



## THIS MOTHER'S DAY: SIGN ON FOR LIFE

Sign the Mother's Call at  
<https://mothers-call.org>

The Israeli peace group [Women Wage Peace](#), with over 50,000 members, and the Palestinian peace group [Women of the Sun](#), work together for justice and peace. They developed the [Mothers' Call](#), (which 15,000 people have signed) to call people and leaders to urgently pursue a just resolution through equality and dignity for all. They are asking all people of peace to sign it. Here it is:

***We, Palestinian and Israeli women from all walks of life, are united in the human desire for a future of peace, freedom, equality, rights, and security for our children and the next generations.***

**We believe** that the majority of the people of our nations also share our mutual desire. Therefore, we demand that our leaders listen to our call and promptly begin peace talks and negotiations, with a determined commitment to achieving a political solution to the long and painful conflict, within a limited timeframe.

**We call on the peoples of both nations** – Palestinian and Israeli, and peoples of the region to join our call and demonstrate their support for the resolution of the conflict.

**We call on the women of the world** to stand by us for a future of peace and security, prosperity, dignity and freedom for ourselves, our children, and the people of the region.

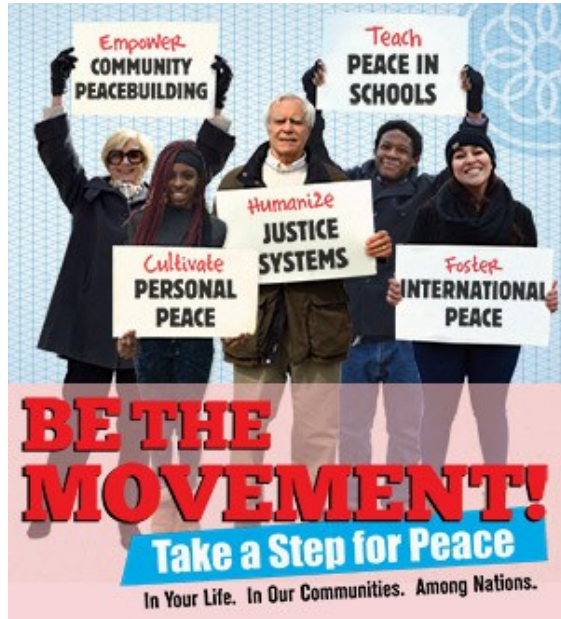
**We call on people of peace from around the world**, both young and old, religious leaders, people of influence, community leaders, educators, and those who hold this issue close to their hearts, to add their voices to our call.

**We invite our leaders** to heed the voice and will of the peoples in this call to resolve the conflict and achieve an inclusive, just peace. We are committed to taking an active role in the negotiation process until its successful resolution, in line with UN Resolution 1325.

**We call on our leaders** to show courage and vision to bring about this historical change, to which we all aspire. We join hands in determination and partnership to bring hope back to our peoples.



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MOTHER'S DAY WAS FIRST A CALL FOR PEACE BY WOMEN  
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In 1870 — nearly 40 years before Mother's Day became an official U.S. holiday in 1914 — social justice advocate Julia Ward Howe issued her inspired Mother's Day Proclamation asking women to organize and stop killing of children by military violence and war. She called on society to set aside a day for women to gather and to promote "the great and general interests of peace." Her call for a day on June 2 fell on deaf ears. In 1914, inspired by fellow social activist Howe, Anna Jarvis renewed the call and Mother's Day was declared.

*Arise, then... women of this day!*

*Arise, all women who have hearts... Say firmly: We will not have great questions decided by irrelevant agencies. Our husbands shall not come to us, reeking with carnage, for caresses and applause. Our sons shall not be taken from us to unlearn all that we have been able to teach them of charity, mercy and patience. We, women of one country, will be too tender of those of another country to allow our sons to be trained to injure theirs...*

*As men have often forsaken the plough and the anvil at the summons of war, let women now leave all that may be left of home for a great and earnest day of council.*

*Let them meet first, as women, to bewail and commemorate the dead. Let them solemnly take council with each other as to the means whereby the great human family can live in peace, each bearing after his own kind the sacred impress, not of Caesar, but of God.*

*"Peace will be possible only when women of integrity and hope will stand up for their right to take care of the future of their children."*

Nobel Peace Prize Winner Leymah  
Gbowee, WWP advisor

*Let them promote the alliance of the different nationalities, the amicable settlement of international questions, the great and general interests of peace.* (Excerpts from the original proclamation)