizing, and fighting for justice. Just as Israel cannot shut down reports documenting its apartheid practices against the Palestinian people, it will not stop us from heeding the call for justice in Palestine by continuing to engage in Boycott campaigns until the goals of the BDS movement are achieved.

Omar Barghouti knows that, as he persists in his resolve to continue the fight against Israel’s practices of apartheid, occupation, and ethnic cleansing, he can count on us and millions globally to do our part until we achieve justice for the Palestinian people.