



WORKING TOGETHER:
Justice Can Prevail. Peace Is
Possible.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Press Release: Churches for Middle East Peace (CMEP) Condemns Israeli Strikes Against Iran and Urges De-escalation of Regional Aggression

June 13, 2025, Washington D.C.- Churches for Middle East Peace (CMEP) condemns in the strongest possible terms Israel's recent attacks on Iran, including reported strikes near nuclear facilities and within civilian areas. These reckless and unlawful actions risk the lives of hundreds of millions of people across the Middle East and escalate the threat of a catastrophic regional war. We also call on Iran to cease its counterattacks against Israel. Military solutions are not the answer and will only cause more death, destruction, and harm. Such escalations not only cause civilian deaths but further destabilize the entire peace and security of the region.

Israel's ongoing military aggression, in recent days, has resulted in the deaths of dozens of unarmed civilians and the destruction of vast amounts of infrastructure in the occupied West Bank, Gaza, Lebanon, Syria, Yemen, and now Iran. These actions demonstrate a blatant disregard for human life, international law, and regional stability. These actions are not defensive; they are acts of provocation and destruction. Israel is becoming increasingly isolated in the international community, acting outside the bounds of international norms and in violation of multiple international legal frameworks.

CMEP calls on the international community to hold Israel accountable to the fullest extent of international law. This includes a complete and multilateral ceasefire and the withholding of weapons from Israel, because of their use in the violation of international law. This will prevent further escalation and halt Israel's trajectory of destabilization and devastation across the Middle East.

This is not only a Middle Eastern crisis, it is a global one. The ongoing attacks threaten not only the lives of Palestinians, Lebanese, Syrians, Yemenis, Iranians, and Israelis, but also the lives of Americans and others who may be drawn into war. The Israeli government and all violent actors must be held accountable for their actions of inciting wars and violence, the occupation of surrounding territories, and their other violations of international human rights.

The United States must urgently say no to further escalation and must refuse to enable Israel's path of destruction. Congress must act swiftly to oppose any efforts for the United States to formally enter on Israel's behalf into a war with Iran. CMEP calls for an immediate cessation of hostilities, accountability under international law, and a renewed commitment to a just and lasting peace that promotes human dignity for all people in the region.

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Formed in 1984, Churches for Middle East Peace (CMEP) is a coalition of more than 30 national church communions and organizations, including Catholic, Orthodox, Protestant, and Evangelical traditions that works to encourage US policies that actively promote a comprehensive resolution to conflicts in the Middle East with a focus on the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict. CMEP works to mobilize US Christians to embrace a holistic perspective and to be advocates of equality, human rights, security, and justice for Israelis, Palestinians, and all people of the Middle East.

Recent CMEP Statements and Press Releases:

[Jun 5, 2025: CMEP Condemns and Abhors the Attack on Al-Ahli Hospital and Calls for Accountability and Peace](#)

CMEP stands in solidarity with the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem and elevates its powerful statement condemning the Israeli military's attack on Al-Ahli Hospital in Gaza City on June 5th, 2025. This egregious assault, resulting in the deaths of five individuals, including three journalists and a father escorting his injured child, and injuring dozens more, underscores the urgent need for the international community to uphold the protections afforded to medical facilities, journalists, and civilians under international humanitarian law.

[Jun 4, 2025: CMEP Elevates the Statement of Archbishop Elpidophoros on the Threat to the Holy Monastery of Saint Catherine in Egypt](#)

Churches for Middle East Peace (CMEP) joins with His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros, Archbishop of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, in expressing deep concern and sorrow over the recent judicial decision by Egyptian authorities that threatens the property and spiritual mission of the Holy Monastery of Saint Catherine at Mount Sinai. Elevates the Statement of Archbishop Elpidophoros press release.

[May 30, 2025: Press Release for Humanitarian Snapshot #12](#)

Nearly three months into Israel's total siege on Gaza, humanitarian conditions have deteriorated beyond crisis levels. A recent survey of NGOs found widespread obstruction of aid, with two-thirds unable to reach communities in need and one-third reporting staff killed or injured. In the West Bank, escalating settler violence and military restrictions have made nearly half of aid delivery efforts impossible, deepening an already catastrophic, man-made crisis.

See all of our [public statements](#) and [press releases](#).

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