

# ANNUAL REPORT 2020



## The Hague Peace Projects

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# ANNUAL REPORT 2020

## A Message from the Directors

What a year! Unexpected and full of repercussions.

In response to the coronavirus, we took steps to guarantee the safety of our community as best we could. This meant cancelling our large annual events, such as The Hague Hacks Festival and the Movies That Matter Ideation Sessions. It meant redesigning our projects and transitioning them to the online arena. It meant that we all worked from home and the office was empty.

The new virtual reality of video calls took some getting used to, but the transition to working online also brought with it some benefits. It forced us to grow our online presence which widened our global audience and broadened our reach of human rights defenders.

It has changed the way we design our projects, shifting our focus to a more efficient, albeit less personal, hybrid methodology. We are happy to embrace the advantages this brings, but we can't wait till meeting in-person returns so we can enjoy the best of both worlds.

We feel this year has been a learning curve and we are proud to have come out of it with every reason for optimism. We are excited about the new projects and collaborations we have lined up and look forward to a safe and healthy 2021.

### Steen Bentall

Executive Strategist and Communications Director



## The Hague Peace Projects

The Hague Peace Projects (HPP) is an international human rights organization with its headquarters in 'The International City of Peace and Justice', in The Hague, The Netherlands.

Our goal is to make peace, human rights, and social justice a reality for all. We serve as a platform for human rights defenders who are the voice of change, and the first line of defence against injustice in communities across the globe. Since 2014, we have been a safe space for human rights defenders, activists, and peace-builders from conflict areas and dictatorial regimes around the world to come together, to receive support, and to become empowered to continue their pursuit of peace and justice.

## Our Values

The Hague Peace Projects is strongly committed to the values of:

- Non-Violence,
- Inclusion,
- Human Dignity,
- Human Rights,
- Transparency,
- Sustainable Development Goals.

## Our Mission

Our Mission is to provide a safe space for diaspora community members and human rights defenders to engage in peaceful dialogue, and to pursue their human rights goals within their communities in The Netherlands and in their countries of origin. By embracing diaspora communities we work towards a common ground of trust, and provide the organisational structure to support their initiatives and actions for change.

***“We all do better when we work together.  
Our differences do matter, but our common  
humanity matters more.”***

- Bill Clinton

# PROJECT SUMMARY

2020 was an unprecedented year for the world and for The Hague Peace Projects. As COVID-19 spread around the world and caused international shutdowns, quarantines, and widespread loss, we were also forced to re-evaluate our goals and our objectives for the year. As such, we scaled back our activities to prioritize projects that could be effectively organized from home and protect the safety and well-being of our community.

- Corona Care Kits
- #SOSNicaragua
- The Hague X Beirut
- Moslims op TV
- Communications and Social Media Training for Human Rights Defenders
- The Hague Hacks 2020



## Corona Care Kits

**Project leader: Nathalia**

The Corona Care project aimed to offer much needed help to vulnerable groups in Nicaragua by providing medical, hygiene, food, and cooking supplies, as well as basic protective equipment against the Coronavirus. By purchasing these supplies locally we supported small, and medium-sized local businesses in Nicaragua.

# Help us fight COVID-19

**With these kits we will be helping:  
Oncology centers, nursing homes,  
orphanages & community health  
clinics.**

**DONATE NOW!**



[www.thehaguepeace.org/nicasexilio](http://www.thehaguepeace.org/nicasexilio)



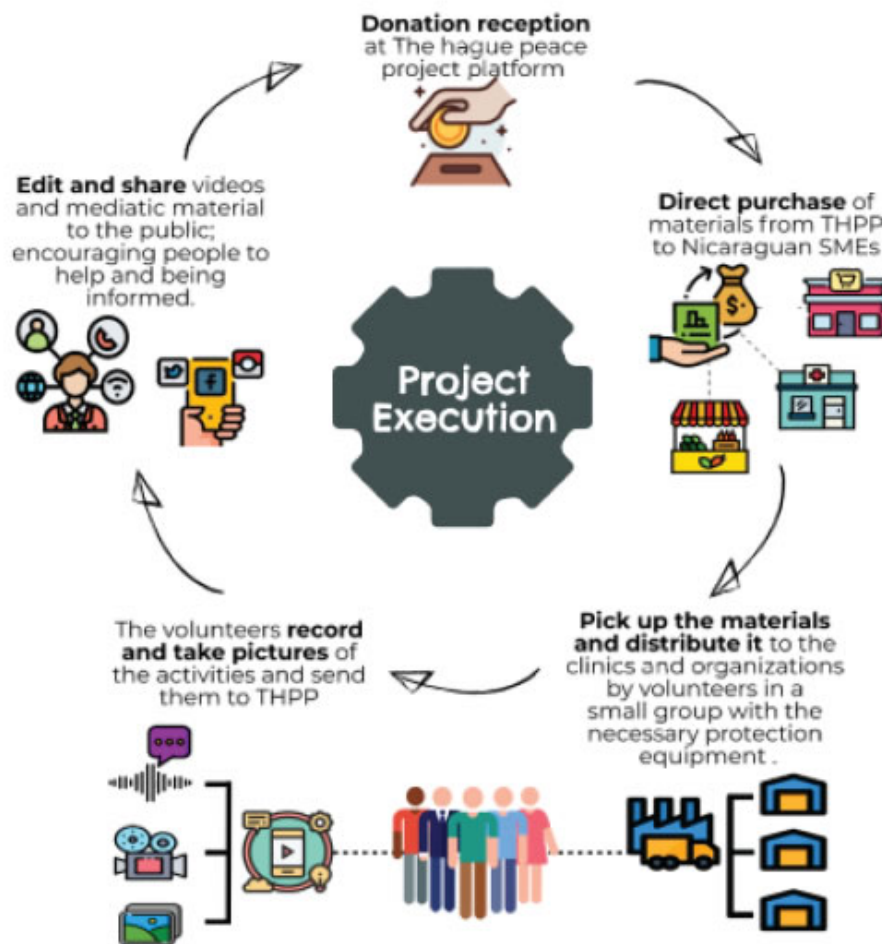
#CoronaCare #COVID19 #SOSNicaragua

The Hague Peace Projects worked closely with organizations throughout Nicaragua engaged in the most affected and highest risk communities across the country. Our project provided medical materials, cleaning supplies, and basic survival products to the organizations that directly represent the following vulnerable groups in these areas:

- Nursing homes for the elderly
- Orphanages
- Oncology Centers
- Community health clinics

The funds collected supported these organizations and the invaluable medical assistance provided by volunteer doctors in Nicaragua, with the purchase of the following materials:

- Masks
- Hand sanitizer
- Thermometers
- Basic grains
- Vitamins
- Jars of powdered milk with nutrients
- Disinfectant wipes
- Surface disinfectant liquid
- Cleaning supplies
- Etc.



For more information about the Corona Care Kits, visit our website here:

<https://thehaguepeace.org/site/corona-care-kits/>

## #SOSNicaragua

**Project leader: Nathalia**

The Hague Peace Projects, in collaboration with SOS Nicaragua - Holanda, created a union of national and international Nicaraguan activists, exiles, and migrants to develop an activism and communication strategy that aims to directly impact the political and social context in Nicaragua.



This is a worldwide non-violent effort under the name of #SOSNicaragua that is being led by hundreds of people that have voluntarily taken the challenge regardless of the consequences for them. A live virtual concert was organized on April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020, to raise awareness of government corruption and injustice in Nicaragua and raise funds to support the peaceful activism of Nicaraguan activists in exile. The virtual concert raised €1,253 for SOS Nicaragua.

Virtual Concert:

[https://www.facebook.com/events/290384568624288/?acontext=%7B%22event\\_action\\_history%22%3A%22surface%22%3A%22page%22%7D%7D](https://www.facebook.com/events/290384568624288/?acontext=%7B%22event_action_history%22%3A%22surface%22%3A%22page%22%7D%7D)

More info:

<https://thehaguepeace.org/site/nicaraguan-peace-project/>

<https://thehaguepeace.org/site/project/nicaragua/>



## The Hague X Beirut

**Project leader: Vittoria Malgioglio**

On August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Lebanon was rocked by an explosion at the Port of Beirut causing at least 218 deaths and 7,000 injuries, as well as leaving an estimated 300,000 people homeless. The explosive substance, ammonium nitrate, was improperly stored by the Lebanese government, resulting in an eruption of protests against government negligence and corruption.



In response to the Beirut explosion, project leader Vittoria created The Hague X Beirut to support human rights defenders and art activists (artists) in Beirut, Lebanon. This project is still in the planning stage, but the goal in 2021 will be to raise awareness of the human rights violations and corruption in Lebanon by supporting the activism and advocacy of Lebanese artists.

<https://thehaguepeace.org/site/project/the-hague-x-beirut/>

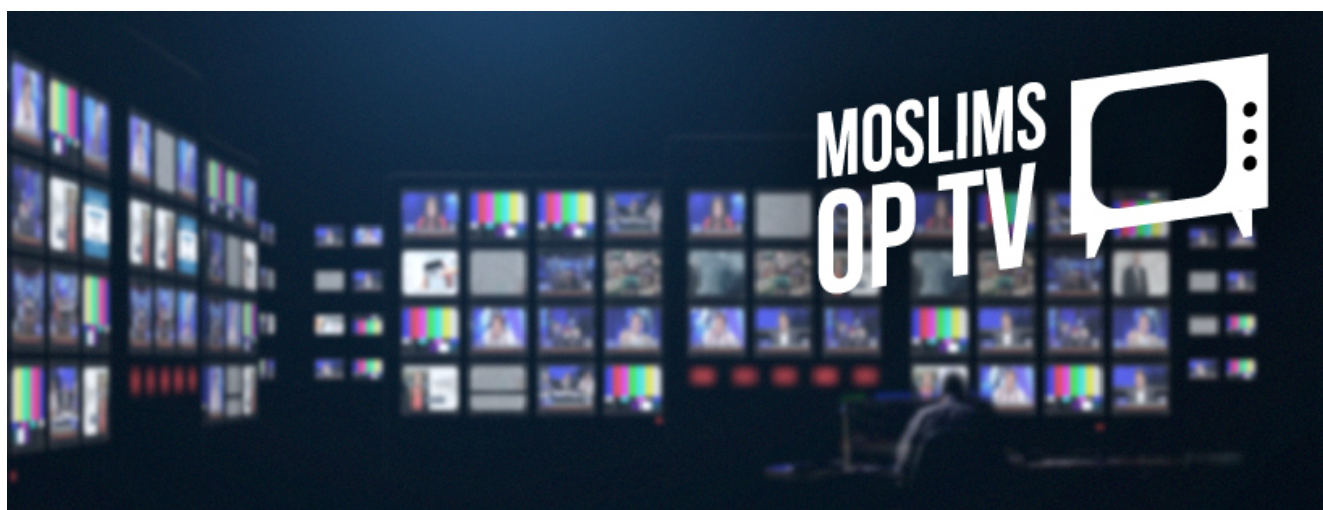
## Moslms op TV

### Project leader: Tayfun Balçık

The leader of the Dutch-Armenian-Kurdish-Turkish workgroup, Tayfun Balçık, conducted a research project this year on the representation of Muslims on tv in Dutch news and media called 'Muslims op TV'. The goal of this research project was to evaluate how Dutch media represent Muslims on TV and if negative stereotypes of Muslim people and Islam are perpetuated on talk shows in The Netherlands.

The parameters of the quantitative and qualitative research project involved watching Dutch television, and particularly Dutch talk shows, from June to August 2020, to measure the quantity of news stories regarding Muslim people or Islam and to determine whether these stories were portrayed as positive or negative representations. Tayfun also conducted several interviews that were recorded and posted to the Moslms op TV Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/MoslmsopTV>



Tayfun's research project concluded that Muslims continue to be represented as threatening actors or presence to the "traditional" Dutch way of life. The research report advises Dutch media outlets to incorporate a wider diversity of researchers, journalists, and producers to elicit a more balanced and fairer portrait of Muslim people on the news. You can read more about the Moslms op TV research project, and watch the interviews, at the link below:

<https://thehaguepeace.org/site/muslims-on-tv/>

# Communications and Social Media Training for Human Rights Defenders

**Project leader: Claire Leunissen**

In October 2020, we were approached by the American Embassy of The Hague with a unique request: to create a social media and communications class for peaceful human rights defenders. The goal of the Communications and Social Media Training for Human Rights Defenders (CSMT for HRDs) will be to educate human rights defenders and peaceful activists on the fundamentals of communication, social media, and creating successful campaigns.



This project is still in the planning stage, but will take place over the course of 4 months between May 2021 and September 2021. Information will be added to the webpage as we develop the program:

<https://thehaguepeace.org/site/project/social-media-awareness-workshop/>

## The Hague Hacks 2020

**Project leader: Steen Bentall**

With the COVID-19 virus interrupting the regular carousel of in-person events, we felt compelled to try something different in the light of the pandemic - #HumanRightsParty.



The Hague Hacks 2020 was a virtual brainstorm representing a global call to listen to ideas for human rights recommendations and policies that may be considered for advocacy and implementation.

Using the hashtag #HumanRightsParty, The Hague Hacks 2020 ran a social media campaign to invite people to join the hypothetical exercise of taking part in a political election as a human rights party. It represented a global call to hear and collect human rights ideas that the online world feels the most strongly about. This initiative was an effort to assess the human rights concerns from our online audience, and to stimulate an injection of new energy and ideas that need to make their way into our representative systems.

The results of the campaign were collected and reflected upon in the #HumanRightsParty Manifesto.

<https://thehaguepeace.org/haguehacks/hhf2020/>

<https://thehaguepeace.org/haguehacks/humanrightsparty/>

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

To ensure accountability and transparency, we hereby disclose the financial incomes and expenses for The Hague Peace Projects during the year 2020 below.

## Jaarrekening 2020

The Hague Peace Projects is grateful to the founders and donors that allowed the successful execution of these projects, including (but not limited to) Oranje Fonds, HPP members, and one-time donors. We are proud to declare that we ran our projects on a modest budget and stayed within the confines of our funding, despite having to cancel or redesign our annual events.

### INCOME

<b>Subsidies</b>	€	11.940
<b>Donations</b>	€	7.012
<b>Event tickets</b>	€	0
<b>Total</b>	€	18.952

### EXPENSES

<b>Staff costs</b>	€	0
<b>Volunteer costs/expenses</b>	€	1.650
<b>Rent</b>	€	3.729
<b>ICT</b>	€	0
<b>Project costs</b>	€	25.370
<b>Office costs</b>	€	1.236
<b>Total</b>	€	31.985

**Totaal** € **13.033**

# CLOSING STATEMENTS

## Looking Ahead in 2021

2020 took us by surprise. The COVID-19 pandemic forced us to reassess our values and our priorities as a diaspora community and as human rights defenders. We are proud of what we were able to accomplish this year but look forward with hope to a year with more freedom, travel, and human connection in 2021. We look forward to renewing certain projects and starting new ones, all with the goal of supporting human rights defender and peaceful activist communities in the Netherlands and around the world.

The projects that we will continue to develop and pursue in 2021 include:

- The Hague X Beirut
- Moslims Op TV
- Communications and Social Media Training for Human Rights Defenders (CSMT for HRDs)

We are also in the process of developing new projects to respond to the needs of our community, with a particular focus on education and training opportunities. These include:

- Freedom Sessions for Lebanon
- The Hague Peace Projects Book Club
- Turkish-Kurdish Dialogue – School Visits
- The Changemakers Program

Moreover, we are incredibly proud and grateful to our volunteers, without whom our projects at The Hague Peace Projects would not be possible. We appreciate the dedication, hard-work, and positive energy that our volunteers embody time and time again. A big thank you to all of our volunteers and we are excited to work with everyone again next year.

We look forward to 2021 with the hope that our community, and the world, will be safe and healthy, and that we will be able to connect and serve human rights defenders around the world in a meaningful way.

# ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION

## The Hague Peace Projects Information

### The Hague Peace Projects

[www.thehaguepeace.org](http://www.thehaguepeace.org)

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## Board of Directors

Secretary: de Jonge, Jakob Hendrik

Board Member: Bwira Kyahi, Sylvestre

Treasurer: Leegwater, Margaretha Elizabeth

## ANBI Information

The Hague Peace Projects is a nonprofit peace organisation run by volunteers, located in The Hague, The Netherlands.

With the ANBI (Algemeen Nut Beogende Instelling) status from the Dutch government, The Hague Peace Projects is recognised as a Public Benefit Organisation (PBO). This means that our organisation is committed to the public benefit and that donations made to The Hague Peace Projects are deductible from the taxable income of donators.