

The Committee for a Just Peace in Israel and Palestine was founded in 2002 as a diverse, community-based group dedicated to organizing local activities and educational events that advance the cause of peace and justice for both Palestinians and Israelis. A complete listing of our past events may be found at www.cjpip.org/past_events.html.



Columbia University professor and author Rashid Khalidi drew a standing-room-only audience for his September, 2004 talk, titled "Resurrecting Empire: Our Perilous Path in the Middle East."

Community education

Community education and dialog events featuring a broad range of perspectives are a vital part of our mission. These events bring scholars, authors, and activists to the community to present views not commonly encountered in the mainstream media. The 2006-07 series, "Building a Just Peace: Important Perspectives on the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict," runs from September through April.



Participants in the May, 2006 Walk for a Just Peace gathered near a 25-foot-tall panel, erected to demonstrate the actual height of the wall built by Israel on expropriated Palestinian land. More than twice the height of the Berlin Wall, the barrier has been judged illegal by the International Court of Justice.

Action

We organize and encourage our supporters to engage in initiatives that further the cause of peace and justice in Israel/Palestine. We have raised thousands of dollars to support Israeli military refusers, rebuild Palestinian homes, and sustain human rights work in Israel and Palestine. We also work in partnership with other local, national, and international groups with similar missions.

Legislative affairs

We inform our elected representatives about the on-the-ground situation in Israel/Palestine and the benefits of a constructive, balanced, U.S. policy that promotes peace with justice for Israelis and Palestinians.

Activists gathered on March 16, 2004 in Elmhurst to mark the first anniversary of the death of Rachel Corrie, a 23-year-old American peace activist who was crushed by an Israeli army bulldozer while defending a Palestinian home in the Gaza Strip. A staged dramatic reading of "The Voice of Rachel Corrie" will occur on Sunday, February 12, 2007.



Walk for a Just Peace

Muslims, Jews, Christians, and secularists join together annually to call for peace and justice for Palestinians and Israelis. This popular event draws participants from throughout the Chicago area and beyond and features speakers, music, food, and a one-mile solidarity walk through Oak Park. The sixth annual Walk will occur on Sunday, May 20, 2007.

Community partnerships

CJPIP works to initiate pilot programs that develop cultural and humanitarian relationships between Chicago area civic, religious, and cultural groups and Israeli and Palestinian partners. Contact us if you're interested in participating!

Celebrated former Weavers folksinger and progressive activist Ronnie Gilbert addressed the 2006 Walk audience.



Travel scholarships

A single scholarship will be offered to a community resident to help defray the expenses of a first-time visit to Israel-Palestine. Scholarship monies may be applied to tours organized by qualifying organizations, including Global Exchange, American Friends Service Committee, the Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions, Faculty for Israeli-Palestinian Peace, Birthright Unplugged, Christian Peacemaker Teams, the Compassionate Listening Project, Interfaith Peace-Builders, Holy Land Trust, Ministry of Money, and others.

What we stand for

- ▶ Support for equal rights and access to resources for all inhabitants of the region, based on principles of social, economic, environmental, and political justice.
- ▶ Support for peace and justice activities in Israel, Palestine, and the U.S.
- ▶ An end to the Israeli occupation of the West Bank, Gaza, and East Jerusalem, in accordance with international law and U.N. resolutions.
- ▶ An end to U.S. policies that sustain the occupation.
- ▶ International support for an equitable and just negotiation process.
- ▶ A resolution to the Palestinian refugee issue in accordance with international law and human rights principles.
- ▶ An end to all forms of terror: state, organizational, and individual.