



THE HAGUE PEACE PROJECTS



ANNUAL REPORT 2024

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A Message from the Director

We live in a world where millions of people are experiencing war, violence, and oppression on a daily basis. There are more than 100 wars in the world at this current time, including genocides.

Wars are not natural occurrences. They are not random, but a symptom with a back story. They are the least desirable outcome of a dispute or conflict that was never resolved, and any legitimate attempt towards peace requires a concerted effort to understand their back story.

To uncover the root cause of any conflict, one must be willing to listen and talk with a genuine intent to reflect on new information when exposed to different perspectives. The alternative of war is our most inhumane investment to not understand nor accept the wisdom of more stories other than just our own.

It is our goal, through the process of dialogue, to uncover and share truths that require representation. For without sufficient exposures to these facts, critical information will never form the basis of public opinion and civil and political decisions will not be just nor well-informed.

The current warmongering and support for genocide in the West is only possible with massive propaganda. Guided by a narrative of fear and hate from mainstream and corporate media, the Dutch (Western) population are subjected to a process of amplification of their own cultural, political, and economic biases. They are as much victims of the war on information as the truth itself.

In the face of a narrative-based media landscape, a substantial and sustained effort is required by society to ensure sufficient access and exposure to accurate information, without which, we will never collectively benefit from a clear analysis of world events and a true understanding of the nature of politics, economics, media, and culture, and thus be able to ensure our leaders make the right decisions.

At The Hague Peace Projects, we endeavour to stimulate and share crucial information about peace that flows from our dialogue, such that a well-informed and inclusive civil society may grow and learn to properly advance towards sustainable peace one day.

Steen Bentall

Director, The Hague Peace Projects

The Hague Peace Projects

The Hague Peace Projects (HPP) is a peace and human rights organisation with its headquarters in The Hague, The Netherlands.

We serve as a platform for dialogue and peacebuilding. By facilitating and encouraging the sharing of information and different perspectives, we strive for a well-informed civil and political discourse to break our cycles of violence and achieve sustainable peace through consensus.

Our Values

- Dialogue
- Peace
- Sustainability
- Inclusion
- Human Dignity
- Human Rights
- Transparency

“Listening is being able to be changed by the other person”

Alan Alda

2024 YEAR IN REVIEW

2024 was a busy and challenging year for human rights and dialogue. Both have suffered severe damage in light of the ongoing genocide in Gaza and the support and complicity of Western governments and media in Israel's war crimes and crimes against humanity.

The war in Ukraine has similarly suffered a complete dismissal of context to fuel a growing Western addiction to hate propaganda. The task at hand of understanding these conflicts and resolving them peacefully (and sustainably) has made way for new abstractions to dehumanize and European investments in war and division that parade as solutions.

These conflicts have further highlighted and unravelled the systemic failures and democratic backsliding of our institutions that stem from the mechanisms of neo-liberalism and their representation of special interests in place of the mandate of the people.

Our efforts to address propaganda and the influence of powerful lobby groups have doubled this year. When initiatives to share facts are manipulated by the media we entrust to present them, the moment has arrived for us all to embolden our resolve to search for them ourselves.

The societal impact of the current diet of (mis)information is alarming and has encouraged positions that are only tenable without a full disclosure of facts and the promotion of counter-narratives to encourage you not to search for them.

As such, we continue our best attempts at truth and context with the aim of serving the interests of peace and the collective knowledge towards empowering positive change.



Jan 2024

- HPP [statement](#) Israel/Gaza

- Dialogue:

Arne Tulner, politicoloog en historicus



Harry van Bommel, voormalig Kamerlid voor de SP



Samar, Palestinian from Bethlehem



FEB 2024

- Dialogue:

Larry Johnson, former CIA analyst



Janneke Stegeman, publiek theoloog, docent VU Amsterdam



Bram Grandia, theoloog en vredesactivist



Marina de Regt, assoc. professor Anthropology



MAR 2024

Fundraiser Gaza



DATE: March 24, 2024

LOCATION: HPP

ENTRANCE: Free

Stay informed and get involved – this fundraiser included performances, mini markets, speeches, and useful facts and information about the genocide in Gaza.

[Fundraiser for Families in Need in Gaza – 24 March 2024 | The Hague Peace Projects](#)

- Dialogue:

Nikolaos (Koos) van Dam, former ambassador to Egypt, Turkey, Iraq, Germany, and Indonesia



Robert Bosch, voormalig diplomaat voor de OVSE en ambassadeur in Kosovo



Aafke Steenhuis en Jan Joost Teunissen, journalisten en auteurs van De grote wilde vaart | Wereldhavens en globalisering



April 2024

- HPP petition: [SIGN THE PETITION: Freeze Relations with Israel](https://www.degoedezaak.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Petition-international-law-english.pdf)

Aan: De Nederlandse Regering en het Nederlands Parlement
Bevries de relaties met Israël!
In collaboration with DeGoedeZaak.

* English version: <https://www.degoedezaak.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Petition-international-law-english.pdf>

- Dialogue:

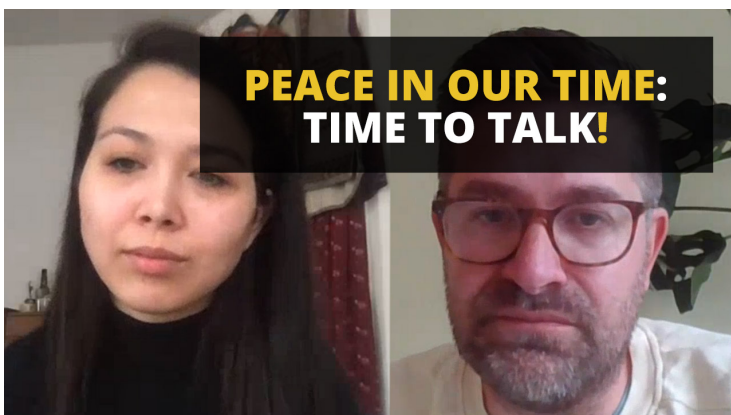
Jan Tervoort, historian and specialist on the Israel lobby in NL



Rena Netjes, researcher and journalist



Sabine Scharwachter, former president of Dwars and member of GL-PvdA



Earth Day: 22 April 2024

DATE: April 22, 2024

LOCATION: Street Action / Europe



In collaboration with XR Justice Now, The Hague Peace Projects, and Occupy EUR, DiEM25 organised a pan-European action on Earth Day (22 April) against the climate destruction of war.

The goal on Earth Day was to stand together as guardians of our planet and through protest, advocacy, and activism to defend the Earth from the ravages of war. Together, we stood for a future where peace reigns, and our environment thrives.

[Unite Against War for Earth Day! | The Hague Peace Projects](#)

May 2024

Sudan Forum in The Netherlands

DATE: May, 2024

LOCATION: HPP / Germany conference
SUPPORT AND FUNDRAISING



The Hague Peace Projects provided hosting and coaching for this initiative and offered their expertise in peace building and dialogue methodology during the conference. (In collaboration with Bana Peace and Development Group, with the support of CORFA).

[Sudanese Forum Bana Peace in the Netherlands | The Hague Peace Projects](#)

- Dialogue:

Ahmed Mahmoud Ali, chairman of the NGO Sudan First



Nadia Bouras, historian and assistant professor at Leiden University



June 2024

Kernwapens: Terug van Nooit Weggeweest

DATE: June 16, 2024

LOCATION: HPP/ FREE

PUBLIC DEBATE (Dutch) and book presentation

Kernwapens		TERUG VAN NOOIT WEGGEWEEST	
		zondag 16 juni 13:00-15:00u @ HPP	
MET: Dolph Kessler (Auteur) Alejandra Munoz (PAX for peace) Dirk Hogenkamp (Artsen voor vrede) Bram Schulte (Vrede VZW)		Boekpresentatie: 'Oorlog of Vrede' van Dolph Kessler en een discussie over kernwapens in Europa Reserveren: (GRATIS)	
			

At this public event, we discussed the enormous dangers of nuclear armament in this time.

[PUBLIC DEBATE: Nuclear Weapons, Back from Never Being Away | The Hague Peace Projects](#)

De weg naar vrede in Europa

DATE: June 27, 2024 - FREE

LOCATION: Doopgezinde Kerk, Den Haag
Publiekslezing en Debat

DE WEG NAAR VREDE IN EUROPA
DONDERDAG
27 JUNI

PUBLIEKSLEZING EN DEBAT

VIA WELKE WEG MOET ER VREDE KOMEN IN EUROPA, IN HET BIJZONDER IN OEKRAÏNE?

20:00-22:00
INLOOP v.a. 19:30

WESTERSE POLITIEKE LEIDERS GEVEN BREDE STEUN OM RUSLAND MET WAPENS TE VERSLAAN

ANDERE BEPLEITEN DAT REGERINGEN ZICH MOETEN INSPANNEN VOOR DE-ESCALATIE, DIPLOMATIE, STABILITEIT EN VREDE

SPREKERS:
TOM SAUER (PROF INTERNATIONALE POLITIEK, UNIV ANTWERPEN)
FLEUR RAVENSBERGEN (CONFLICT ONDERHANDELAAR)
PAUL VAN HOOFT (STRATEGIC ANALYST, HCSS)
ROEL VAN DUIJN (POLITIEK ACTIVIST)

RESERVEREN:
TOEGANG GRATIS (DONATIES WELKOM)

KUNNEN DE STERK VERSCHILLENDE STEMME IN HET DEBAT TOT ONDERLING BEGRIP KOMEN?

LOCATIE: DOOPSGEZINDE KERK, PALEISSTRAAT 8 DEN HAAG

kerk en vrede THE HAGUE PEACE PROJECTS VIERDE GOLF VREDE LEREN DOEN

In collaboration with the Vierde Golf - a public debate with guest speakers about which path will lead to peace in Europe. An evening of dialogue that discussed and promoted de-escalation, diplomacy, stability, and peace.

vierdegolf.org/2024/06/16/publiekslezing-en-debat-27-juni-2024-de-weg-naar-vrede-in-europa/

- Dialogue:

Martijntje Smits, filosoof en ingenieur



Amanda Gelender, Jewish American anti-zionist writer



David Hendrickson, Professor Emeritus political science



Dolph Kessler, oud-wethouder, fotograaf en auteur



July 2024

- Dialogue:

Marlisa, arrested at home after peaceful pro-Palestine protest



Aug 2024

- Dialogue:

Parvez Alam, writer, activist and researcher



Sept 2024

- Dialogue:

Khalil Sima'an, professor in computational linguistics at the UvA



Ludo de Brabander, peace activist from Vrede VZW, Belgium



De Nieuwe Vredesbeweging

DATE: Sept 24, 2024

A new peace movement in The Netherlands (and Europe)



The Hague Peace Projects is a founding member and a main initiator of the Nieuwe Vredesbeweging.

De Nieuwe Vredesbeweging is a platform of diverse (inter)national peace organisations who stand for a world in which international cooperation takes place and the (security) interests of the entire global population are taken into account. Read the manifesto [here](#).

Since the start of this new platform, we have taken a prominent role in the national peace debate within Dutch media. It has spawned regular newspaper, radio, and television interviews as well as a new website, the daily maintenance of which is one of the tasks of The Hague Peace Projects.

[De Nieuwe Vredesbeweging | Nieuwe Visies voor Vrede](#)

Nov 2024

- Dialogue:

Dana Mustafa from Doctors for Gaza



Inge Marit Wielinga-Pols, jurist, writer and peace activist



Wij zijn allemaal Palestijnen

DATE: Nov 30, 2024

Street action for human rights - Amsterdam



Wij zijn allemaal Palestijnen – Stop de repressie en criminalisering van de beweging

Together with many peace and human rights organisations, this protest called upon all Dutch institutions, companies, and the government to stop the criminalization of the Palestinian movement. Instead, they should follow the statements of the highest legal body, the International Criminal Court, and:

- Mobilize all diplomatic, economic, and political pressure to demand an immediate ceasefire in Gaza;
- Pressure to allow emergency aid of necessary food, medical supplies, and construction materials to address the ongoing devastation from Israel's genocidal attack;
- Break all ties with Israeli institutions and companies that are complicit in the ongoing oppression of the Palestinian people;
- Impose extensive sanctions on Israel until the illegal occupation is ended, the blockade of Gaza is lifted, and the judgment of the ICJ is followed that demands an end to all illegal settlements.

[We Are All Palestinians – Come to the Dam Amsterdam @14:00, 30 November 2024 | The Hague Peace Projects](#)

Dec 2024

- Dialogue:

Mark Akkerman, writer and researcher at Stop Wapenhandel



Yolande Jansen, Associate Professor Social and Political Philosophy at the UVA



Café voor Recht en Vrede

DATE: Dec 8, 2024

LOCATION: Grote Kerk Den Haag - FREE



“De weg van de verbeelding” - Gesprek met Jan Pronk, Jakob de Jonge, en Dorien Norren

The first in our new series of public dialogue and education events sparked off with discussions about the art of imagination and how this connects to justice.

This event focussed on the connection and mutual understanding between different cultures, and how this can be created through dialogue, music, dance and food. After the interviews and public engagement, the evening was rounded off with a discussion between Jan Pronk and Dorine Norren.

[Café voor Recht en Vrede: “De weg van de verbeelding” met Jan Pronk | The Hague Peace Projects](#)

Human Rights Festival

DATE: Dec 8, 2024

LOCATION: Grote Kerk Den Haag – FREE



The Human Rights Festival is a collaboration between various organizations in The Hague, including House for the City, The Hague Peace Projects, CultureUnlimited, Refugee Work Netherlands, and many more.

[Mensenrechtenfestival – Den Haag – 8 december 2024 | The Hague Peace Projects](#)

PEACE: TIME TO TALK!

CLOSING STATEMENTS

Looking Ahead in 2025

By and large, Dutch mainstream media and its journalism reproduce a narrative that reinforces their own political, cultural, and economic biases. This is not the job of journalism, but a systemic failure to impart a balanced representation of facts in order for the population of The Netherlands to discern an accurate picture about our conflicts.

Today there is no more blatant example than the coverage of Gaza, a fully documented genocide still waiting for our humanity and willingness to share facts. Here we see deviant narratives marginalized through lack of exposure and manipulation, with a false frame of the truth as reward for trusting what our corporations, institutions, and government say to be true.

We see the trivialisation of news about genocide, the normalisation of racism and daily executions, and in many media, a clear rhetoric of hate masquerading as factual information to justify our conflicts.

Gaza presents a live dashboard of the quality of Dutch journalism for us. When exposed to the enormity of news and live coverage, it is easy to gain a complete and horrifying overview of the genocide, and equally clear to see the collective inability of Dutch (Western) media to accurately pass this information on to its population.

Humanity is losing the war on information. A clear picture of our conflicts and the necessary context to understand and resolve them peacefully, can no longer be guaranteed via official media channels in The Netherlands. Quality dialogue and journalism is actively discouraged by lobby and special interest groups who rely on divisive narratives and propaganda to undermine the humanity of a nation with a diet of bad information.

An agenda of militarisation, dehumanisation, and colonial capitalism has been embraced by The Netherlands and their extreme-right counterparts in Europe and America. Their support of war and genocide can only gain democratic traction with a well-orchestrated and well-funded counter narrative. As a result, we contend with alarming distortions of truths and facts to mask the driving interests of a tiny financial (global) elite who benefit from the warmongering path we are on.

Dialogue as the route to peace will be more important than ever in 2025. The truth scares narratives that do not comply and is our most powerful weapon for real peacebuilding.

We stand for recognition and understanding of the underlying patterns that shape the world we live in. By addressing the cause of our (multiple) crises - the hyper-capitalistic neo feudal model that concentrates too much power in the hands of too few (1%) - we seek to reverse democratic backsliding and restructure our economic systems through deep and honest analysis, so they serve all people and the planet.

The process of dialogue affords us an awareness of our current system and how and why it has failed. It enables us to embrace the values of justice and equality that most people share, and work towards a world where conflicts can be resolved peacefully through honest conversations. This all starts with access and exposure to accurate information and representation of the diversity that makes up all of our stories.

We endeavour to uncover and share the world's stories about peace and war because Western mainstream and corporate media has lost its diversity and ability to represent different points of view. And the consequences are disastrous. 2025 promises to be a very challenging year indeed.



THE HAGUE PEACE PROJECTS

ORGANISATIONAL INFORMATION

The Hague Peace Projects

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Director

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Board of Directors

Chair: 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.

For more information visit:

[The Hague Peace Projects | Peace through Dialogue](#)

[HPP YouTube channel](#)

stopthewar.nu

[De Nieuwe Vredesbeweging | Nieuwe Visies voor Vrede](#)