
BFAWU members meeting on Palestine July 2025

BFAWU Action Plan from the meeting: Solidarity with Palestine

1. Resources & Education

Resource List: Create and maintain a central list of resources for members, including:

- Books, articles, and briefings
- Films, documentaries, and podcasts
- Palestinian cultural resources (food, music, poetry, art)

Information Sheets: Develop short, accessible information pieces that can be read quickly and shared widely in workplaces, branches, and online.

Case Studies & Victories: Provide briefings highlighting international struggles and wins (e.g. South African Apartheid, Chile under Pinochet) to show that solidarity and collective action can succeed.

Political Education Programme: Develop a short BFAWU-specific education course on Palestine, covering:

- History and context
- What BDS is and why it matters
- Countering common arguments and hostile rhetoric
- Links to workers' struggles and occupations

Rep Support Pack: Produce tailored materials for reps, giving them tools and language to engage members in constructive conversations about Palestine, even where views differ.

2. Campaigning & Boycotts

BDS Information: Circulate clear, up-to-date PSC guidance on priority boycott targets to avoid confusion.

Employers:

- Map which employer's in our sectors bank with Barclays or other unethical institutions.
- Explore potential member-led actions or campaigning on this issue.

Pensions: Investigate pension schemes used by members to identify links to the arms trade and companies complicit in occupation and develop campaign strategies for ethical alternatives.

Supply Chains:

- Research the sourcing of ingredients and products in workplaces.
- Consider whether members can ethically challenge or refuse to work with specific products.

Ethical Banking:

- Approach ethical banks about offering incentives for BFAWU members to move accounts away from Barclays and similar institutions.
- Produce guidance for members on alternatives to unethical banks, while recognising that not everyone will be able to change.

3. Member Engagement & Mobilisation

Demonstrations:

- Develop a national coordination plan for BFAWU members to attend major demonstrations, especially in London.
- Map existing transport organised by trades councils and other unions, and explore providing BFAWU transport where gaps exist.



- Promote attendance and create a visible “BFAWU block” at demos to build identity and encourage participation.

Visibility & Communication:

- Highlight members’ participation in demos and campaigns to inspire others.
- Collect and share stories of activism within the union to strengthen morale and show impact.

Involvement Options:

- Provide a range of ways members can engage, from boycotts and petitions to demonstrations and resource sharing.
- Offer solidarity actions for members unable to boycott all goods or change banks, ensuring inclusivity.

Linking Members:

- Create spaces (online or in-person) for members to share strategies, resources, and experiences.
- Encourage collaboration across branches and regions to strengthen campaigning.

4. Building Unity & Sustaining Momentum

Internal Dialogue:

- Support reps and branches to bring members with differing views into discussion, avoiding antagonism while upholding union principles of solidarity.
- Provide guidance on framing conversations in ways that emphasise workers’ struggles, justice, and human rights.

Momentum Building:

- Regularly refresh materials, resources, and activities to avoid stagnation.
- Celebrate small wins and progress to maintain motivation.
- Publicly reaffirm BFAWU’s solidarity stance in response to attempts to silence or proscribe pro-Palestinian organisations.

Coordination:

- Establish a system for collating and publicising BFAWU’s Palestine solidarity work, ensuring members know how to get involved.
- Work with allies in the wider trade union movement to amplify campaigns and coordinate action.

5. Practical Next Steps

1. Set up a group to drive forward the plan.
2. Begin with resource creation – a starter pack including information sheets, BDS guidance, and rep conversation tools.
3. Map employer banking and supply chains across key BFAWU workplaces.
4. Engage ethical banking partners about incentives for members.
5. Establish a calendar of actions (education sessions, demos, solidarity events) with clear opportunities for member involvement.
6. Develop a communications strategy to highlight and circulate all ongoing work.