

PETITION TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

Whereas:

1. Canada has ratified the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), which, according to Article 12 (1) asserts that “Everyone lawfully within the territory of a State shall, within that territory, have the right to liberty of movement and freedom to choose his residence,”
2. Canada voted in favor of United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/RES/ES-10/13, on October 21, 2003, demanding “that Israel stop and reverse the construction of the wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,”
3. The UN Secretary-General’s Report (A/ES-10/248) of November 24, 2003, pursuant to Resolution ES-10/13 states that “The [Wall], in both completed and planned sections, appears likely to deepen the fragmentation of the West Bank created by the closure system Israel imposed after the outbreak of hostilities in September/October 2000” and “...will also severely restrict movement and access for tens of thousands of urban Palestinians... [affecting] access to jobs and essential social services, notably schools and hospitals (paragraphs 23, 26)
4. An October 24, 2003 report from the UN Human Rights Committee states, “[The Wall] imposes additional and unjustifiably severe restrictions on the right to freedom of movement of, in particular, Palestinians within the Occupied Territories.”
5. Without direct international pressure, there is no apparent hope for an abatement of the day-to-day struggle of individual Palestinians to live their lives with reasonable freedom of movement,

We call upon the House of Commons to apply direct pressure on the government of the State of Israel – to respect the human rights of Palestinians – via one or more of the following mechanisms:

- The unequivocal condemnation of the ongoing construction of Israel’s Wall within the Occupied Palestinian Territories,
- The exclusion of imports from Israeli settlements (located in the Occupied Palestinian Territories) from the Canada – Israel Free Trade Agreement,
- The blocking of tax-free donations from Canadian citizens intended for the construction, expansion or enhancement of Israeli infrastructure – including settlements – in the Occupied Palestinian Territories,
- The suspension of funding of, and participation in the Canada-Israel Industrial Research and Development Foundation

SIGNATURES <i>(Sign your own name; do not print)</i>	ADDRESSES <i>(Give your home address, city, province or postal code)</i>

