BDS is Anti-Palestinian

The Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement against Israel hurts Palestinian-Arabs and undermines the peace process.

BDS hurts the Palestinian-Arab Economy and causes Palestinian-Arabs, the people the movement supposedly supports, to lose their jobs.

- The Palestinian-Arab economy relies heavily on Israel for imports and exports. If BDS succeeds, it will shut down a majority of the Palestinian-Arab economy.
  - In 2012, Palestinian-Arab sales to Israel accounted for 81 percent of total exports from the Palestinian Authority (PA). Imports from Israel account for two-thirds of all Palestinian-Arab imports, or 27 percent of the Palestinian-Arab GDP.
- As of 2014, more than 100,000 Palestinian-Arabs from the PA work in Israel, according to a report by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics. If BDS succeeds, more than 100,000 Palestinian-Arabs will lose their jobs.
- Palestinian-Arabs, on average, earn roughly twice as much working in Israel as they do working in the PA. If BDS succeeds, these Palestinian-Arabs will see their paychecks cut in half and will have trouble supporting their families.
- In 2014, the BDS movement pressured SodaStream to move its headquarters out of Judea and Samaria (the “West Bank”). When SodaStream moved, hundreds of Palestinian-Arabs lost their high-paying jobs with benefits such as free transportation and daily breakfast and lunch.

While BDS falsely accuses Israel of human rights violations, it detracts from actual human rights abuses committed against Palestinian-Arabs.

- Both the PA and Hamas persecute minorities and deny all their citizens basic freedoms and human rights.
  - Both groups persecute women and permit honor killings (the killing of women for acting “dishonorably” toward their families).
    - Women are denied legal protection against domestic abuse. In order to make a claim against sexual abuse, girls under the age of 18 must be escorted to a police station by a male relative.
    - Furthermore, in its charter, Hamas limits the role of women to be mothers and homemakers, raising their children to fulfill the religious commandments of Islam and their role in war.
  - Both groups persecute and even murder homosexuals for the “crime” of being gay.
  - Both the PA and Hamas deny their people the rights of free speech and press and they jail journalists for expressing positions against the government.
    - In February of 2013, a court sentenced a 26-year-old man to a year in prison after he posted a photo on Facebook portraying PA President Abbas as a soccer player on Real Madrid.
- Hamas commits the war crime of using children and other civilians as human shields while waging war against Israel. It also executes Palestinian-Arabs for allegedly collaborating with Israel.\textsuperscript{iii}

Even the Palestinian Authority (PA) opposes a boycott of Israel, as PA leader Mahmoud Abbas has spoken out against BDS, clearly stating “No, [the PA] do[es] not support the boycott of Israel.”\textsuperscript{ix}

\textsuperscript{iii} SodaStream to move factory out of West Bank Israeli settlement. Ian Black. The Guardian. October 29, 2014.
\textsuperscript{v} Data Shows BDS Movement Diminishing Palestinian Economy. Jacob Kornbluh. JPUpdates. February 23, 2015.
\textsuperscript{vi} Hidden Injustices. Jerusalem Institute of Justice. March 2015.
\textsuperscript{vii} At Mandela funeral, Abbas says he opposes boycott of Israel. Daoud Kuttab. Al Monitor. December 13, 2013.