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COP30 BRIEFING

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25

FOR CLIMATE STRATEGY (PICS) X

DISRUPT POWER

FROM THE DOCKS TO THE STREETS:

EN PR



WORKERS SHUT IT DOWN

STRIKE AGAINST GENOCIDE: ITALY LEADS THE WAY

EN PT

NAPLES,
ITALY

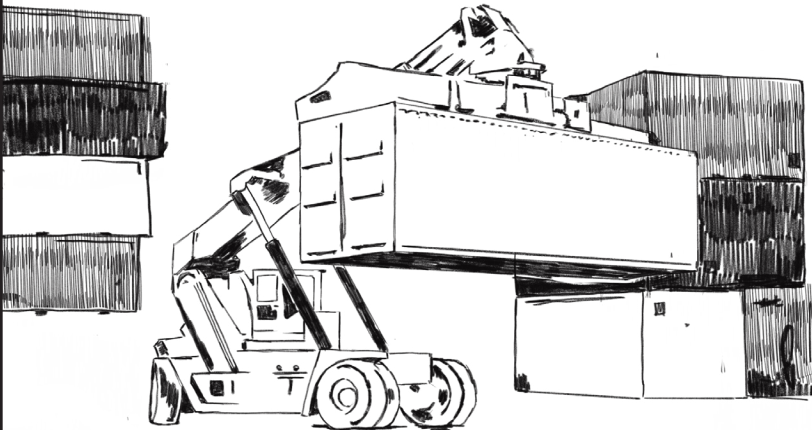
"From this moment, we call every worker, every citizen, every democratic and solidarity organization to block everything: production, logistics, transport, school, services as a sign of protest against the war crimes committed by Israel and against the complicity of Western governments, including Italy, which continue to provide weapons and political support to the Zionist regime."

— Unione Sindacale di Base (USB)

On October 3rd 2025, more than two million workers heeded the calls of Italy's largest trade union, the Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro (CGIL), alongside the grassroots Unione Sindacale di Base (USB) to to "stop the genocide" and defend the Global Sumud Flotilla, blocking Italy's main ports and cities, Naples,⁽¹⁾ Livorno, Genoa,⁽²⁾ and Salerno, for over 24 hours.

Almost a month earlier, on September 22nd, the "Block Everything with Palestine in Our Hearts" call for a general strike had brought together several grassroots unions: USB, Confederazione Unitaria di Base (CUB), Sindacato Generale di Base (SGB), Associazione Difesa Lavoratrici e Lavoratori (ADL), and the Italian Syndicalist Union (USI). United, they organized a coordinated general strike across the country and mobilized more than one million people.

The general strike in Italy, has since spread to Spain and Belgium, showcasing how dockworkers union, trade unions and Palestine solidarity organizations,⁽³⁾ can combine their struggles in the spirit of internationalism and crossborder solidarity to escalate against "business as usual."



⁽¹⁾ The port of Naples saw a blockade action by the grassroots dockworkers union Comitati di Base, (COBAS).

⁽²⁾ The port of Genoa was blocked by the Autonomous Port Workers' Collective CALP, a key faction within the USB union.

⁽³⁾ Such as Giovani Palestinesi d'Italia (GPI), Associazione Palestinesi d'Italia (API), and Unione Democratica Arabo-Palestinese (UDAP).

“BLOCCHIAMO TUTTO” LET’S BLOCK EVERYTHING

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>> Pro-Palestinian protesters demonstrate inside the commercial port of Naples.



Between the 22nd of September and October 3rd, 2025, dockworkers escalated actions.

❶ Grassroots dockworker unions blocked Zim ships^(a) headed to Israel on several occasions. The container ship “Zim Virginia” was not allowed to dock for five days off the Tuscan coast, after dockworkers refused to allow it to dock.

❷ In mid-September 2025, 2,000 protesters gathered at the port of Genoa after reports circulated that several containers at the port were linked to “Israeli” shipments. Their demands were clear: refuse the docking and unloading of cargo from the “Zim New Zealand” container.

❸ The “Zim Iberia” encountered similar resistance in Livorno on October 3rd in the port of Genoa.

^(a) Israel-bound oil tanker blocked in Italy is registered in Malta <https://time-sofmalta.com/article/israelbound-oil-tanker-blocked-italy-registered-malta.1116882>

^(b) The port of Genoa was blocked by the Autonomous Port Workers' Collective CALP, a key faction within the USB union.

^(c) Zim is the Zionist entity's flagship shipping company.

But Italian dockworkers did not only block Zim vessels.

In September, “Seasalvia,” a Maltese flagged tanker, was blocked by Italian port authorities from loading 30,000 tons of “Israel-bound” crude oil after being pressured by the trade union federation USB and the grassroots dockworkers union, Comitati di Base (COBAS). The tanker, due to load the crude oil bound for Ashkelon “Israel,” where the Israeli authorities wanted the Global Sumud Flotilla to dock instead of heading to Gaza,^(d) was blocked from entering the port



of Taranto as reports circulated that the oil was destined for the Israeli airforce. Eni, the owner of the refinery,^(e) was forced to unilaterally revoke authorisation for the vessel to dock at its pier.

If frontline dockworkers taking material actions to end the genocide do not differentiate between weapons and energy destined to the settler-colonial entity, why should we?

SOLIDARITY ACROSS SEAS: FROM BRAZIL TO THE MEDITERRANEAN

EN PT



Imperial powers complicit in the genocide do not differentiate between military and energy supply chains. Through the military-fuel complex, the genocidal entity is fed an endless supply of energy.

In 2024, investigations revealed that vessels such as the Overseas Santorini delivered 300,000 barrels of U.S. supplied military grade jet fuel (JP-8) to the Zionist entity.⁽⁷⁾ Mediterranean ports repeatedly harbored these ships until trade unions and solidarity movements, under the banner “No Harbour for Genocide” moved to disrupt their routes. Reports confirmed that the vessel was denied bunkering and forced to leave port under public pressure.

“Indeed, supply chain sabotage and worker blockades have historically created strategic chokepoints in the flow of material, capital and people that sustain repressive regimes and imperial projects.”

-Excerpt from *Routes to Disruption—Supply Chain Sabotage and Israel's War on Gaza*.

⁽⁷⁾ Each vessel is reported to carry approximately 300,00 barrels of fuel. In 2023 to 2024 alone, 2.14 million barrels of military jet fuel were delivered on these two vessels alone.

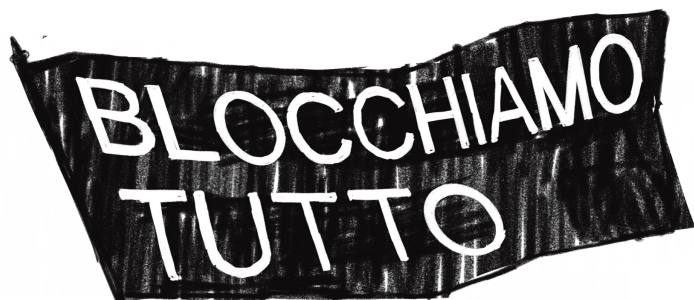
Strategic decision-making, would enable workers and solidarity movements, responsive to the call of the transnational movement, to preemptively refuse the harbour of the genocidal vessels.

Spanish dockworkers and solidarity networks in Cádiz and Gibraltar forced the Santorini into international waters, where it continued illegally with its trackers switched off. This hidden route remains a key artery delivering military fuel for Israel's war machine, and a reminder that workers can choke the pipelines of genocide.

WORKERS UNITE: NO OIL FOR GENOCIDE!

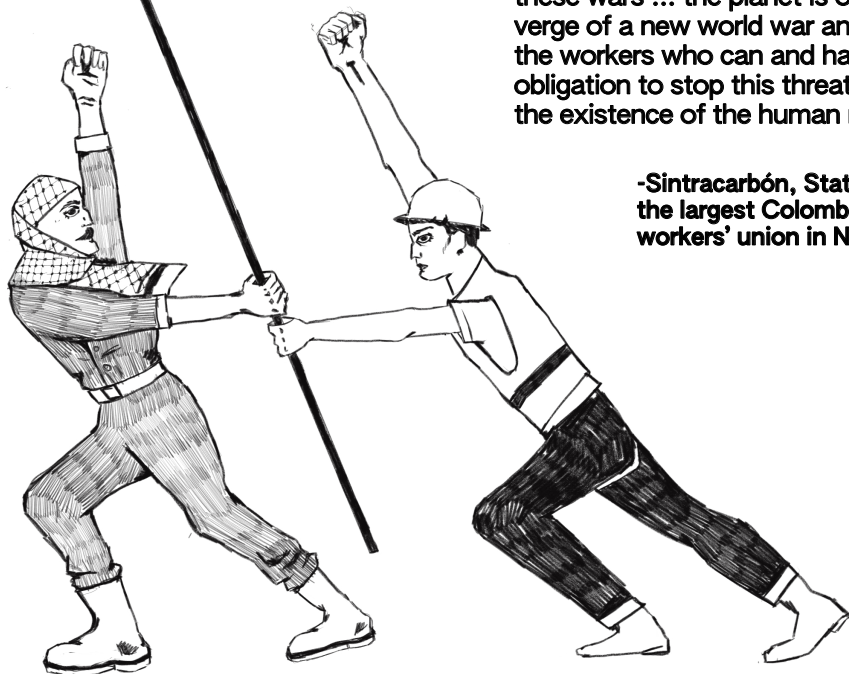
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Colombia was the biggest coal exporter to the Zionist entity, accounting for **more than 60% of its coal supply in 2023**® Indigenous solidarity, union statements and pressure on complicit corporations extracting Colombia's coal resulted in President Gustavo Petro's decision to impose an energy embargo on coal shipments to "Israel" on May 1, 2024.



"Stop the production of metals, minerals and fuels that are used in these wars ... the planet is on the verge of a new world war and it is the workers who can and have the obligation to stop this threat against the existence of the human race".

-Sintracarbón, Statement by the largest Colombian mine workers' union in November,



Despite, state-supported sanctions, energy corporations have adapted to find loopholes to continue to fuel apartheid and genocide.

"A total of one million tons of Colombian coal were thus fed into the grid, roughly two-thirds of the average pre-ban amount. Almost one year after... Drummond's ships⁽⁸⁾ had ensured that Colombia remained the main coal supplier to the occupation."

⁽⁸⁾ Coal is utilized to power "Israel's" unified electricity grid supplying the settlements, and military infrastructure.

—Excerpt from The Making of a Coal Boycott: Inside the campaign to break the toxic relationship between Colombian mining and Israeli militarism.

⁽⁹⁾ Drummond is one of the largest corporations, U.S based, that operates in Colombia, and not only exports coal to "Israel," but is behind the para-military forces that have brutally oppressed the Colombian people.

Similarly, corporations in Brazil caught on, showcasing declining direct exports to the genocidal state. While facilitating a sustained flow of Brazil's crude oil to the Zionist entity through foreign intermediaries.

"This route of Brazilian oil through Italy to "Israel," to keep its genocidal machinery running, illustrates the necessity of transnational solidarities in the fight to ensure not a single drop of Brazilian oil goes to the Zionist entity."

-Excerpt from Special Investigation: This is how Petrobras triangulates fuel via Italy to supply the genocidal machinery of the State



On 29 May 2025, the National Federation of Oil Workers and the Single Federation of Oil Workers, two of Brazil's largest federations of oil trade unions, sent a joint letter to President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva and key ministers in the Brazilian government urging them to take more concrete action against "Israel's" genocide in Gaza.

Following Colombia's model, the Federation did not mince words and publicly called for a full energy embargo against "Israel" in accordance with international law.

Crucial in this struggle are also Italian and Cypriot dockworkers unions who have the added burden of imposing an energy embargo beyond the limits of their own country's complicity, alongside those in Brazil – who must escalate their solidarity with Palestine to end the complicity of state owned oil companies in circumventing their own bans, through third party corporations in Switzerland, that continue to operate through the ports of Italy and Cyprus.

Latin American workers, the real agents of change, have the power to enact and enforce a people's energy embargo from below. Today, we must sustain the struggle to ensure our resources serve people, not empire or genocide.



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