

**Speech of Miguel d'Escoto Brockmann, Nicaragua,  
UN General Assembly President,  
on Nov. 24, 2008  
during the United Nations' annual International Day of Solidarity with the  
Palestinian People**

What is being done against the Palestinian people seems to me to be a version of the hideous policy of apartheid. That cannot, should not be allowed to continue. I spoke this morning about apartheid and how Israeli policies in the Occupied Palestinian Territories appear so similar to the apartheid of an earlier era, a continent away. I believe it is very important that we in the United Nations use this term. We must not be afraid to call something for what it is. It is the United Nations after all, that passed the International Convention Against the Crime of Apartheid, making clear to all the world that such practices of official discrimination must be outlawed wherever they occur. More than twenty years ago we in the United Nations took the lead from civil society when we agreed that sanctions were required to provide a non-violent means of pressuring South Africa. . . . Today, perhaps we in the United Nations should consider following the lead of a new generation of civil society, who are calling for a similar non-violent campaign of boycott, divestment and sanctions to pressure Israel. . . . I have attended a great many meetings on the rights of the Palestinian people and I am amazed at how people continue to insist on patience while our brothers and sisters are being crucified. . . .

*Quelle:*

<http://www.dkp-ge.de/israel-boycott/israel-boycott.html>  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nFAR0TLBO7E>