

Coalition for Justice and Peace in Palestine

PO Box 144, Glebe NSW 2037

cjpp@coalitionforpalestine.org

www.coalitionforpalestine.org

MEDIA RELEASE

15 November 2011

GILLARD WRONG ON PALESTINE SUPPORT

“PM Gillard's opposition to Palestinian membership in the UN is not supported by the Australian public, according to a recent poll,” says academic Dr Peter Slezak. The Morgan poll, released 8 November 2011, shows only 14 per cent of those polled agree with PM Gillard's opposition to the Palestinian bid.

“62 per cent of Australians polled said that the UN should recognise Palestine as a member State, and this shows the Government is out of step with Australian public opinion. Our Government should reflect the opinions of Australian voters and not toe the United States' line,” says Slezak.

“The majority of Australians polled support a ‘yes’ vote in the UN, and only 14 per cent support the negative stance of the PM and Opposition Leader Tony Abbott.

“The poll shows Australians are sympathetic to Palestinian rights, with 64 per cent of those polled opposing the building of settlements on occupied Palestinian land.”

Australia was one of only 14 countries to vote against Palestine's successful bid to join UNESCO on 1 November 2011. The bid was overwhelmingly supported by 107 countries.

Contact: Associate Professor Peter Slezak, Coalition for Justice and Peace in Palestine

Ph: 0400 442644