



## **Petition from 21 Organizations of 31 October 2012** **G4S CONTRIBUTES TO THE OCCUPATION OF PALESTINE**

(The Petition was submitted to the Management at G4S November 1<sup>st</sup>)

In October 2011 the Danish research center Danwatch revealed that G4S is still involved in the Israeli occupation industry by supplying equipment and services to the Israeli military, prisons and illegal settlements in the West Bank<sup>1</sup>. This has happened although the company has repeatedly said that they will stop these activities based on ethical considerations.

In April 2012 G4S decided to exit from their contracts with military checkpoints, one Israeli prison and one police station in the West Bank, when the contract terms expire. However, G4S has stated they will continue to provide security and alarm services for banks and supermarkets in Israeli settlements. In addition, G4S will continue to supply equipment and services to Israeli prisons<sup>2</sup>. In these prisons West Bank Palestinians are detained in violation of the Geneva Conventions. According to the Norwegian People's Aid and Norwegian Union of Municipal and General Employees' report "Dangerous connections" from 2012, Palestinian prisoners are routinely subjected to torture in these centers<sup>3</sup>. Israeli human rights organizations also claim that Palestinian children are being held there.<sup>4</sup>

At the same time as the situation for Palestinians is becoming increasingly desperate as a result of the Israeli occupation, G4S choose to participate in activities that directly contribute to maintaining illegal settlements and military repression. Israel's settlement policy in the West Bank violates international law and is condemned by the international community. Despite this, new settlements are being built and existing settlements expanded. Palestinian land and limited water resources are confiscated, and the possibilities for free movement for Palestinians are further tightened. Expansion of Israeli settlements has led to widespread destruction of Palestinian homes and forcible transferring of Palestinians. The Israeli settlement policy violates Palestinians' right to self-determination, equality, property, decent living conditions and freedom of movement.

The signed organizations believe that G4S 'deliveries to settlements, Israeli military, prisons and police are unethical, as this is a part of maintaining the occupation of Palestinian territories. G4S must immediately withdraw from all activities on occupied Palestinian land and halt all deliveries to Israeli prisons in which Palestinian prisoners are imprisoned in violation of the Geneva Conventions.

Sincerely

Amnesty International Norway

AUF Oslo (*The Workers' Youth League - Oslo*)

EL&IT forbundet (*The Electrician and IT workers union*)

Fagforbundet (*Norwegian Union of Municipal and General Employees*)

Fagforbundet i Oslo (*Norwegian Union of Municipal and General Employees-Oslo*)

Fellesforbundet avd 023 Raufoss Jern og Metall (*The Norwegian United Federation of Trade Unions - 023 Raufoss Iron and Metalworkers*)

Fellesforbundet avd 850 Oslo Grafiske Fagforening (*The Norwegian United Federation of Trade Unions - 850 Oslo graphic workers union*)

Fellesorganisasjonen (*Norwegian Union of Social Educators and Social Workers*)

Fellesutvalget for Palestina (*The Association of Norwegian NGOs for Palestine*)

Handel og kontor i Norge (*The Union of Employees in Commerce and Offices*)

Industri Energi (*Industry Energy workers union*)

KFUK-KFUM Globals Midtøsten-komit  (*YWCA-YMCA Global Middle East committee*)

LO i Oslo (*The Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions - Oslo*)

Norsk Folkehjelp (*Norwegian People's Aid*)

Norsk Transportarbeiderforbund (*The Norwegian Transport Workers' Union*)

Palestinakomiteen i Norge (*The Palestine Committee of Norway*)

Palestine Network Norway

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.danwatch.dk/da/artikler/g4s-tilbagetog-fra-bosaettelser-traekker-ud/104>

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.business-humanrights.org/media/documents/company\\_responses/g4s-israel-apr-24-2012.pdf](http://www.business-humanrights.org/media/documents/company_responses/g4s-israel-apr-24-2012.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.norsksfjelp.no/no/nyheter/2012/?module=Articles&action=Article.publicShow&ID=19080>

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.addameer.org/etemplate.php?id=460>

Rødt (*The Red Party*)

Sosiale institusjoners forening (*Norwegian Union of Municipal and General Employees-branch 701 social workers union*)

Sosialistisk Ungdom (*Socialist Youth League of Norway*)

Sosialistisk Venstreparti (*Socialist Left Party of Norway*)