

## Equal Times newsletter: Israel, Fiji, Greece and more

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Verzonden: vrijdag 23 november 2012 14:27

To: Veerle Solia



## = THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT

Despite the recent ceasefire, there is an undeclared and under-reported economic war behind the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Not surprisingly, the first casualties are the Palestinians.

Even [the ILO](#), usually constrained by diplomacy, could not hide the fact that the Israeli occupation is leading to a shrinking space for Palestinian development.

There are very few job opportunities in the occupied territories, especially among the young who face unemployment rates of over 70 per cent. As a result, Palestinians have no choice but to work on the Israeli settlements. There they face discrimination and exploitation, from lower wages to the lack of social protection.

However, there is a hidden war in Israel as well. The level of social injustice within Israeli society, and the divisions and discrimination between Israelis of different origins, is such that the Palestinians or African migrants are just an easy target for widespread anger, racism and hatred.

Historically, this has always been the best way to fuel political support for reactionary governments, like Binyamin Netanyahu's.

At a deeper look, that is not much different from what is now happening in Greece.

The economic crisis and the austerity measures are fostering more and more extremism, represented there by the ultra-right group Golden Dawn. Its militants patrol Athens to hunt migrants and asylum seekers, many fleeing conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq.

But there are no rockets there, just scapegoats.

[Vittorio Longhi](#)

Editor

## = HIGHLIGHTS



### ISRAEL: THE CONFLICT WITHIN

Posted on November 19, 2012

Wednesday's ceasefire may mean that the bombs have stopped raining on Gaza for now but the battle within Israeli society rages on.

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## FIJIAN WORKERS FACE WORLD'S WORST LABOUR VIOLATIONS

Posted on November 16, 2012

The ILO recently named Fiji as one of five countries where the core labour standards are most seriously violated. We report on what's happening in the troubled Pacific nation.

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## GREECE: THE DAWN OF EXTREMISM

Posted on November 12, 2012

In just three years, the neo-Nazi Golden Dawn party has gone from being on the fringes of Greek politics to being one of the country's most influential political groups. What went wrong?

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## = CAMPAIGN

### STOP THE NET GRAB



#### **The internet as we know it is at risk**

Unless we act now, our right to freely communicate and share information could change forever. Which is why we have launched the Stop the Net Grab campaign to ensure that the internet remains an open resource that connects the globe.

In less than four weeks' time, the International Telecommunications Union (or ITU), a United Nations agency, is planning to adopt new rules to clamp down on the fundamental freedoms of citizens online.

Join our global petition to ask government representatives who will attend this conference to reject these changes.

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## = COMING SOON

### QATAR: GRAND AMBITIONS, WRETCHED LIVES

In 2022, Qatar will become the first country in the Persian Gulf to host the World Cup, demonstrating the rapid global rise of this tiny emirate nation. But as the latest Equal Times report uncovers, Qatar's immense riches have been built on the backs of exploited migrant workers.

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