

# Teacher Guide: Organisations working for Peace and Justice

What gives  
you hope?

What does  
peace look  
like to you?

How do you  
cope with fear  
or anger?

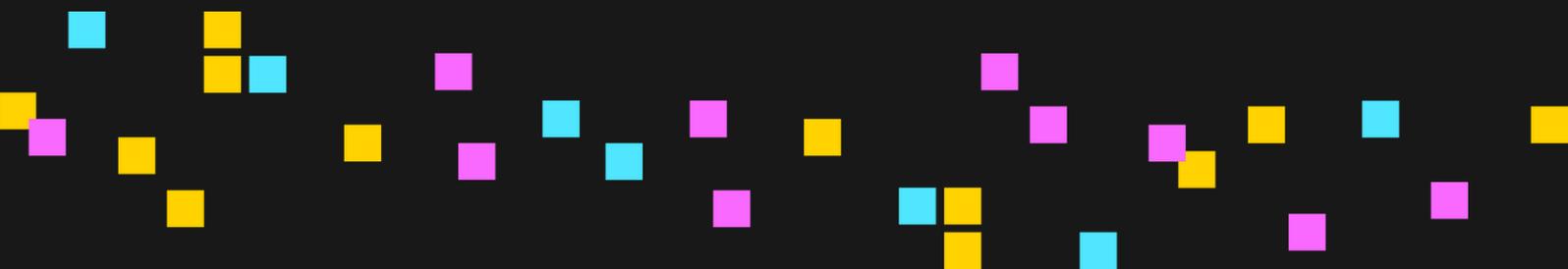
How do  
you react  
to hate?

# Introduction

This guide has been created to help schools and other educational bodies be able to find organisations who are working for peace and justice in the region of Israel-Palestine.

It contains a number of organisations that work inside Palestine, inside Israel, across borders and internationally. These organisations show that people can work together to find a solution to conflict and demonstrate leadership and bravery. On their websites you may find useful resources for exploring active peace-work in the region today.

This list is not exhaustive, and many others organise and act together on a number of issues.



# Combatting Conspiracy Theories

## ALLMEP

ALLMEP is a coalition of over 100 organisations – and tens of thousands of Israelis and Palestinians, Arabs and Jews – building people-to-people cooperation, coexistence, equality, shared society, mutual understanding, and peace among their communities in the Middle East. ALLMEP works internationally to promote and raise awareness of the community of peacebuilders whilst building the coalition’s capacities in the region.

## Friends of Roots

Roots is a grassroots movement based on understanding, nonviolence, and transformation among Israelis and Palestinians who live in the West Bank. They believe human interaction is the first agent of transformation and run a series of projects such as inter-religious exchange, partnership lectures, joint iftars, youth groups, summer camps, after-school programs, pre-army academies, visiting schools, speaking groups and meetings.

## Eco Peace

EcoPeace Middle East brings together Jordanian, Palestinian, and Israeli environmentalists to promote cooperative efforts to protect their shared environmental heritage. They seek to advance both sustainable regional development and the creation of necessary conditions for lasting peace in the region by combining grassroots and advocacy approaches.

## Seeds of Peace

Seeds of Peace brings youth and educators from areas of conflict to its camp in Maine for a summer to build relationships of trust, empathy and respect for one-another and address obstacles to peacebuilding. It also provides local programming to support Seeds of Peace graduates once they return home.

## Combatants for Peace

Combatants for Peace is an Israeli-Palestinian NGO and bi-national, grassroots movement committed to non-violent action against the Israeli occupation and all forms of violence in Israel and the Palestinian territories. Their mission is working towards a two-state solution in the 1967 borders, or any other mutually agreed upon solution that will allow both Israelis and Palestinians to live in freedom, security, democracy and dignity in their homeland.

## New Story Leadership

The mission of New Story Leadership is to equip a new generation of Palestinian and Israeli change agents with the leadership tools needed to create social, economic and political change in the region. Delegates spend 7-weeks in Washington to collaborate on social impact projects and strategic meetings with peace organisations. Delegates have gone on to create initiatives such as 'yalla yoga', the Museum of Palestinian people, and the 'beyond the land' documentary.

## Kids for Peace

Founded in Jerusalem and now part of the organisation Seeds for Peace, Kids4Peace is an interfaith youth collective aiming to end conflict and bring about peace to divided countries. Their programmes in leadership, communications and social action have involved over 500 young students in North America, Jerusalem and Europe.

## Arava Institute

The Arava Institute for Environmental Studies is an environmental studies and research institute in the Negev desert for Jordanians, Palestinians and Israelis, forming cooperative initiatives which focus on a range of environmental concerns and challenges.

## Our Generation Speaks

Our Generation Speaks (OGS) is a fully funded, three-month summer fellowship program and incubator where emerging Israeli and Palestinian leaders create high-impact ventures. They engage in seminar and mentorship programs and are equipped with the tools to launch new ventures for which they are granted seed funding.

## The Parents Circle Families Forum

PCFF is a joint Israeli-Palestinian organization of over 600 families, all of whom have lost an immediate family member to the ongoing conflict. PCFF uses education, public meetings and the media, to spread the idea that reconciliation between nations is a prerequisite to achieving a sustainable peace.

## Oasis of Peace

Is a village of Palestinian and Jewish citizens of Israel dedicated to building justice, peace and equality in the country and the region. The community has established educational institutions based on its ideals and conducts activities focused on social and political change. Many of the village members work in peace, justice and reconciliation projects.

## Yala Young Leaders

The YaLa Academy for Citizen Journalism trains and provides young activists with practical skills in citizen journalism and new media activism, creating a network of tech-savvy, forward thinking citizen journalists who engage in cross-border dialogue and voice their opinions on issues facing young people in the MENA region today.

## Hand in Hand

Hand in Hand is building inclusion and equality between Arab and Jewish citizens of Israel through a growing network of bilingual, integrated schools and communities. It enrolls over 1,850 students in six public schools from Jerusalem to the Galilee. The schools are open to all parts of the Arab and Jewish populations in Israel. Hand in Hand proves that shared living is possible, it is real, and it is happening throughout Israel right now.

## Heart to Heart

Heart to Heart is a youth leadership program for Palestinian and Jewish citizens of Israel. They are dedicated to empowering youth with the tools and relationships needed to create a more inclusive and peaceful society. During their summer camp program, held in Ontario, participants live together and engage in relationship building activities and facilitated dialogue. They also bond over swimming, arts and crafts, hiking and canoe trips.

## Sulha

The Sulha Peace Project is a grassroots organisation for the healing and reconciliation of the people in Israel and Palestine. Every month or two, they hold gatherings in which 60-125 Palestinians and Israelis meet to reach beyond arguments and political posturing to the essential humanity longing to be heard.

## Jerusalem Peacebuilders

Jerusalem Peacebuilders (JPB) is an interfaith, non-profit organization with a mission to create a better future for humanity across religions, cultures, and nationalities. JPB promotes transformational, person-to-person encounters among the peoples of Jerusalem, the United States, and the Holy Land.

## Peace Now

Peace Now is a Zionist left-wing movement that seeks to ensure the continued existence of Israel as a Jewish and democratic state and works to advance the only solution that will allow it - the establishment of a Palestinian state based on 1967 borders alongside the State of Israel. The movement's various channels of activity include demonstrations and field activities, lectures and conferences, tours and educational work, public campaigns and publicity dissemination.

## B'Tselem

B'Tselem strives to end Israel's occupation, recognizing that this is the only way to achieve a future that ensures human rights, democracy, liberty and equality to all people, Palestinian and Israeli alike. B'Tselem works to expose the injustice, violence and dispossession inherent to the regime of occupation, to deconstruct the apparatuses that enable it, and challenge its legitimacy in Israel and internationally, and it has won various human rights awards.

## Gisha

Gisha's, whose name means both "access" and "approach," goal is to protect the freedom of movement of Palestinians, especially Gaza resident by using legal assistance and public advocacy to protect the rights of Palestinian residents., Gisha represents individuals and organizations in Israeli administrative proceedings and courts and reaches out to members of the public and opinion-makers using publications in various media, in order to promote awareness and sensitivity for human rights in the occupied Palestinian territories.

## Ir Amin

The mission of Ir Amim is to render Jerusalem a more equitable and sustainable city for the Israelis and Palestinians who share it and to help secure a negotiated resolution on the city. It works with Israeli and Palestinian partners on public and legal advocacy promoting policies that respect the rights of both the Israeli and Palestinian communities to live in dignity in the city, and creating bridging frameworks towards a peaceful and agreed-upon resolution whilst safeguarding their holy places.

## Darkenu

With more than 300,000 active supporters, Darkenu is the largest non-partisan civil society movement in Israel. They organise, amplify, and empower the moderate majority of Israelis to exert influence on government policy and on the public discourse, including through the groundbreaking 'DemocraTV' channel they established.

## Breaking the Silence

Breaking the Silence is a non-profit organization made up of veteran combatants who have served in the Israeli military since the start of the second intifada and have taken it upon themselves to expose the public to the reality of everyday life in the occupied territories. They collect and publish testimonies from soldiers who have served in the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem to boost public awareness.

## Women Wage Peace

WWP is the largest grassroots movement in Israel whose purpose is to promote a political agreement to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The aim of the movement is to bring about the resolution of the Israeli Palestinian conflict by means of an honourable, non-violent and mutually acceptable agreement and to include women in all aspects of decision making.

## Tag Meir

Tag Meir battles against racism as part of a campaign to support democratic values, and the very traditional Jewish values of loving neighbours and justice for all. Tag Meir holds hundreds of demonstrations, meetings, vigils and activities throughout the year. Their groups pay condolence visits to victims of terror and violence, repaint over racist graffiti, and offer material support to religious places defaced. They hold meetings with politicians and decision makers to end incitement and rhetoric that is inflammatory.

## Blue White Future

Blue White Future seeks to help resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict on the basis of a “two states for two peoples” solution by facilitating the relocation of settlers so that all Israel’s citizens reside within secure permanent borders that guarantee a Jewish majority. It seeks to assist the Israeli leadership in overcoming challenges related to the absorption of settlers and ensure appropriate compensation for those wishing to relocate regardless of whether an agreement or a government decision regarding relocation is reached.

## Standing Together

Standing Together is the grassroots people's movement in Israel who organize Jews and Arabs, locally and nationally, around campaigns for peace, equality, and social justice, in order to build power and transform Israeli society. They recognize the interconnectedness between struggles including the growing social and economic disparities in Israeli society, the ongoing occupation of the Palestinian territories, attacks on democratic freedoms, and the hardships faced by minorities such as Arab-Palestinian citizens of Israel, the LGBTQ community, women, and immigrants.

## Zimam

Zimam is a pioneering grassroots youth movement that challenges the status quo. Taking a domestic approach to conflict resolution, they work with the leaders of tomorrow to build a more democratic, actively engaged and pluralistic society. Their programs empower young people and transform public thinking, fostering respect for others, building peace and instilling democratic attitudes.

## Taghyeer

Taghyeer is a non-profit organization that is leading a Palestinian national nonviolence movement. Their vision is to achieve a peaceful solution to the Israeli/Palestinian conflict that guarantees independence, freedom, dignity, and a secure life for all. Their mission is a movement that creates social and political change by transcending victimhood and practicing the values of good citizenship with integrity.

## Holy Land Trust

Holy Land Trust's desire is to realize a global peace-making movement founded on the power of love and transformation, where all people live in justice, equality, respect, and peace. They engage in the deep work of discovering, exposing, and resisting the foundational reasons for fear and conflict including healing work, nonviolent activism, as well as facilitating an environment of personal transformation. They are an open space for the healing of the historical wounds and narratives that have shaped us to live in fear, separation, and victimisation.

## Youth Against Settlements

Youth Against Settlements are a Hebron-based Palestinian grassroots movement dedicated to ending the occupation through nonviolent methods. They engage in community work against the expansion of Israeli settlements in the West Bank and the resulting expulsion of Palestinian residents by supporting the Palestinians who live in Hebron. As a human rights group, they oppose any forms of racism – including Antisemitism and Islamophobia.

## Youth of Sumud

A group of Palestinians in the South Hebron Hills who believe in and are committed to a peaceful popular resistance as a strategic choice to end the Israeli occupation. Alongside international volunteers, they accompany shepherds in their work to protect them from settler attacks.

## Miftah

Miftah seeks to promote the principles of democracy and good governance within various components of Palestinian society through informing local and international public opinion and official circles on the Palestinian cause and strengthen national unity. It also strives to ensure the Palestinian government is accountable, transparent, democratic, and includes women and youth in its institutions and decision-making bodies.

## Al-Haq

Al-Haq is an independent Palestinian non-governmental human rights organisation which documents violations of the individual and collective rights of Palestinians in the OPT. The organisation conducts research; prepares reports, studies and interventions on breaches of international human rights and humanitarian law in the OPT; and undertakes advocacy before local, regional and international bodies. Al-Haq also cooperates with Palestinian civil society organisations and governmental institutions in order to ensure that international human rights standards are reflected in Palestinian law and policies.

## The International Red Cross

The International Movement of the Red Cross, Red Crescent, and Magen David Adom is the world's largest humanitarian network. It aims to alleviate suffering, protect life and health, and uphold human dignity during conflicts and emergencies. The International Red Cross has an impartiality code. Impartiality is one of its seven Fundamental Principles, ensuring aid is given without discrimination and based solely on need. It is one of the few aid organisations that works with victims on both sides.

# Thank you

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