

# صدقة Sadaka

General Election 2024

## Political Party Manifestos: Extracts on Palestine



### [‘Our Common Sense Manifesto’, Aontú General Election Manifesto 2024](#)

#### *Middle East*

Aontú recognizes that the State of Israel is committing war crimes and crimes against humanity. The UN Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices has said that Israel's warfare in Gaza is consistent with the characteristics of genocide. 70% of all those killed in Gaza have been women and children. The figure is even higher for non combatants. We are urging the Irish government to both recognise these crimes, and act to help end them. Aontú believes that no one should profit from Israel's occupation of Palestine.

We pledge to give our full support to both the Occupied Territories Bill to ban trade with Israel's illegal colonial settlements, and to the Illegal Israeli Settlements Divestment Bill to ban Irish state investments in entities complicit in the illegal settlements enterprise.

Further we will support calls for an EU-wide ban on trade with illegal settlements.

Aontú believe Ireland should not be in any way aide Israel's war machine. We pledge to work to end the use of Irish airports and airspace for the transport of weapons, components, tech, surveillance or other items that help Israel to maintain its illegal occupation and commit war crimes against the people of Palestine. To this end we support the Arms Embargo Bill and call for an end to the US Military's use of Irish airports.

Aontú believe sanctions and isolation are important international pressure tools. We pledge to support immediate lawful economic sanctions against Israel, expelling the Israeli ambassador, and a military-security embargo as called for by the UN Human Rights Council. This would include ending the export of 'dual-use' items (which have both military and civilian uses) to Israel, and conducting an ethics audit to ensure that Irish public institutions are in no way complicit whether through co-operative links, procurement or funding.

We will do all we can to achieve peace and save human lives. We will seek to ensure Free Speech on Palestine and all other issues. Aontú are the only party to stand for Free Speech consistently. No one should be silenced for advocating for human rights. Aontú completely oppose the vicious violence of Hamas. Aontú demand the immediate release of all remaining hostages.

Aontú will work for peaceful democratic elections in Palestine. We fully support the right of Israel and Palestine to peacefully coexists. All nations have a right to defend themselves. But defense must always be proportionate and follow the rules of international law.



### [‘Moving Forward. Together / Ag Bogadh ar Aghaidh. Le Chéile’, Fianna Fáil General Election Manifesto 2024](#)

#### *Peace and Justice in the Middle East*

Under Fianna Fáil leadership, Ireland has been one of the most prominent voices in the world in our condemnation of Middle East violence, in our support for humanitarian relief efforts, and in our advocacy for a Two-State Solution. We led the way in recognising the State of Palestine last May. We firmly believe that there can be no peace in the Middle East until the Israeli and Palestinian people alike enjoy the same rights to self-determination, statehood, peace, security and dignity.

If returned to Government, Fianna Fáil will:

- Continue to work with partners in the region and leverage Ireland's relationships in Europe and the US to advocate for an immediate ceasefire and grow the international coalition of countries supporting a two-state solution through formally recognising the State of Palestine.
- Continue to seek the application of International Law and Justice to all sides in the current conflict through the international court system.
- Advocate for internationally sponsored political negotiations on achieving a peaceful and secure Israel and Palestine.
- Continue to support Ukrainian resistance through Ireland's contribution to the European Peace Facility and the Ukraine Facility.
- Continue to work with partners in the EU to introduce further sanctions to punish illegal settler activity in the West Bank and East Jerusalem.
- Ban imports from the occupied Palestinian territories following the July 2024 International Court judgment, by making necessary and significant amendments to the Occupied Territories Bill (2018) so that it will withstand any future legal challenges.



### 'Securing Your Future', Fine Gael General Election Manifesto 2024

#### ***Conflict in Gaza***

The Irish people have strong views on the conflict in the Middle East, recognising it as a humanitarian catastrophe. Fine Gael is committed to taking meaningful steps to address this situation, calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza and the release of all remaining hostages. Fine Gael, while in government, made the historic decision to recognise the State of Palestine alongside Norway and Spain, while unequivocally recognising the State of Israel. We aim to build on this progress to help create a peaceful future. A two-state solution is the only credible path to peace and security for both Israel and Palestine and their peoples.

Fine Gael will:

- Enact legislation to prohibit trade in goods from Occupied Palestinian Territories: We will also continue to advocate for a review of the EU Trade Agreement.
- Press for an immediate ceasefire: We will continue to call for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza and the release of all hostages.
- Make the case for human rights obligations: We will advocate for a meaningful interpretation of Israel's human rights obligations under the EU-Israel association agreement at the Commission level.
- Work with European colleagues to support UNRWA: We will collaborate with our European partners to secure multi-million euro funding for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA).
- Enforce strict controls on dual-use exports: We will implement a rigorous regime for the control of dual-use items, ensuring that all applications for export licences are thoroughly checked to confirm that they will be used for their stated purposes and not for illicit activities.
- Ensure enforcement of existing legislation on munitions: We will uphold the current legislation that prohibits civil aircraft from carrying munitions of war in Irish sovereign territory without an exemption. We will ensure that pilots are aware of their obligations and conduct spot checks if necessary.

These initiatives will reflect Ireland's commitment to humanitarian principles and our dedication to promoting peace and security in the region.



## [‘Towards 2030: A decade of change, Volume 2’, The Green Party Election Manifesto 2024](#)

### *Ireland on the Global Stage*

The conflicts in Ukraine and the Middle East have demonstrated that international law is increasingly under attack. We strongly condemn the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the Israeli genocide in Gaza and recent attacks in Southern Lebanon. We fully support the use of sanctions against Russia and Israel for these brutal violations of international law.

We will:

- Continue to use our diplomatic power to push for an immediate ceasefire in the Middle East, an end to the invasion of Gaza by Israel, and an end to the attacks and settlement expansion in the West Bank. We will continue to push for a lasting, peaceful two-state solution.
- Immediately enact the Occupied Territories Bill and suspend dual use export licences to Israel.
- Continue to push for the European Commission to review Israel’s compliance with its human rights obligations in the EU-Israel Association Agreement, and act accordingly to amend or suspend the agreement.
- Seek regular reviews of the NTMA’s policy of divestment from businesses operating in illegally occupied territories to ensure that it remains relevant and current.
- Further support UNRWA and defend its right to operate in Palestine, recognising that it is essential to the provision of social services for Palestinians.
- At every step in the process, continue to support the work of the International Criminal Court and the International Court of Justice to document war crimes and to bring perpetrators to justice.
- Stand ready to support physical reconstruction and institution building in warzones.



### [‘Building Better Together’, Labour Party General Election Manifesto 2024](#)

#### ***Our place in the world: Palestine***

Labour supports the cause of the people of Palestine and in government will work to find a peaceful and secure resolution of the conflict. Labour opposes the permanent annexation by Israel of Palestinian land and the system of apartheid, and this is why we support the BDS movement. We will enact the Occupied Territories Bill to ban the sale of settler goods. Within the EU and UN, Ireland must act to hold the Israeli government to account for its continued violation of international law and human rights.

There must be an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza to stop the genocide. All hostages must be released, unimpeded access granted for humanitarian aid, the illegal occupation of Palestinian land must end and there must be prosecutions for all those involved in war crimes. The Israeli military should stop its invasion of Lebanon and respect UN peacekeepers.

We support a two-state solution for Palestine and Israel, and we will seek trade sanctions on Israel due to its actions against the Palestinian people, and a suspension of the EU-Israel Association Agreement. Labour will provide statutory protection against dismissal for workers who refuse to handle goods produced by regimes formally being investigated for genocide by the ICJ.

#### ***Defence, Security and Neutrality***

To protect our neutrality, Labour will:

- Maintain and protect Ireland’s longstanding position of military neutrality and support a referendum to enshrine it in our Constitution.
- Ensure Irish air space and airports are not used for the transport of munitions and weapons of war.



### [‘Another Ireland is possible’, People Before Profit General Election Manifesto 2024](#)

#### ***Real solidarity with Palestine***

Israel is a rogue state, acting like a bloodhound that has been unleashed. It has launched a murderous campaign of genocide against the people of Gaza. It has colonised the West Bank and holds its land in defiance of a UN resolution. It has launched a war on Lebanon, brazenly bombing its people and invading the country. It bombs Iran, Yemen and Syria. People Before Profit are totally opposed to the complicity of Western imperialism. The US has supplied Israel with bunker buster bombs, artillery and intelligence co-operation. It is estimated that it has given Israel \$18 billion in military aid since the war in Gaza began. The EU is the second-largest arms supplier to Israel after the US.. Ursula Van Der Leyen has openly supported Israel’s war. And while it piles on sanctions against Russia over its illegitimate invasion of Ukraine, it refuses to impose any sanction on Israel.

The FF-FG-Green government have no intention of taking any real action. To do so would put them at odds with the Western imperialist alliance to which they aspire to become full members of. It has refused to expel the Israeli ambassador. It supports growing trade links between Ireland and Israel. It has allowed planes to enter Irish airspace carrying weapons for Israel. It pretends to investigate how this occurred but is doing nothing to stop the companies using Irish airspace. One of its Ministers, Pascal Donoghue, even made phone call to re-assure the Israeli government that Ireland would not pass the Occupied Territories Bill. People Before Profit will be a strong voice for Palestine in the Dáil and on the streets.

We will:

- Expel the Israeli Ambassador & withdraw our diplomatic mission from Israel;
- Push for the Irish government to officially adopt a Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions position on Israel. This would mean that all agencies of the Irish state refuse to have anything to do with Israel;
- Close Shannon airport to US troops. Stop the use of Irish air space to facilitate genocide;
- Pass the Occupied Territories Bill immediately;
- Stop the Central Bank facilitating the sale of Israeli war bonds

### ***No to war, No to NATO - Defend Neutrality***

People Before Profit will:

- Defend Irish neutrality fully and make Ireland a voice for peace and against war;
- End the use of Shannon by the US military.



### **'The Choice for Change', Sinn Féin General Election Manifesto 2024**

#### ***An active voice for peace and conflict resolution.***

Ireland has the potential to be a strong respected voice for peace and conflict resolution across the globe. Ireland led the way when the Dáil became the first parliament to call for a ceasefire in Gaza. Ireland has been consistent in condemning breaches of international law.

On issues such as the persecution of the Palestinian people, we can do so much more to use our influence both at EU level and internationally. The last-minute decision of Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael to lift the block on the Occupied Territories Bill was a cynical ploy to deflect from the fact that those parties in government failed to progress a single sanction against Israel for its repeated gross violations of international law or its ongoing Genocide in Gaza.

Sinn Féin priorities include:

- Building on the recognition of the state of Palestine by Ireland, developing closer diplomatic ties with Palestine, and using every diplomatic lever available to build support for an end to the occupation and an independent Palestinian state
- Enacting the Illegal Israeli Settlements Divestment Bill and the Occupied Territories Bill and taking other meaningful actions to sanction Israel for so long as it maintains its illegal occupation and brutal apartheid regime against the Palestinian people
- Working with European partners to suspend the EU-Israel Association agreement and other preferential arrangements with Israel for so long as that state continues to breach International law.

#### ***Protecting Irish Neutrality***

Sinn Féin priorities include:

- Ensuring comprehensive Oireachtas oversight and scrutiny of all proposals for Irish participation in international military missions and exercises, including ensuring that proposals are evaluated by the Oireachtas Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence.

## Social Democrats

### 'The Future Starts Here', Social Democrats General Election Manifesto 2024

#### ***Foreign Policy***

In Government, the Social Democrats will:

- Sustain efforts to ensure accountability for war crimes and human rights abuses, including those committed in the conflicts in the Middle East and in Eastern Europe.
- Seek the further recognition of a Palestinian state among our international allies, and promote a two-state solution on the basis of 1967 borders. We believe the two-state solution offers the only prospect of an enduring peace.
- Support the creation of a shared capital for the two states in Jerusalem, and the ending of the illegal occupation of Palestinian lands, in line with successive United Nations resolutions.
- Enact the Occupied Territories Bill.

#### ***Irish Neutrality***

In Government, the Social Democrats will:

- Ensure Ireland is not used as a hub by State or Non-State actors for the passage of military equipment including weapons, explosive equipment, ammunition etc. into war zones or regions of conflict. A pro-active inspection system to avoid abuse of landing rights at Irish airports is required.
- Require all military aircraft requesting overflight of Irish airspace to be compatible with our policy of military neutrality.

***The manifestos of Independent Ireland and Right to Change make no reference to Palestine.***