



Women in Black London

Ceasefire now in Gaza, Palestine and Lebanon

The attack on Iran by the US and Israel is helping to distract public attention from what is happening in Gaza, Palestine and Lebanon, so it is vital to remind ourselves and our politicians of these issues.

Palestine

Israeli settlements on the West Bank constantly increase and reached their highest rate in 2025.

In February 2026 Israel announced new measures that will make land annexation by Israeli settlers even easier, by sanctioning the seizure of land from Palestinians who cannot prove ownership. [Al Jazeera 26/02/2026]. This adds to other measures recently taken by Israel, all designed to make the establishment of a Palestinian state, with East Jerusalem as its capital, impossible. These include thousands of new settlements and a 'bypass' road for the use of Israelis only, that will close off the core of the occupied West Bank and its roads to Palestinians.

Gaza

In Gaza, although a ceasefire was agreed between Israel and Hamas in October 2025, airstrikes continue, with some 670 deaths and 1,800 injuries recorded since then, while Israel still controls more than half the territory. At the same time, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), which provides vital services in Gaza, has been systematically dismantled with many of its staff killed. [The Guardian, 21/03/2026] Meanwhile the people of Gaza have been displaced, often many times over, while much of the territory has been reduced to toxic rubble, with agriculture and medical and food aid disrupted, yet people still have somehow to live there. Some 70,000 have been killed to date, many of them women and children.

Lebanon

Alongside the attack on Iran by Israel and the US, Israel has also attacked Hezbollah in Lebanon, after it refused to disarm (a key condition of the November ceasefire between Israel and Lebanon) and fired rockets into Israel. Hezbollah itself emerged from the Israeli occupation of Lebanon, 1982-2000. It is both an armed group and a political party in Lebanon which is backed by Iran. Israel has now invaded southern Lebanon, [The Guardian, 25/03/2026] resulting in a thousand deaths and the displacement of about a million people, which threatens a major humanitarian crisis. However, Israel has said that it will advance strikes on Hezbollah and added that this could be a prolonged operation. [BBC news, 22/03/2026]

Thus the rights of Palestinians and the people of Lebanon and Gaza continue to be violated as they suffer displacement, death, destruction of their homes and constant attacks in the name of eliminating terrorists.

We stand in solidarity with women in Gaza, Palestine and Lebanon, 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 women in Lebanon, the West Bank and Gaza. With them, we call for full equality in Israel for Jewish and non-Jewish citizens alike.



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.

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.

Twitter: @WIB_London

Facebook: @womeninblack.london

Website: london.womeninblack.org

Donations for leaflets welcome

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