

Press Release

Issued by the Palestine General Federation of Trade Unions (PGFTU)

Palestine General Federation of Trade Unions strongly condemns, in the strongest possible terms, the actions taken by the Israeli occupation authorities against the Greek trade union delegation that was en route to visit the State of Palestine at the official invitation of the PGFTU. The delegation was denied entry without any legal or humanitarian justification and was subjected to interrogation, questioning, and prolonged detention at Tel Aviv Airport, in a blatant violation of their rights, dignity, and trade union freedoms.

PGFTU considers this arbitrary measure to be, yet another manifestation of the occupation's ongoing policy aimed at isolating the Palestinian people and their national and trade union institutions from the international community, and at obstructing global trade union solidarity with Palestinian workers and their just causes. The humiliation, harassment, and interrogation faced by the delegation solely for responding to an official invitation from the PGFTU constitute a direct assault on trade union freedoms and on international relations between labor organizations.

The Federation further affirms that these practices are in clear contradiction with international laws and conventions related to freedom of movement, freedom of association, and trade union rights. They represent a violation of the fundamental principles that guarantee the right of trade union delegations and civil society organizations to communicate and cooperate internationally without undue restrictions or arbitrary political interference.

It is particularly noteworthy that members of the delegation hold the nationality of a European Union member state and are entitled to travel and movement rights under international laws and agreements. However, the occupation authorities deemed their visit to Palestine, based on an official invitation from the PGFTU, as sufficient grounds to deny them entry and subject them to interrogation. This reflects the exclusionary approach adopted by the occupation towards Palestinian institutions and their international partners.

While expressing its full solidarity with the members of the Greek trade union delegation, the PGFTU calls upon the European Union, the international trade union movement, the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), the International Labour Organization (ILO), and all international human rights and labor institutions to condemn these practices and to exert pressure on the occupation authorities to cease their ongoing violations against international delegations and those expressing solidarity with the Palestinian people.

PGFTU also reaffirms its unwavering commitment to the right of Palestinian trade unions to build and develop their international relations, to host friendly trade union delegations, and to strengthen cooperation and solidarity with the global trade union movement, free from the arbitrary and unlawful measures imposed by the occupation.

**Glory and freedom to our Palestinian people,
Solidarity with the international labor and trade union movement.
Palestine General Federation of Trade Unions
Sunday, 21 June 2026**