

STATEMENT ON PEACE IN ISRAEL AND PALESTINE  
Minneapolis Friends Meeting  
2-8-25

Minneapolis Friends Meeting asks for peace in Israel and Palestine. Our Quaker gathering has pursued peace and alternatives to wars since our beginning in the 1850s. We believe in the sacred worth of each being.

We condemn all violent attacks and inhumane treatment of civilians in conflict. We pray for the continued release of Israeli hostages.

We are heartbroken because our government, with our tax payments, funds a war that has destroyed most of the housing and infrastructure in Gaza, and has killed tens of thousands of men, women, and children. The war leaves millions without adequate food, water, shelter, hygiene and medical care for trauma and disease. Those trapped in Gaza live in fear of attack at any time anywhere. Our hearts break to learn that a generation of children expects to die.

The current fighting does nothing to address the causes of the conflict, and will not resolve anything.

We ask that our government stop supplying funding and weapons to Israel, and to any government that has provided weapons to other combatants in this war.

We ask that our government not only support humanitarian aid to Gaza, but also demand that aid reaches those in need.

We ask that our leaders state their vision for achieving peace in Israel/Palestine now. To endure, peace must result in freedom and agency for the Palestinian people and Israelis who oppose their government's current policies in regard to Gaza and support peace. We ask that our government support rules-based international order as defined through diplomacy, including through the United Nations.

We are called to act in faith and love, with persistence, patience, and courage. We ask our leaders to join us in working and praying for lasting peace.