

Churches for Middle East Peace (CMEP) is a coalition of 30 national Church communions and organizations working to encourage U.S. policies that actively promote just, lasting and comprehensive resolutions to conflicts in the Middle East.

CMEP's Advocacy Strategy has a framework of three priorities:

1) Holistic Peacebuilding

- Sustainability of the Church in the Middle East
- Religious freedom for all in the Middle East with particular attention to minority religious communities

Recognize the religious importance of the Middle East to Jews, Christians, and Muslims and others; to protect the religious freedom of all as well as support measures to ensure the viability of the historic Christian community in Palestine, Israel, and the entire region.

CMEP opposes anti-Semitic, anti-Christian, and anti-Islamic actions and all other forms of racism or bigotry in rhetoric or actions that dehumanize, stereotype, or incite distrust or violence toward anyone.

2) Humanitarian and Economic Assistance

- Encourage robust U.S. humanitarian and economic assistance support to vulnerable communities in the Middle East through the U.S. State Department and USAID.
- Resumption of bilateral humanitarian assistance to the West Bank and Gaza and to UNRWA.

Encourage needs and rights based development and humanitarian assistance to reduce inequality and promote human dignity, especially in the West Bank and Gaza while ensuring access and protection for aid agencies and others.

3) Human Rights

- The U.S. should advance policies that will help result in negotiated and peaceful solutions to conflict in the Middle East based on U.S. law, international law, and convention frameworks.
- Human rights concerns include, but are not limited to: occupation, settlements, home demolitions, forced displacement, freedom of movement, and child detentions.

Respect for human rights of all in the region, including refugees and displaced people, based on full observance of the Geneva Conventions, relevant UN resolutions, and other international law agreements.

Encourage negotiated, just, and peaceful resolutions to conflicts in the region and the demilitarization of conflict.

