



## **INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S PEACE SERVICE**

### **Mission Statement**

The International Women's Peace Service (IWPS) provides an international presence in the Occupied Palestinian Territories with the aim of supporting non-violent resistance against the occupation and intervening against and documenting Human Rights violations. IWPS seeks to develop nonviolent skills, training and support for intervention in conflict situations. IWPS is an independent non-governmental organization that is supported by donations, grants and volunteers from global civil society. IWPS is run by women from different countries around the world and is intentionally diverse in recruiting volunteers from a wide spectrum of differing racial, age, religious, sexual orientation, class and cultural backgrounds.

### **Values**

- Non-violence.
- Context of international law / human rights.
- Awareness of privileges of gender and international status.
- Rooted in the local community.
- Inclusion of Palestinian women in the process as much as possible.
- Openness and accountability.
- Open and non-discriminatory with respect to ethnicity, religion, age, sexuality and economic class.
- Working as a team and on a consensus decision making basis.
- Cultural sensitivity for the environment we are working in.

### **Objectives**

- To continue supporting the campaign against the Apartheid Wall and increase international reaction to the wall.
- To support the international movement for Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS).

- To support the olive harvest by organizing and providing international protection and accompaniment.
- To improve dissemination of information by expanding contacts, improved report writing and more strategic distribution especially regarding Human Rights violations and the effects of accelerated Settlement expansion in the Salfit area.
- To maintain and improve relationships with other Israeli, Palestinian and international organizations working against the Occupation, in order to further our aims.
- To respond to individual requests of Palestinian civilians for accompaniment in their daily activities where they fear violence from Israeli army and settlers.
- To strengthen our relationships within nearby villages, with all sections of the society there and particularly with women.
- To increase capacity of the team through:
  1. Annual meeting
  2. Yearly training
  3. Strategic planning
- To continue to recruit, train and host volunteers and improve the arrangements for this.
- To strengthen organizational diversity by continuing to emphasize the recruitment of women from the Global South.

## **Non-violence**

### **IWPS Non-violence policy**

IWPS supports non-violent resistance to the Israeli occupation and uses non-violent policy, practices and methods with the aim of ending the Occupation. Within the context of our work, members of IWPS will make every effort to demonstrate respect for all individuals we encounter. We recognize that resistance takes many forms and we will work with any person or group who will work with us non-violently. Even when faced with violence we utilize exclusively nonviolent methods.

All volunteers and guests must adhere strictly to our code of non-violence at all times while working with IWPS. Volunteers must have training and an understanding of what nonviolent approaches look like in situations of violence. For us, nonviolence involves the following:

- Never using physical violence, even in response to the physical violence of others.
- Never using tactics of verbal or psychological abuse or intimidation against any people during stay with IWPS.
- Refusing to act as a protective shield so that others may commit acts of violence.