Model Motion 7

Opposing Energy Apartheid and Complicity in Israel's Oppression of the Palestinian People

This branch notes:

1. That Israel's treatment of the Palestinian people has been described as apartheid by leading international human rights organisations, including Amnesty International.
2. That attacks on Gaza's electricity infrastructure and restrictions on fuel supplies have contributed to a prolonged humanitarian crisis, denying Palestinians access to reliable electricity and essential services.
3. Palestinians have been prevented from developing and benefiting from their own natural resources, including the gas reserves off the coast of Gaza, while Israel has licensed corporations to explore and exploit these resources.
4. That the Aberdeen-based company Dana Petroleum has been contracted by Israel to explore Palestinian gas reserves off the coast of Gaza, raising serious questions about corporate complicity in the dispossession and exploitation of the Palestinian people.
5. That Ithaca Energy, a core partner in the Rosebank oilfield project, is complicit in activities in occupied Palestine.
6. That climate justice, workers' rights and Palestinian liberation are interconnected struggles, and that energy resources should serve the needs of people and communities rather than facilitate occupation, dispossession and oppression.

This branch believes:

1. That Palestinian workers and communities have the same fundamental rights to freedom, self-determination, decent work and control over their natural resources as workers and communities everywhere.
2. That no corporation should profit from the exploitation of Palestinian resources or contribute to the maintenance of Israel's occupation and system of apartheid.
3. That trade unions have a responsibility to challenge corporate complicity in human rights abuses and to support campaigns for justice and accountability.
4. That solidarity with Palestinian workers and communities must be reflected in practical action, including engagement with companies, public campaigning and cooperation with the wider trade union movement.

This branch resolves:

1. Submit this motion to the appropriate union structures, requesting that the union's national leadership takes the necessary actions to support the Energy Apartheid campaign, including by joining the other ten trade unions who have signed the open letter opposing Rosebank. And calling for Dana Petroleum to end its involvement in exploiting Palestinian gas reserves off the coast of Gaza.
2. To support the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, freedom, justice and control over their natural resources.
3. To support the Scottish Palestine Solidarity Campaign's Energy Apartheid campaign.
4. To support the campaign to stop the Rosebank oilfield project and to challenge the role of Ithaca Energy in corporate activities associated with Israel.
5. To call on Dana Petroleum and other companies operating in Scotland to end complicity and demonstrate that their activities do not contribute to Israel's occupation, apartheid or violations of international law.

6. To circulate information about the Energy Apartheid campaign to branch members and encourage members to take part in appropriate campaigning activities including by sending the pre-populated Action Network letter opposing Rosebank.

Reference:

Stop Rosebank (10 unions Call):

https://www.stopcambo.org.uk/updates/ten-trade-unions-call-on-uk-government-to-reject-controversial-rosebank-oil-field

Stop Rosebank: Action Network Letter:

https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/no-oil-profits-for-occupation-and-genocide

Energy Apartheid:

https://www.scottishpsc.org.uk/campaigns/energy-apartheid-campaign/