

Resolution regarding political and legislative attacks on the Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions movement against Israel's policies towards the Palestinian people.

Resolution presented by the Ligue des droits et libertés du Québec

The International Federation for Human Rights at its 39th Congress:

RECALLING that FIDH, a federation of 178 member organisations, that defends and applies the principles stated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which actively promotes democracy and the rule of law, and works to ensure the effective, universal, and full application of international conventions, covenants and instruments for the defense of human rights;

RECALLING that FIDH fights injustice, arbitrariness, impunity, war crimes and violations of humanitarian law;

RECALLING Israel's numerous and repeated violations of international law, as well as its systematic lack of respect for resolutions by the U.N. General Assembly and the Security Council regarding individual and collective rights of Palestinians;

RECALLING that BDS is an international movement born of an appeal made by Palestinian people in 2005 calling for a boycott, sanctions and divestments against Israel until such time as it applies international law and the principles of human rights;

WHEREAS several countries – France, United States, United Kingdom, Canada – have adopted laws and policies banning and criminalising the BDS movement, and that, under pressure from the Israeli government, more countries are about to follow the lead;

WHEREAS a call to boycott a product is recognized as fair game in the political domain, which is at the very heart of a democratic society; and that the banning of a call to boycott constitutes an excessive attempt to stifle the freedom of expression guaranteed by the Universal Declaration of Human rights;

CALLS on Israel to abide by international law;

RECOGNISES the legitimacy of citizens of all countries, groups, institutions, and of countries themselves to use peaceful means to Boycott, Divest and implement Sanctions in order to apply pressure and to bring about changes in policies that are deemed contrary to basic human rights, such as was done for apartheid in South Africa;

CALLS ON governments of countries which have adopted measures banning and suppressing the international BDS campaign, to annul these measures.