



Israël, an OECD member ? A nasty trick against peace!

The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the club of the «wealthy ones», gathers the world's thirty most developed states. Now, Israël has applied for membership, including the territories under its occupation, the Palestinian West Bank and the Syrian Golan Heights. And the OECD is about to welcome it.

Such piece of news is just unbelievable. At a time when the Goldstone report charges Israël with «war crimes, and possible crimes against humanity», when American political and military leaders see Benyamin Netanyahu's policy as threatening the United States «vital interests», when European institutions start to impose sanctions on colonisation, it would be acting against peace to accept Israël's membership application to the OECD. It would indeed be an incentive for it to perpetuate its occupation and colonisation policy which tramples upon international law.

OECD member states have indeed been put on the spot : Israël's membership application will be denied if just one of them rejects it. The responsibility of each State is thus highlighted, in particular that of France, which in addition holds the instruments of ratification. If Paris sides with Israël, as it has been the case on many occasions since Nicolas Sarkozy's election, other States have condemned Israel's policy – on various levels.

Now it is a matter of emergency: the issue is on the agenda of the OECD meetings to be held in Paris at the beginning of May. This is why the Association France Palestine Solidarité calls for all the forces devoted to the rule of law, to justice and to peace, to express and to make clear their firm opposition to this membership to the French authorities, but to the other members as well. It calls for the rapid organisation of a demonstration, as large as possible, in front of the OCDE headquarters – the La Muette Castle – in Paris.

It invites all its local sections to make visible everywhere, through public meetings, its opposition to this nasty trick against peace.

Association France Palestine Solidarité, April 30th, 2010