

Become a Member of No to Pinkwashing

I'd like to join No to Pinkwashing. I support the aims of the group:

1. To raise awareness about "pinkwashing", the strategic campaign by the Israeli state to rebrand itself as a "safe haven" of tolerance for lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, and transgender people that is part of a wider public relations strategy to portray Israel as a progressive society and divert attention from its systematic human rights abuses against the Palestinians.
2. To campaign:
 - for the right of self-determination for the Palestinian people;
 - for the right of return for the Palestinian people;
 - for the immediate withdrawal of the Israeli state from the occupied territories;
 - against the oppression and dispossession suffered by the Palestinian people;
 - in support of the rights of the Palestinian people and their struggle to achieve these rights;
 - to promote Palestinian civil society in the interests of democratic rights and social justice;
 - to oppose Israel's occupation and its aggression against neighbouring states;
 - in opposition to racism, including anti-Jewish prejudice and the apartheid and Zionist nature of the Israeli state
3. To work in partnership and build alliances with others campaigning for peace and justice for the Palestinian people.

I enclose a joining fee of £5/£2 concessions.

Name Signature

Make a Regular Payment

Your Details

Name

Address

Postcode

Bank details

Name of bank and branch

Sort code Account no

Please pay No to Pinkwashing, account number 20313829, at Unity Trust Bank, sortcode 08-60-01

Payment details

The sum of (in numbers) £ (in words)

on the day of every month, starting on

until further notice.

Signature Date

Please return to No to Pinkwashing, c/o PSC, Box BM PSA London WC1N 3XX

No to Pinkwashing No to Israeli Apartheid

Israel is a racist apartheid state built on the ethnic cleansing of Palestinians.

The Israeli government tries to use "pinkwashing" – claims about its record on LGBT issues – to divert attention from its crimes against the Palestinian people.

No to Pinkwashing campaigns against pinkwashing as part of the Palestine solidarity movement.

Please **become a member**. You can support our work by making a **small regular payment**. Please raise the issue of pinkwashing in your **trade union** or **student union**.



www.nopinkwashing.org.uk

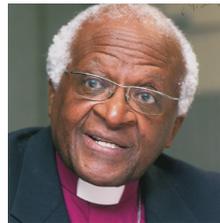
What is pinkwashing?

Pinkwashing is a cynical Israeli PR strategy. Israel uses claims that they support LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and queer) rights to try to divert attention from their human rights crimes against Palestinians. Pinkwashing plays on racist stereotypes – that Muslims and Arabs are all violently homophobic and transphobic, while Israelis are western and “civilised”.

The reality is that Israel is an apartheid state built on the ethnic cleansing of Palestinians. Israel doesn't want peace – Israeli settlers are seizing Palestinian land to build settlements, illegal in international law, which now control 42% of the West Bank. Binyamin Netanyahu stated in March 2015 that as long as he is Israeli Prime Minister there will be no Palestinian state. Israel's attack on Gaza in 2014 killed over 2,000 people – including over 500 children.

“I know firsthand that Israel has created an apartheid reality within its borders and through its occupation.”

Desmond Tutu



LGBTQ Palestinians say no to pinkwashing

Groups exist in Palestine that are campaigning for sexual freedom as part of the Palestinian people's struggle for their rights. They call on people worldwide, whatever their sexual orientation or gender identity, to reject pinkwashing and stand in solidarity with the Palestinians.



“When you go through a checkpoint it does not matter what the sexuality of the soldier is.”

Haneen Maikey, Al Qaws group, which runs a phone support line, queer parties, cultural and health projects in Palestine

How we've fought pinkwashing

No to Pinkwashing is a group based in the UK which has campaigned against pinkwashing since 2012.

Some of our activities:

- Organised meetings in London with international speakers from Palestine and the US
- Distributed thousands of our postcards at Pride marches since 2012
- Protested outside an LGBT event that included the Israeli Tourist Board
- Staged a high-profile protest in 2012 against Israeli performers at World Pride in London
- Written about pinkwashing for the LGBT media
- Made two campaign videos
- Worked with Palestine Solidarity Campaign and PSC branches, London Palestine Action, Haringey Justice for Palestinians, trade unions and the Palestinian LGBT groups Al Qaws and Aswat



Gay travel? Not to Israel!

Planning a holiday? Israeli "pinkwashing" promotes LGBT tourism to divert human rights criticism.

Five reasons for it:

- Military occupation of the West Bank.** East Jerusalem 1967. Over 100 illegal Israeli settlements are built on stolen land.
- Violence against Palestinians.** Israeli troops arrest hundreds each year, mostly for their involvement in military detention, with many deaths.
- The inhuman siege on Gaza.** Israel blocks imports of food, medicine and other supplies. Israel invaded Gaza in 2008-9, slaughtering 1,300-1,400 people – including 313 children – and displacing 1.5 million.
- The ethnic cleansing of Palestinians.** From the start of the occupation in 1948 and continuing today, creating a Palestinian refugee crisis.
- The apartheid system of roads.** Reserved for Jewish Israelis, with daily Palestinian humiliation at checkpoints.

No to Pinkwashing

What is pinkwashing? Pinkwashing is a well documented strategic campaign by the Israeli state to rebrand itself as a "safe haven" of tolerance for lesbians, gay men, bisexual, transgender and queer people. This is part of a general public relations strategy to portray Israel as a progressive society and divert attention from its systematic human rights abuses against the Palestinians.

Isn't it good that Israel supports LGBT rights? Israel does have some good laws on LGBT rights. But pinkwashing is not aimed at supporting LGBT rights. It promotes the idea that Israel is a great place for all LGBTQ people to try to enlist people outside Israel to defend it and to counter criticism of its occupation of Palestine.

What do LGBT Palestinians say? The Palestinian LGBTQ movement opposes pinkwashing. See www.pinkwashingisrael.com

Say no to pinkwashing and stand in solidarity with Palestinian LGBTQ organisations and with the Palestinian people.

For more about our campaigning in Britain, go to www.nopinkwashing.org.uk or [facebook.com/nopinkwashing](https://www.facebook.com/nopinkwashing)

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Haneen Maikey, Al Qaws group, which runs a phone support line, queer parties, cultural and health projects in Palestine.