



[Pro-Palestinian Solidarity Demonstrations Take Place Around the World](#)

Over this past week, pro-Palestinian demonstrations have sprung up both here in the United States and around the world calling for an end to the Israeli attacks on Gaza and other serious human rights violations. Large gatherings were organized in major cities in the United States like New York City, Los Angeles, Washington D.C., and Boston, where thousands marched in solidarity with Palestinians. Globally, demonstrations also took place in every corner of the world, from multiple countries throughout Europe to the continents of Asia, Africa, and Australia. All told, social justice and human rights activists have been outraged with the series of recent Israeli abuses toward Palestinians, which include airstrikes on civilian and residential targets, plans to forcibly displace families from their homes where they have lived for generations, and police violence. Israel's actions in the preceding weeks have brought about the latest crisis and escalation in tensions, and citizens across the globe are rightfully demanding that a stronger stance be taken regarding its reprehensible behavior.

The solidarity demonstrations in the United States spanned from coast-to-coast, in Eastern metropolitan hubs like New York City, Washington D.C., and Philadelphia to those on the West coast such as Los Angeles, Sacramento, and San Francisco. Attendees spoke about Palestinians' struggle for social justice as one of the world's most critical human rights issues, and highlighted the ways in which Israel's aggressive and provocative behavior has boiled over into this most recent outbreak of hostilities. In addition to this string of deplorable actions, the ongoing and longstanding illegal Israeli occupation of Palestinian territory was also pinpointed as a major obstacle to the advancement of the peace process by many of the rallying advocates. Many of this past weekend's protests were held on the anniversary of Nakba Day, the annual commemoration and remembrance of the Palestinian Catastrophe – which saw hundreds of thousands of Palestinians displaced from their homes upon the creation of the state of Israel in 1948.

The outpouring of support for Palestinians was evident in locations throughout Europe, Asia, Africa, and Australia too, with gatherings being held in numerous cities across those continents as well. Some of the largest and most prominent rallies took place in European capital cities like London, Madrid, Berlin, and Paris. One of the consistent themes of the demonstrations was the sense of outrage with the staggering level of civilian casualties in Gaza due to Israel's continuous barrage of deadly airstrikes on the besieged and blockaded Palestinian territory. The war crimes being committed there by the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) are undeniable, as witnessed by the clear targeting of non-combatant buildings – such as schools, refugee camps, and residential infrastructure – which has resulted in the death of hundreds of Palestinian civilians, including a disturbing number of children. The Israeli attacks on Gaza have also displaced more than 50,000 Palestinians from their homes, as families flee to escape the danger of the nearby airstrikes.

In recent days, President Biden's visit to tour a Ford facility in Michigan was also met with a large-scale pro-Palestinian solidarity demonstration. Thousands of protesters gathered to denounce the human rights violations being committed against the Palestinians, with some additionally expressing a dissatisfaction with the underwhelming response of the Biden administration to Israel's destructive role in bringing about the crisis. Rally attendees stressed the need for the president to specifically address the importance of protecting Palestinian human rights, especially in light of the disregard being shown by the Israeli authorities towards them on multiple fronts – with police violence toward worshippers at Al-Aqsa Mosque, with the planned forcible displacement of Palestinian families from their homes, and with the airstrikes against civilian targets in Gaza. Demonstrators called on Biden to “walk the walk” regarding his rhetoric on affirming the United States' duty as a defender of human



rights, pointing out that countries like Israel should be held to certain expected standards with respect to this vital issue.

Lastly, Palestinians themselves took part in the efforts to display solidarity with the besieged civilian population in Gaza, with many going on strike in a collective protest of Israel's abusive actions. The "karameh strike" – dignity strike in Arabic – was called to show Palestinian unity amid both the ongoing Israeli assaults on Gaza and the recent repressive crackdowns against peaceful protesters. Citizens from a variety of professions including teachers and doctors engaged in the endeavor earlier this week, with many also using the opportunity to participate in demonstrations decrying the Israeli airstrikes and human rights violations.