

# Zack Polanski calls on Sadiq Khan and Yvette Cooper to cancel 'obscene' and illegal sale of settlements on Palestinian land

**Dear Yvette and Sadiq,**

On 14 June, the 'Great Israeli Real Estate' event is due to come to London to auction stolen Palestinian land to the highest bidder. The event proudly promotes the sale of land in settlements like 'Gush Etzion' in the occupied West Bank, marked as illegal under international law. [1]

Theresa May's Conservative government in 2016 acknowledged the illegality of the very same settlement under international law and urged the Israeli government to 'reverse its policy' towards illegal settlements. [2] The event's website explicitly indicates that it is collaborating with Bank Leumi, an Israeli bank which has been identified by the UN for facilitating the expansion of illegal settlements by routinely providing loans to construction projects in the occupied West Bank. [3]

It's obscene that the UK will be playing host to an event openly advertising the sale of land in Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank, especially while horrific settler violence against Palestinians is on the rise.

Amnesty International UK has condemned the event as 'apartheid and annexation with a sales pitch' and called on the government to 'take immediate action to prevent it from going ahead'.

Against the backdrop of increased state-backed settler violence, there is no justification for the UK government to allow events that encourage the expansion of settlements. The event also promotes the sale of land throughout historic Palestine, in cities and towns built on the ethnic cleansing of the Palestinian people. For over 100 years, such sales have contributed to the fragmentation and dispossession of the Palestinian people.

Many Londoners are rightfully concerned that an event promoting land confiscation and the destruction of homes is set to take place in our city. **Sadiq**, you have previously stood with campaigners and Londoners of conscience in condemning the DSEI arms fair, and I welcomed your leadership on that issue.[4] I ask that you now take the same principled stance against this proposed land sale, which would be a stain on our city if allowed to proceed.

**Yvette**, your government has a moral and legal responsibility to take action against illegal settlements. This must include banning the import of settlement goods and imposing further sanctions on all Israeli Government officials responsible for authorising illegal settlements. Empty condemnation

is not enough – we need to see action.

**Yours Sincerely,**

Zack Polanski  
Leader of the Green Party of England and Wales

[1] <https://israelevent2026.com/>

[2]

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2016-02-23/28111>

[3]

<https://www.hrw.org/report/2018/05/29/bankrolling-abuse/israeli-banks-west-bank-settlements>

[4]

<https://www.itv.com/news/london/2025-09-02/mayor-appalled-as-london-is-used-as-marketplace-for-weapon-traders>

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