



Brussels, June 17th 2025

To the Leaders and Delegates of the High-level International Conference for the Peaceful Settlement of the Question of Palestine and the Implementation of the Two – State Solution, July 28-29 2025

Our Appeal to the Delegates

We address you at a moment of deep moral and historical significance in the long-standing Palestinian question, marked by occupation, dispossession, and profound human suffering. Clear legal and political frameworks through United Nations resolutions and international law have been already established and these foundations must now be urgently and fully realised.

We wish this Conference to not revisit long-settled debates or to issue abstract declarations. Rather, to stand as a moment of conscience, calling for binding commitments, meaningful political will, and concrete mechanisms that ensure the full implementation of international law and the protection of the rights and dignity of all peoples, Israeli and Palestinian alike.

To delay or fall short now is to prolong injustice, deepen human suffering, and further erode the hope for a just and lasting peace. The eyes of the world are upon you. This is a moment that must be met with courage, integrity, and decisive action.

Based on the planned conference roundtables aimed at producing practical, action-focused contributions, **we respectfully offer the following recommendations:**

1. A sovereign and unified Palestinian State

A sovereign and unified Palestinian state must be recognised, one that coexists peacefully and securely alongside Israel, enjoying full legal and political parity in line with United Nations resolutions and international law. **This includes formal recognition of Palestine as a sovereign state and the end of Israeli occupation**, alongside the **cessation of all settlement activity**, as mandated by the Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice [1] and relevant UN resolutions [2].

2. Security for Israelis and Palestinians

A just and enduring peace necessitates **an immediate, permanent, and verifiable ceasefire, enforced and monitored through international guarantees to protect civilians on all sides**. Beyond the cessation of violence, **a new regional security architecture must be developed, one that promotes peaceful coexistence, conflict prevention, and mutual recognition**. This framework must facilitate the disarmament of illegal armed groups and ensure accountability for all violations of international humanitarian law, laying the foundations for lasting security and trust.

3. Narrative for Peace

To sustain peace, **Palestinian civil society must be placed at the heart of the peace process, with guaranteed full participation**. Legal frameworks in both states should be strengthened to counter incitement, racism, and hate speech, ensuring the protection of minorities and equality before the law. Additionally, **support must be given to joint Israeli-Palestinian initiatives in education, media, and culture that foster understanding, empathy, and reconciliation**.



4. Economic Viability of the Palestinian State

The **economic independence of a future Palestinian state is paramount**. This demand lifting all restrictions on movement, trade, and access to resources. International investment and aid should align with Palestinian development priorities, emphasizing transparency, sustainability, and institution-building to support effective self-governance.

5. Humanitarian Action and Reconstruction

Unimpeded humanitarian access throughout the occupied Palestinian territories must be ensured in accordance with international humanitarian law [3]. Reconstruction efforts should be comprehensive and coordinated under Palestinian leadership, with a focus on revitalising healthcare, education, and infrastructure. Immediate measures must also advocate for the release of hostages and detainees, while independent investigations must be established to address violations of humanitarian law.

6. Preserving the Two-State Solution

The international community must unequivocally reaffirm its commitment to the full and immediate implementation of all relevant United Nations resolutions [4], resisting any attempts to dilute or renegotiate the two-state framework. Jerusalem must be upheld as a shared city, with equal access to its holy sites for Muslims, Christians, and Jews, in line with the established international status quo. **Unilateral actions that undermine peace, such as settlement expansion or annexation, must be clearly and consistently opposed.**

7. Promoting Respect for International Law to Implement the Two-State Solution

An independent international mechanism should be supported and established to investigate and address violations of international humanitarian and human rights law, as outlined by the ICJ Advisory Opinion[5]. Diplomatic and targeted sanctions should be applied to those who obstruct peace or breach legal obligations. All states bear a responsibility to uphold and promote compliance with international law in relation to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

8. “Peace Day” Initiative

The “Peace Day” proposals should serve as a platform for fostering grassroots dialogue, humanitarian action, and education on the urgency and viability of the two-state solution. **This day must recognise and support peace efforts without erasing the deep trauma and generational suffering experienced by many.** It should create space for both healing and hope, acknowledging the pain alongside the pursuit of reconciliation.

A Final Moral and Political Appeal

The eyes of the world, and the hopes of millions, rest upon your leadership. **This is the moment to break the cycle of suffering, and to forge a just and lasting peace.**

Do not let this Conference be yet another missed opportunity. Let it be the historic turning point where law, justice, and human dignity prevailed.

Footnotes:



- [1] Summary of the Advisory Opinion of 19 July 2024, <https://www.icj-cij.org/node/204176>
- [2] UN Archive “Question of Palestine”, <https://www.un.org/unispal/document-category/compilation-un-resolutions/>
- [3] IV Geneva Convention Relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in time of war, 12 August 1949, https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/documents/atrocity-crimes/Doc.33_GC-IV-EN.pdf
- [4] UN Security Council Resolution 242 (1967), [https://undocs.org/S/RES/242\(1967\)](https://undocs.org/S/RES/242(1967))
UN Security Council Resolution 478 (1980), [https://undocs.org/S/RES/478\(1980\)](https://undocs.org/S/RES/478(1980))
UN Security Council Resolution 2334 (2016), [https://undocs.org/S/RES/2334\(2016\)](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2334(2016))
- [5] Summary of the Advisory Opinion of 19 July 2024, <https://www.icj-cij.org/node/204176>

Signatories

1. Pax Christi International
2. Red Nacional de Iniciativas Ciudadanas por la Paz y contra la Guerra- REDEPAZ
3. Pax Christi England and Wales
4. Pax Christi Flanders / Belgium
5. Pax Christi Australia
6. Pax Christi Northwest
7. pax christi München
8. Pax christi – deutsche Sektion
9. Pax Christi – Peru
10. Pax Christi Scotland
11. Pax Christi USA
12. Arab Educational Institute – Pax Christi – Bethlehem / Palestine
13. Coventry Justice & Peace Group
14. Anglican Pacifist Fellowship
15. pax christi Diözesanverband Rottenburg-Stuttgart
16. Independent Catholic News
17. Coventry Friends of Palestine
18. Caritas Internationalis
19. Liverpool Pax Christi
20. Pax Christi Italia – Campagna Ponti e Non Muri
21. The Methodist Church of Southern Africa
22. National Justice and Peace Network (UK)
23. Bradford on Avon Friends of Palestine
24. Youth For Peace And Dialogue between cultures
25. Daughters of Wisdom
26. Peacemaking Associates
27. Indiana Center for Middle East Peace
28. Jesuit Europea Social Centre
29. Franciscans international
30. Pax Christi Cava de’ Tirreni (SA)
31. Pax Christi Long Island (NY)
32. Benedictines for Peace



33. International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD)
34. Netzwerk Friedenssteuer eV
35. Forum Friedensethik in der Evangelischen Landeskirche in Baden (FFE)
36. Cordaid
37. Interfaith Center for Conciliation & Nonviolence
38. Tui Motu InterIslands magazine
39. Palestinian Christians in Australia
40. Notre Dame Mission Volunteers
41. Neos Kosmos aps
42. Pax Christi Northwest
43. Missionary Society of St. Columban
44. EarthHope
45. Carmelites, Vedruna ICJPIC
46. Benedictines for Peace
47. Peace Movement Aotearoa
48. Darfur Youth Centre for Peace and Development
49. Columban Centre for Christian-Muslim Relations, Australia
50. Catholic News World
51. Revista Audácia
52. Pax Christi Florida
53. Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns
54. Cercle Laudato SI' Brompton, Sherbrooke, QC, Canada
55. Pax Christi Central Seattle
56. Alternatives to Violence Project Nevada
57. Susanna Pax Christi, Dedham, MA
58. Missionari OMI
59. pax christi Münster Germany
60. Pax Christi France
61. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church – Franciscan Parish
62. Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters, USA-JPIC
63. VLOS
64. Pax Christi Ireland
65. Pax Christi Greensburg, PA
66. Paz Christi – Ark Community
67. INNATE Ireland
68. Methodist Peace Fellowship
69. Alliance of Baptists
70. Platform Vrouwen & Duurzame Vrede
71. St Thomas More Peace Initiative
72. Federación de Liberación Animal
73. Michael & Sacred Heart Parish, Liverpool Archdiocese, UK
74. Sisters of St. Francis
75. Pax Christi Hudson Valley, NY



76. Franciscan Justice Circle Mid-Hudson Valley, NY
77. Pax Christi Illinois
78. Pax Christi Northern California
79. Pax Christi Seed Planters/IL
80. Pax Christi Whangarei
81. Association of US Catholic Priests
82. Seek The Alternatives (STA) – Community-Based Organization
83. Brigidine Sisters
84. Lex Innocentium 21st Century
85. Swedish Fellowship of Reconciliation
86. pax christi Rottenburg-Stuttgart
87. Association Modeste et Innocent (AMI)
88. The Iona Community
89. Sisters of Mercy of the Americas
90. Xaverian Missionaries UK province
91. Steirische Friedensplattform
92. Sisters of Charity of St. Louis – Calgary
93. Pax Christi Austria
94. congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross
95. Felician Sisters of North America
96. Pax Christi Aotearoa New Zealand
97. Pax Christi Toronto (Canada)
98. Kerk en Vrede (Nederland)
99. Society of Mary – Marist SM
100. FaithEd Project
101. Religious of the Assumption (English territory)
102. Religions for Peace Netherlands
103. MIR TOGO
104. Ngā Whaea Atawhai o Aotearoa Sisters of Mercy New Zealand
105. Pax Christi RI
106. Sisters of Mercy New Zealand
107. PAX
108. Journey For Change
109. International Fellowship of Reconciliation
110. Muslim Peace Fellowship
111. MIR-France