

BRICUP

British Committee for the
Universities of Palestine

Palestine Solidarity, 'Antisemitism' and the Attack on Jeremy Corbyn

a UCU Congress fringe meeting (for UCU delegates but open to the public)

Ben Jamal, (Director, Palestine Solidarity Campaign)

Lindsey German (Chair, Stop the War Coalition)

Naomi Wimborne-Idrissi (Jewish Voice for Labour)

Tom Hickey (BRICUP and Brighton UCU)

Nita Sanghera (Vice-President, UCU)

Amongst British politicians, Jeremy Corbyn has been exemplary as a consistent anti-racist, and a fighter for justice and equality nationally and internationally. That is what has made him a friend of Palestine, and a critic of Israel.

That is also, however, what has made him the target of supporters of Israel, and one of the things that has made him the target of his right-wing adversaries inside the Labour Party.

Better, it would seem, to have another Labour election defeat than to see a socialist, an internationalist and an anti-racist in Downing Street.

As an anti-racist, Corbyn has always been a trenchant fighter against anti-semitism.

For Israel's supporters, that is irrelevant. While real and vitriolic anti-semitism gains ground in governing and opposition populist parties across Europe and in the USA, and neo-fascist organisations grow in Hungary, Germany, France, Sweden and Britain, Israel's friends want to redefine 'anti-semitism' to include criticism of Israel and of Zionism.

Under pressure from some influential trade unions, the Labour Party NEC has now adopted the widely discredited IHRA definition of anti-

semitism. It is a definition, despite the intentions of its original author, that is being used to attack all forms of Palestinian solidarity, and even to outlaw claims that Israel is a discriminatory, racist state, or thus to question its legitimacy.

- **How should this campaign of vilification be opposed?**
- **How are free speech on Israel and advocacy of Palestinian freedom to be defended?**
- **What can trade unions do now to roll back this attack?**

7pm Wednesday 17th October
Chamber Space, Elliot House
151, Deansgate, Manchester M3 3WD

This event will not be ticketed - the organisers reserve the right to refuse entry