



Women in Black
London

Honour ceasefires in Gaza and Lebanon

Palestine

May 15th commemorates the 78th Nakba Day when Palestinians remember the catastrophe of the destruction of Palestinian society and homeland and the forced displacement, in 1948, of millions of Palestinians. To mark this, there will be gatherings in London and other cities on May 16th. You can find details here. <https://palestinecampaign.org/>

In March, Israel passed the *Death Penalty for Terrorists Law*. The law, which applies only to Palestinians, calls for death by hanging for those who are convicted of 'terrorism related' activities.

According to OCHA, at least 37 Israeli settler attacks against Palestinians took place between 14 – 20 April, resulting in casualties, property damage, or both. This brings the total number of attacks, since the beginning of 2026, to about 680 in over 200 communities. <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/humanitarian-situation-report-23-april-2026>

Gaza

Although a ceasefire was agreed between Israel and Hamas in October 2025, airstrikes continue. Speaking in mid-April UN Human Rights Chief Volker Türk said, *"The number of journalists and humanitarian personnel killed in Gaza is unprecedented, and further compounds civilian harm as it makes reporting on the situation and responding to its humanitarian implications life-threatening,"* Türk said. *"Movement itself has become a life-threatening activity. Incidents of Palestinians killed by Israeli forces while walking, driving, or standing outside are recorded nearly every day."*

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. More than 70,000 have been killed to date, many of them women and children.

Lebanon

While a ceasefire was declared on 16 April fighting continues between Israel and Hezbollah in southern Lebanon. This takes the form of air and drone strikes, house demolitions on the part of Israel and rocket and drone strikes into southern Israel by Iranian -backed Hezbollah. According to Lebanon's Health Ministry the death toll since March 2 has risen to 2,491 with 7,719 wounded. OXFAM reports that 1.3 million people who have been forcibly displaced.

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.

Facebook: [@womeninblack.london](https://www.facebook.com/womeninblack.london)

Website: london.womeninblack.org

Donations for leaflets welcome

April/May 2026