

Minute on Ongoing Devastation in Palestine



Approved on January 19, 2025

Quakers believe in the sacred worth of each person and testify against all wars, terrorism, imperialism, hostage taking, and unjust imprisonment. We recognize active peacemaking requires interrupting prejudices including antisemitism and Islamophobia wherever we see them, and we pledge to show up in solidarity alongside our Jewish, Muslim, Palestinian and Arab neighbors.

As people who live in the United States of America, we feel it is necessary to speak up and take action on this matter because our elected representatives continue to expend our tax dollars to support this decades-long violent displacement, and settler and military occupation. In solidarity with ally groups such as [Jewish Voice for Peace](#) and [If Not Now](#), we say not in our name and never again.

We condemn the US government's ongoing aid to assist the Israeli government's military actions in Gaza and its failure to ensure the delivery of aid sufficient to meet the humanitarian needs of the inhabitants of Gaza.

We call on the U.S. government to end its military aid to the Israeli government. The U.S. government must stop sending the Israeli military more weapons.

We condemn the Israeli government's intensification of its siege of Gaza, blocking access to water, food, fuel, electricity, and medicine in an act of collective punishment. Hundreds of thousands of civilians are at grave risk of starvation and deadly disease.

We condemn the violent actions of Hamas in attacking persons in Israel.

We call on the U.S. administration to pressure the Israeli government and Hamas to grant full access, safety, and funding to the United Nations (UNRWA) and other humanitarian agencies to fulfill their duties. This includes immediate humanitarian access to Gaza and adherence to international humanitarian and human rights law.

We agree on the following:

- There must be an end to collective punishment and indiscriminate fire.
- A comprehensive arms embargo on Israel and Hamas is required.
- The Israeli government must end its occupation of Palestinian territories and its blockade of Gaza.
- Palestinians must have self-determination.
- The above steps are needed to set the stage for negotiations toward a future where all people living on the land can do so in safety, equality, freedom, justice, and peace.