

Oppose the Criminalization of Palestine Solidarity in Toronto

We at Socialist Project condemn the criminalization of Tynan Liebert, a union militant and member of the Communist Workers Circle. His criminalization stemming from his action in solidarity with the Palestinian people is part of a larger trend of increasing political repression. The immense state resources used to contain the spread of principled solidarity against genocide and apartheid that Ty and others have been targeted for, has grave implications for the freedoms of all of us.

Last spring, Tynan was arrested and charged with assault at a demonstration against Liberal government complicity in genocide being held outside a fundraiser for Christia Freeland. On August 22, despite video evidence clearly showing Ty did not assault anyone, a judge ruled that he was guilty of being a party to an assault. This decision sets a dangerous precedent against freedoms of association as expressed in public protest or union picketing. The implication of this decision is that anyone on a hard picket line or part of a protest who is verbally supportive of blocking access is held responsible for the actions of others.



Ty's experience is representative of the growing repression of Palestine solidarity and the increasing limits placed on freedoms of association that have consequences for more general union activity, political expression and civil liberties. It is in the interest of working-class people and their organizations to resist this repressive trend.

Massive state resources in policing and court proceedings have been expended in suppressing efforts like Ty's to force an end to Canadian complicity in the genocide while no resources have been mobilized to pressure Israel to stop the genocide or target those who actively encourage, support, or whitewash the gross crimes against humanity taking place in Palestine.

We urge all who can to support Tynan's appeal and the [fundraising](#) to pay his legal fees. •

