

ISRAEL-PALESTINE:

**Harmful language,
misinformation and
racism**

YACHAD ^{תנ"י}
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Over the past few days, we've seen lots of people engage with the conversation on Israel-Palestine. As a Jewish organisation that supports peace and opposes occupation and violence, we think dialogue is key.

But there's lots of misleading information online, fake news, distortions of history, and most concerning - racist incitement.

Israelis and Palestinians are human beings who deserve your respect and compassion. We are dealing with a protracted and complex conflict, that cannot be summarised in an Instagram post or a meme.

Your language has an impact.

Using language such as 'the Zionists' when you are actually referring to the Israeli government, or the Israeli far-right, is harmful, and misleading. Be clear on holding leadership and extremists accountable.

Blaming Muslims and all Palestinians for the actions of Hamas is simply racist.

The violence in Israel-Palestine has led to an increase in racism in the UK - online, on campus, and elsewhere. This is unacceptable.

We cannot afford to see a rise in antisemitism, Islamophobia, racism, hate and division right now.

Solutions not Sides are offering support if you have been affected by these issues.

FACT CHECK

There are lots of great sources of information with news, analysis and insight.

Anyone can make a meme - that doesn't make it true. Israelis and Palestinians are real people, with real histories and this conflict has real consequences on their lives.

Listen to their voices. Act responsibly with your platform.

Israelis and Palestinians are human beings who deserve your sympathy and respect. Innocent civilians, including children, are being attacked and are suffering. There is no excuse for civilians being targeted.

But we must also recognise this is not a conflict of two equals. Israel holds the upper hand, both in terms of military power and political capital. The Palestinian people have lived under siege and occupation for decades.

The status quo is not sustainable.

Real, significant long term change must become a priority. The occupation must end. Equality, justice, security must be prioritised.

Peace has to become part of the dialogue again.

Some suggestions on who to follow

This list is by no means comprehensive. There are lots of great orgs and people on the ground that deserve your attention.

Israel-Palestine orgs:

Peace Now

Standing Together

Ir Amim

Combatants for Peace

The Parents Circle Families Forum

Breaking the Silence

B'tselem

Zimam

One Voice

Gisha

Palestinian voices (twitter):

@MariamBarghouti

@DaliaHatuqa

@Yara_M_Asi

@HalaNAlyan