

END THE SIEGE ON GAZA

LA Jews for Peace calls for an end of the Israeli siege on Gaza and an end of U.S. government support for the siege.

Beginning in 2006, the Israeli government has enforced a siege on the 1.5 million people living in Gaza to bring down their elected Hamas government.

What Israel's Siege Does	What that Means for Palestinians
Restricts entrance and exit from Gaza.	Death of 163 Palestinians (June 2007–April 2008) who needed medical care not available in Gaza.
Limits import of food, medicine, water, electricity, and fuel.	Growing starvation and severe hardships for daily life, including rolling electrical blackouts.
Stops import and export of commercial and agricultural goods.	Destruction of the Gaza economy; massive unemployment.

Palestinians and Israelis have a right to live in peace and security. But the Israeli (and United States) siege on Gaza, with the goal of overthrowing the Hamas administration, is not working. The siege is collective punishment - banned by Article 33 of the 1949 Fourth Geneva Convention (adopted in response to Nazi atrocities), and Jewish teachings (Ezekiel 18:20).



Peace talks will not succeed as long as Gaza's civilian population, still living under Israeli control, is subject to collective punishment and military attacks, imposed by Israel, and supported by the US.

Cease Fire Now

LA Jews for Peace calls for the U.S. to enable a comprehensive Israel-Hamas-West Bank cease-fire.

A cease-fire will stop killing in Sderot, Gaza, and the West Bank; has been offered by Hamas who promised to stop all rocket attacks; is supported by 64% of Israelis (Ha'aretz-Dialog poll, Feb. 26, 2008); and will kick-start peace talks.

The *LA Jews for Peace* message is to call on the U.S. government, Israel's primary diplomatic, financial, and military supporter since 1967, to push to end the siege and enable a cease-fire.

YOU CAN TAKE ACTION NOW – TWO THINGS TO DO

Call your senators and representative – tell them that the US government must stop blocking United Nations resolutions against the siege and that if Israel does not end its siege of Gaza, the U.S. will withdraw diplomatic, financial, and military support. Congressional switchboard numbers are 1-202-224-3121, 1-800-614-2803, or 1-800-828-0498.

Make a **tax-deductible donation** to the **Free Gaza Movement** [a 501(c)(3) organization] to help buy/rent a boat to carry food & medical supplies into the Gaza Strip. Check out their web site: www.freegaza.org. Make checks out to: **"The Free Gaza Movement."** Mail to: **The Free Gaza Movement, 405 Vista Heights Road. El Cerrito, CA 94530.**