



Women in Black London

Justice for Gaza and West Bank

Women in Black London is greatly distressed by the breaking of the ceasefire between Israel, Gaza and Lebanon. The ceasefire was an opportunity for starting a process of peacebuilding and full reconstruction in Gaza. Now, we are in another era of military violence with Israeli airstrikes and bombardment across the Gaza and in Lebanon. In addition to the existing 50,000+ death toll in Gaza, a further 792 have been killed, including eight aid workers and 1663 people have been injured. Since mid-March 142,000 Palestinians have been displaced within Gaza. The people of Gaza are being killed in other ways too, denied the means of survival, without food, water, health care, education and more. <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/humanitarian-situation-update-275-gaza-strip>

“Following nearly six months of unrelenting Israeli assault on occupied Gaza, it is my solemn duty to report on the worst of what humanity is capable of... there are reasonable grounds to believe that the threshold indicating the commission of the crime of genocide...has been met.”

Francesca Albanese, special rapporteur on Human Rights in the occupied Palestinian territory, speaking at the UN Human Rights Council, Geneva, 26 March 2025 <https://news.un.org/en/story/2024/03/1147976>

In the West Bank settler violence increases, with raids on refugee camps and villages, often with members of the IDF looking on, doing nothing to protect the community. This year, Israeli forces have killed 99 people, the majority from refugee camps. Israeli forces are also detaining 112+ Palestinian children in administrative detention. Earlier in March a 14 year old boy (the youngest ever) was taken from his home in the south of Bethlehem during a pre-dawn raid and issued with a four-month administrative detention order, a system that denies those affected their basic rights. <https://www.dci-palestine.org/tags/news>

24 Israeli hostages are still held in Gaza, their plight made more vulnerable by the renewed military action. This has become a key issue within Israel, with hundreds of people calling the Israeli government to open negotiation between Israel and Hamas to secure the freedom of the hostages.

We continue to believe that peace for Palestine and Israel will only be achieved by cooperation, diplomacy and the involvement of women in peace processes.

We stand in solidarity with Palestinian women in the Occupied Territories in their struggle for justice, peace, well-being and a secure, prosperous and nonviolent future for themselves and their children. We stand with Israeli partners too, such as Women in Black Tel Aviv, Haifa and Jerusalem, the Coalition of Women for Peace, Machsom Watch and other organizations in which Jewish and Palestinian Israeli women work together for a peace agreement and sustain contact with Palestinian women in the West Bank and Gaza. With them, we call for full equality in Israel for Jewish and non-Jewish citizens alike.

What you can do:

Support the ‘allies to atrocities’ work of Medical Aid to Palestine, Christian Aid and Save the Children which is working to end UK Government complicity in the Gaza and the West Bank <https://www.allytoatrocities.com/>

Write to Sir Keir Starmer demanding an end to arms sales to Israel and in particular F35 jets. Here you can find more background. <https://caat.org.uk/news/over-230-global-organisations-demand-governments-producing-f-35-jets-stop-arming-israel/> Here you can send your message <https://contact.no10.gov.uk/>

Share this leaflet with others and talk with them about what it is going to take to build real peace and security for the people of Palestine and Israel.

Women in Black hold vigils every Wednesday between 6-7 pm at the Edith Cavell Statue, opposite the National Portrait Gallery, St. Martin's Place, London WC2. Women in Black also hold a vigil on Saturday from 12-1pm on Euston Road outside Friends House. Our vigils are silent, women-only and if possible we wear black. We welcome all women who support our call for an end to militarism and war.

Contact us: <http://london.womeninblack.org/> Twitter @WIB_London FB @womeninblack.london

Donations for leaflets most welcome

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