
Foodworkers and Allied Trades Support Palestine Sept 2025

Our union has always stood for justice, equality, and international solidarity. This meeting was about reviewing the progress made since July on our Palestine action plan, recognising what's working well, and strengthening our collective efforts.

The challenges can feel huge but together, we can and do make a difference.

The situation in Palestine remains one of occupation, dispossession, and systemic human rights abuses. As foodworkers, we know that dignity and justice are not optional they are fundamental. That's why the call for Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) remains a central tool of solidarity. Across the trade union movement, we are seeing renewed energy to take this forward and BFAWU is proud to be part of that.

Progress on the Action Plan

Resources & Education

- A central list of resources: books, films, and cultural work is being developed so members can access tools to learn and share.
- Work is underway on short, accessible information sheets and we are looking at the potential for a political education programme tailored to our reps.

Campaigning & Boycotts

- Research has begun into employer links with Barclays and other unethical banks. This requires input from members and activists, as businesses guard this information carefully.
- Updated Palestine Solidarity Campaign (PSC) guidance on boycott targets has been circulated in *The Foodworker* and will continue to be made clear and simple for members.
- Mapping pensions and supply chains is the next big step, again, input from workplaces is vital.

Member Engagement

- Members are attending demonstrations and actions across the country. We need to build on this and ensure BFAWU is visible at them too.
- Sharing members' stories of activism is key, these inspire and encourage others to get involved.

Building Unity & Sustaining Momentum

- Different views exist in some workplaces. To support reps, we're developing rep packs that frame conversations around justice, rights, and solidarity showing why Palestine is directly a Foodworker issue.
- Momentum matters: we must celebrate every step forward and keep pushing.

Reports from Branches & Next Steps

Branches and activists brought forward ideas, including:

- Promoting alternatives like Nationwide for members wanting to move away from unethical banks such as Barclays.
- Sharing stories that humanise the issue such as past connections between ourselves and Palestinian and Israeli bakers, before October 7th.
- Collaborating with Workers for a Free Palestine, sharing resources and building joint campaigns.
- Exploring organising potential in the arms industry supply chain – especially catering and food sector links.
- Seeking support from the Movement Research Unit to strengthen mapping and analysis.
- Linking up with Palestinian unions in our industry for practical solidarity.
- Coordinating attendance at demonstrations providing clearer information, arranging blocks of BFAWU members, and signposting coaches arranged by Trades Councils.

Campaigning Ideas

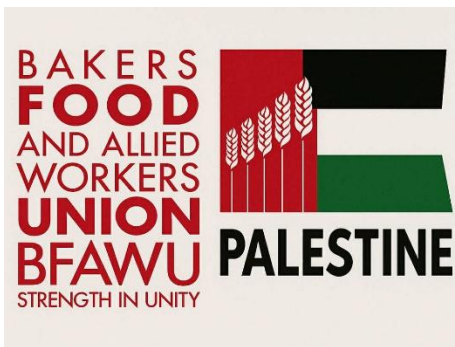
- **Famine in Gaza:** Launch a union campaign highlighting the humanitarian crisis, connecting it directly to our identity as foodworkers.
- **Name and Shame:** Expose food companies complicit in genocide or profiting from occupation.
- **Workplace Boycotts:** Identify Israeli products or equipment used in our sectors (e.g. irrigation equipment on farms), and support workers who choose not to handle them.
- **Consumer Alternatives:** Compile resources listing ethical alternatives at comparable prices to strengthen boycotts.



- **Celebrate Activism:** Collect case studies of BFAWU members who've acted showing others what solidarity looks like in practice.
- **Union Branding:** Develop a joint **BFAWU/Palestine logo** to show our solidarity visibly and consistently.

Moving Forward

Not every member can do everything and that's okay. What matters is that everyone's contribution is recognised and valued. Collective action is about building strength together, not measuring who can do the most. Monthly meetings were proposed to keep this work alive, moving, and growing. As trade unionists, our solidarity is international. Foodworkers feed the nation, and we stand with workers in Palestine. Our message is clear: **justice, dignity, and solidarity will always defeat occupation, exploitation, and hate.**



Potential Logo design.