



# ANNUAL REPORT 2021

## The Hague Peace Projects

Paviljoensgracht 20  
2512 BP, The Hague  
The Netherlands

[info@thehaguepeace.org](mailto:info@thehaguepeace.org)  
[thehaguepeace.org](http://thehaguepeace.org)  
[thehaguehacks.org](http://thehaguehacks.org)



# CONTENTS

<b>ANNUAL REPORT 2021</b>	<b>3</b>
A Message from the Executive Director	3
The Hague Peace Projects	4
Our Values	4
Our Mission	4
<b>2021 YEAR IN REVIEW</b>	<b>5</b>
The Hague X Beirut	6
Freedom Session for Lebanon	7
Uncomfortable Solidarity in the Palestinian and Kurdish Cause	8
Turkish-Kurdish Dialogue	9
The Hague Peace Projects Book Club	10
Communications and Social Media Training for Human Rights Defenders	11
The Changemakers Program	13
<b>FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</b>	<b>14</b>
Jaarrekening 2021	14
<b>CLOSING STATEMENTS</b>	<b>15</b>
Looking Ahead in 2022	15
<b>ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION</b>	<b>16</b>
The Hague Peace Projects Information	16
Board of Directors	16
ANBI Information	16

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021

## A Message from the Executive Director

This year was an important one for The Hague Peace Projects as it symbolizes the culmination of a long, determined journey towards finding better ways to do peace building. Over the past years, we have provided assistance and resources to agents of change in The Netherlands and abroad. To people that are driving human rights and working alongside their communities, being that bonding element for peace-work to happen.

After years of learning what these agents of change need to increase their impact, we have developed a simple yet highly effective support service to help them achieve their mission. Our approach focuses on increasing their capacities and providing the tools they need in their every day work.

With our Changemakers program taking off and our training for human rights defenders successfully completing its first iteration, we feel we can now take bigger steps towards a future that is more just, more inclusive, and more at peace.

### Chale Guadamuz

Executive Director of The Hague Peace Projects



## 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 and brave 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.

***“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.”***

- Margaret Mead



# 2021 YEAR IN REVIEW

The Hague Peace Projects organized several projects, events, and campaigns in 2021. These projects were successful at: empowering human rights defenders, raising awareness of human rights violations, supporting human rights defenders and peaceful activists, and connecting newcomers to the Netherlands with the local Dutch population.

- **The Hague X Beirut**
- **Freedom Sessions for Lebanon**
- **Uncomfortable Solidarity in the Palestinian and Kurdish Cause**
- **Turkish-Kurdish Dialogue – School Visits**
- **The Hague Peace Projects Book Club**
- **Communications and Social Media Training for Human Rights Defenders (CSMT for HRDs)**
- **The Changemakers Program**





## The Hague X Beirut

**Project leader: Vittoria Malgioglio**

The Hague X Beirut was a non-profit art fundraiser to support human rights defenders in Beirut, Lebanon. The goal of the project was to raise awareness of the human rights violations and corruption in Lebanon by supporting the activism and advocacy of Lebanese artists. From September 2020 to June 2021, €580 was raised and the project's social media campaign doubled the number of HPP social media followers across all our platforms.

Project Leader, Vittoria Malgioglio, facilitated the project and achieved important international partnerships with artists (10 art activists, or "artists"), art curators (Sergio Gomez Curates), and international media (Let's Talk Peace podcast and Unexplained Media). The Hague X Beirut culminated into an online store where people could support artists' advocacy by purchasing their art, a virtual museum exhibition with Sergio Gomez Curates, and the Freedom Session for Lebanon hosted at the Golden Stork.

Finally, three activists were sponsored from The Hague X Beirut to participate in the Communications and Social Media Training for Human Rights Defenders in the summer/fall to learn foundational tools for creating campaigns on social media.

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



## Freedom Session for Lebanon

### Project leader: Vittoria Malgioglio

The Hague X Beirut organized the first Freedom Sessions honoring and celebrating the Lebanese community. The Freedom Session took place on June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021, at the Golden Stork in The Hague, from 12pm to 8pm. Artists from The Hague X Beirut displayed their art to visitors, and food was catered by the local Lebanese restaurant Falafel En Hummus.

This event successfully welcomed internationals and locals together to raise awareness of the injustices and violations of human rights in Lebanon, and how to support peaceful activists from the Netherlands.



<https://thehaguepeace.org/site/freedom-sessions-1-beirut-edition/>

# Uncomfortable Solidarity in the Palestinian and Kurdish Cause

## Project leader: Tayfun Balçık

Workgroup leader Tayfun Balçık was invited to host a live discussion during the Week Against Racism on March 23, 2021.

In the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians and Turkey with the Kurds, it is interesting to observe that Israel is openly supporting the Kurdish cause and Turkey is backing the Palestinians. While Turkey and Israel pledge their support for these minorities in each other's countries, they oppress 'their own' minorities. In the Netherlands both conflicts lead to heated debates that cause divisions between different groups and communities. This division in turn creates an obstacle for the emergence of a broader solidarity movement within the Netherlands. In this program, which was organized by The Hague Peace Projects, DocP, and Amsterdam Peace Initiative, we analyzed the problematic attitudes, and explored the questions and narratives that can open the way for a more intersectional perspective in the Kurdish and Palestinian issue, towards a broader solidarity movement.



The featured speakers were professor Hilla Dayan, journalist Taghreed al Khodary, political scientist Ozan Türkdoğan, BDS-activist Dorien Ballout and activist Serda Nehirci.

The live discussion was recorded and can be viewed at the following link:

<https://youtu.be/lgthyrfafY4>



## Turkish-Kurdish Dialogue

### Project leader: Tayfun Balçık

Two members of the Dutch-Armenian-Kurdish-Turkish workgroup, Tayfun Balçık and Mirko Jouamer, spoke to students at Alfrink College in Zoetermeer about hate, dehumanization, and deradicalization in the context of the Turkish-Kurdish conflict. They talked about growing cultural environments steeped in hate towards "the other", and how they overcame these cycles of hatred through dialogue.

Together with the students they discussed how difficult it can be to break out of 'ethnic bubbles' and reflect on an upbringing of national flags, Grey Wolf stickers and legitimizing violence. Tayfun and Mirko conducted a second education talk at the Haagse Hogeschool on December 2021.



Photos of the Turkish-Kurdish dialogue event can be found at the Facebook Post below:

<https://www.facebook.com/690749197/posts/10159402964589198/>

# The Hague Peace Projects Book Club

## Project leader: Claire Leunissen

In February 2021, The Hague Peace Projects and Xenolearn co-organized the first The Hague Peace Projects Book Club. As part of Black History Month, a group of 18 people participated in this book club to read "How to Be an Antiracist" by Ibram X. Kendi. The goal of this book club was to raise awareness of the continued forms and systems of racism in the Netherlands and around the world, and raise funds to support anti-racist projects and organizations. "How to Be an Antiracist" by Ibram X. Kendi is essential reading for any activist, human rights defender or concerned citizen who wants to change the status quo towards a fairer and more just world.



The book club conversations were facilitated by Ewing Amadi Salumu, Shafayet Choudhry and Chale Guadamuz. It was a successful first book club, and it raised €175 in total. To learn more about the book club, click on the link below:

<https://xenolearn.com/hppbookclub/>

In honour of Pride Month (June 2021), The Hague Peace Projects and Xenolearn co-organized a Book Club to raise awareness of the continued fight for respect and recognition of the LGBTQIA+ community around the world. From June to July 2021, a group of 15 people read *Queer Intentions: A (Personal) Journey Through LGBTQ+ Culture* by Amelia Abraham. The book club discussions were hosted and facilitated by Claire Leunissen and Sophia Bremó.

This book club was organized as a fundraiser for the Colored Collective, an LGBTQIA+ collective in Utrecht for people of colour: €100 was donated to the organization.

<https://xenolearn.com/pride-month-book-club/>

# Communications and Social Media Training for Human Rights Defenders

**Project leader: Claire Leunissen**



In 2021, the Hague Peace Projects developed a Communication and Social Media Training for Human Rights Defenders (CSMT for HRDs) that is focused on educating human rights defenders and peaceful activists on the fundamentals of communication, social media, and creating successful campaigns.

Our Communication and Social Media Training was designed by human rights defenders, for human rights defenders. The training provides a goals-based approach that allows them to craft a campaign from start to finish, both online and offline. It fosters a supportive learning environment for 15 human rights defenders to learn foundational principles of communication and social media in a safe and secure environment.

In addition to the education and information that our training provides human rights defenders, we also equip them with the tools to maximize their impact, including: a 1-year subscription to ExpressVPN, a branded HPP notebook, a welcome package with lots of goodies, and a celebratory dinner and drinks delivered to participants' homes.

Due to the sensitive nature of the training, we took extra precautions to ensure the safety and anonymity of our human rights defenders. We communicated using the secure messaging app Signal,



video-calls were password protected, and we provided a VPN subscription and security best practices training to all participants. Finally, because of the security precautions taken for the training, we don't have any links to the program. However, we do have reviews from program participants:

*"I found the training very useful for productively thinking through some of the issues I know our social media outlets and campaign(s) have been struggling with."*

- Anonymous

*"I like that the training allowed for young promoters and leaders to expose their ideas founded not only on professional work experience, but also their personal experiences and how that informs their advocacy."*

- Anonymous

*"I liked that it was very thoughtfully organized to protect the activists and enable them to take part in the activities. I also appreciated the number of exercises."*

- Anonymous



More information can be found here: <https://thehaguepeace.org/site/project/social-media-awareness-workshop/>

The closing report can be made available upon request.

## The Changemakers Program

**Project leader: Chale Guadamuz**

At the end of 2021, The Hague Peace Projects started a new project called the Changemakers Program. Funding was granted for this project in December 2021 and will take effect in the spring of 2022. The goal of the Changemakers Program is to provide a holistic approach to support influential changemakers around the world who advocate for peace and positive social change in their communities.



# THE CHANGEMAKERS PROGRAM



Designed as a holistic support service for human rights defenders, the Changemakers Program addresses multiple needs that would otherwise require a collection of funds. In addition to support and training modules, this program supplements the income of its beneficiaries with a stipend to alleviate one of the most tenacious obstacles for sustainable human rights work... financial insecurity.

The Program beneficiaries will be journalists, activists, human rights defenders, and environmental defenders in Latin America, the Middle East, Africa, and Europe.

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

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

To ensure accountability and transparency, we hereby disclose the financial incomes and expenses for The Hague Peace Projects during the year 2021 below.

## Jaarrekening 2021

The Hague Peace Projects is grateful to the founders and donors that allowed the successful execution of these projects, including (but not limited to) The American Embassy of The Hague, Oranje Fonds, Haella, HPP members and one-time donors. We're proud to declare that we ran our projects on a modest budget and stayed within the confines of our funding, while still maintaining a small float to start the year 2022 off on the right foot.

### INCOME

<b>Subsidies</b>	€	33.945
<b>Donations</b>	€	11.820
<b>Event Tickets</b>	€	0
<b>Total</b>	€	45.765

### EXPENSES

<b>Staff costs</b>	€	0
<b>Volunteer costs/expenses</b>	€	5.885
<b>Rent</b>	€	5.023
<b>ICT</b>	€	523
<b>Project costs</b>	€	23.552
<b>Office costs</b>	€	9.768
<b>Total</b>	€	44.753

**Total** € **1.012**



# CLOSING STATEMENTS

## Looking Ahead in 2022

We're very proud of all that we've been able to accomplish this year in 2021. We look forward to renewing certain projects and starting new projects all with the goal of supporting human rights defenders and peaceful activist communities in the Netherlands and around the world.

The projects that we will continue to develop and pursue in 2022 include:

- Freedom Sessions
- Turkish-Kurdish Dialogue – School Visits
- The Changemakers Program
- Communications and Social Media Training for Human Rights Defenders (CSMT for HRDs)
- NEW: Emotional Support Program – Changemakers Program Support Module

In 2022, we want to devote a particular focus to education and training opportunities. As one of our founding pillars, we want to grow the educational programs at the Hague Peace Projects, specifically, the Changemakers Program.

The Changemakers Program will be the umbrella program under which our education, training and wellness projects will operate under. The program is founded on four principal services:

1. Universal basic income support to provide a minimal financial security net and contribute to the basic needs and safety of program beneficiaries.
2. Communications and security best practices trainings to provide tools and skills for Changemakers to pursue their human rights work safely and effectively.
3. Community building to grow valuable connections and strengthen human rights communities, while enabling Changemakers to better navigate civil society and its institutions.
4. Emotional support to address the often-over-looked component of the traumatic experiences of many of our participants, and connection to professional help when needed.

With our limited resources we have accomplished a great deal as an organization in 2021. We look forward to continuing our services and support for human rights defenders in the new year 2022.

# ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION

## The Hague Peace Projects Information

### The Hague Peace Projects

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

Paviljoensgracht 20  
2512 BP, The Hague  
The Netherlands

IBAN: NL39 TRIO 0197 9213 37

RSIN: 854106236

### Chale Guadamuz

Executive Director of The Hague Peace  
Projects

+(31) 6 338 729 42

[chale.guadamuz@thehaguepeace.org](mailto:chale.guadamuz@thehaguepeace.org)

### Steen Bentall

Executive Strategist and Communications  
Director

+(31) 6 44480456

[steen.bentall@thehaguepeace.org](mailto:steen.bentall@thehaguepeace.org)

## 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. Our ANBI Policy Plan can be seen [here](#).

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 donors.