**Lettre de ECCP à l’UJFP – 27 mai**

i'm writing to you with request: there is a case against the City Council of Cadiz for declaring itself AFZ (Apartheid Free Zone) , passing the pro BDS motion and for cancelling the film festival sponsored by the Israeli embassy. They are being suit now - please see the context and the explanation below.

There is an urgent request to progressive Jewish organisation in Europe to sign this [statement](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1788zlNZAVzpAu0-O7d8YaFW_9UHuUftrx7rbW2vUlws/edit?usp=sharing" \t "_blank) (in English and Spanish).

**Short briefing of the process and legal case.**

The government body of the municipality of Cadiz passed in August 2016 a motion denouncing the flagrant violations perpetrated by Israel against the Palestinian people, declaring the city of Cadiz as an apartheid-free zone (AFZ)

The commitments made by the Council after the approval of the motion included refraining from contracting with companies involved in flagrant human rights violations of international law and fostering the collaboration with the BDS movement, articulated in the Spanish state by the RESCOP.

In September 2017, the City council canceled a film festival sponsored by the Israeli embassy hosted in a public space, arguing that it violated the commitments made in the frame of the AFZ motion.

In 2019, the city council received 3 legal complaints:

1. An administrative claim against the city council for the approval of the motion, on the bases that it was discriminatory and beyond the competence of the council
2. An administrative claim against the city council for  the cancellation of the film festival sponsored by the Israeli embassy  on the bases that it was discriminatory and violated the constitutional right to non-discrimination
3. A criminal lawsuit against all the members of the governing body (9 councilors plus the major of Cadiz) for hate speech and prevarication. The petitioners argue that the motion includes language that incites hatred against the Jewish people and against the Israeli citizens of the city of Cadiz, considering BDS as a form of anti-semitism

Along with the council, the Asociación Pro Derechos Humanos de Andalucía (APDHA) a local human rights ONG is also accused of hate speech, for their role in promoting the approval of the motion in collaboration with the council.

The City Council of Cadiz has expressed their full commitment to pursue this legal battle for defending their right to freedom of expression and their right to defend human rights, understanding that the motion only intends to fulfill their human rights obligations as a public institution.

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Do you think that your organisation can support it? And would you be willing to send it to all the other Jewish organisations in Europe that you have contacts to?

We are a bit short in time...so the fastest we can have the support the better (if its possible to sing it for them)

Please let me know what you think ok?

Thank you in advance!

Best

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