Moshé Machover
Defense Campaign
What Happened?

- Labour Party & the Rise of Corbyn
- “New Labour” Blairites and the cynical use of the War on Terror & Islamophobia to divide the Left
- McCarthyite tactics within Labour against the Left and Palestine solidarity activism in particular
- Moshé Machover fit the bill and was expelled in early October, 2017
- Who is Moshé Machover & why was he targeted?
  - Mathematical Logician (Kings College, London)
  - Marxist Israeli dissident; Leader of Matzpen (Israeli Socialist Organization) & long time anti-Zionist: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hfcFno2pqJg
  - Recently re-joined Labour as part of Corbyn wave
- Specific accusations of anti-semitism
How the Campaign Unfolded

● News of Machover’s expulsion carried fast: High profile expulsion
● Filling out the acronym: STEM
● Tapping the network of SftP veterans (Michael & Chandler)
● Petition launched (lots of technical lessons learned)
● Local partner in Jewish Voice for Labour
● Major support from Palestinian academic freedom advocates:
  ○ British Committee for the Universities of Palestine (BRICUP)
  ○ Association des Universitaires pour le Respect du Droit International en Palestine (Aurdip)
  ○ High profile Mathematicians (3 Fields Medalists,
● Victory on the eve of release! (Constituency Labour Parties pushed back)
● **Pivot to Publishing an Interview**
International Collaboration

SftP’s Defense Campaign of Moshé Machover

● Clear demonstration of our potential capacity to mobilize pre-existing network of left-wing international academic scientists

● Successful international work requires local partners (JVL, BRICUP & AURDIP)

● Timing is everything! Need to streamline SftP website capacity to host petitions & distribute press releases

● “Premature Victory” caused need for re-assessment and change of campaign: The Machover interview...

Statement of Principles:

Jewish Voice for Labour (JVL) is a network for Jewish members of the Labour Party.

Our political priorities are universal human rights and dignity; justice for all; freedom of expression; and democracy in the Labour Party.

Our mission is to contribute to making the Labour Party an open, democratic and inclusive party, encouraging all ethnic groups and cultures to join and participate freely. As such we aim to strengthen the party in its opposition to all forms of racism including anti-Semitism, broadening the party’s appeal to all sections of British society. We take inspiration from the long history of Jewish involvement in the socialist and trade union movements and in anti-racist and anti-fascist struggles, including the anti-apartheid and civil rights movements.

We stand for rights and justice for Jewish people everywhere, and against racism and anti-Semitism from all parties and societies and the oppression of Palestinians and other oppressed people anywhere. We uphold the right of supporters of Justice for Palestinians to engage in solidarity activities, such as Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions. We oppose attempts to widen the definition of anti-Semitism beyond its clear demonstration of our potential capacity to mobilize pre-existing network of left-wing international academic scientists

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Timing is everything! Need to streamline SftP website capacity to host petitions & distribute press releases

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Jewish Voice for Labour
A network for Jewish members of the Labour Party.
Joint-Publication

SftP’s Defense Campaign of Moshé Machover pivots to self-publishing

- Machover reinstated into Labour Party on the day before SftP/JVL petition was set to be delivered (to LP leaders & British press)
- Not in position to cover the story as a news story as quickly as others
- Conducted interview for publication for use by Machover supporters in Labour & internationally
- First translated SftP content: into French for prevalence of French support for international campaign (per Aurdip)