

Peace SOS

Annual Report 2024

30 June 2025

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Bussum, May 1st, 2025

Dear reader,

The previous year, 2024, was the year in which the war in Ukraine and the war between Israel and Hamas continued. At Peace SOS, we continued in 2024 to call for a ceasefire and humanitarian aid in Gaza and for the release of the hostages and Palestinian prisoners, many of whom are being held in detention without a charge. We kept contact with the family in Gaza who escaped death by bombings. On Wednesday January 15th, 2025, the family in Gaza let us know that an agreement between Israel and Hamas had been reached. They expressed thanks that their lives had been spared and doubted if they would return to their city and their home. They wrote: "Joy prevails in the tents of the displaced." Tragically, the war was resumed on March 17th, 2025.

In 2024, Peace SOS also provided food to people in need. A lot of the humanitarian aid from Peace SOS was sent to Pakistan via a local evangelist. Also in 2024, we started providing free medical camps to the people of the brick kilns around Faisalabad. We provided eleven free medical camps including fruit in the summer and chickpeas in the winter. We also set five families free who worked in modern slavery in the brick making factories. For many families, we also provided a small business, such as a second hand rickshaw. We also supported vulnerable Pakistani widows every month with food, so that they could pay school fees for their children. The aid which was being provided by the local evangelist has been stopped at this moment. In addition, via a charity, stitched clothes and schoolbags were provided to children of the brick kilns in Pakistan.

We would like to thank all our partners and sponsors and all the people who have worked with us in 2014. Peace SOS consists of a small team of volunteers and we would like to co-operate with everyone who shares our vision. So please feel free to reach out and join us. Hoping to see soon: A world in which all children can play.

Greetings from the heart,

May-May Meijer
Peace SOS Chair

COUNTRIES AND PROJECTS

BURUNDI

In 2024, Peace SOS maintained her partnership with Burundian Women for Peace and Development (BWPD).

ISRAEL

After the attacks of Hamas on Israel October 7th, Peace SOS got in touch with its contacts in Israel. They were all very shocked by what happened. Women Wage Peace issued a statement, which was published on the Peace SOS website in 2023.

In 2024, we asked the protocol office of the Israeli ambassador in the Netherlands several times to set up a meeting with the Israeli ambassador, but all our requests were rejected. We also sent our opinion articles to the office of the ambassador. We wanted to talk about the need for peace in Gaza, humanitarian aid for the people in Gaza, and the release of all the hostages and the Palestinian prisoners – many of whom are minors and women – who are often held without charge.

GAZA

A couple provided vegetables to vulnerable people in Gaza before the war broke out. Peace SOS sponsored the vegetables. We were in talks with Global Harmonization Initiative and someone who is retired from Wageningen University to sponsor: lentils, humus, chickpeas, tahin and bread. Because this is more nutritious than the vegetables we provided previously.

This idea of more nutritious food was also supported by a professor from Gaza University. We talked online with the professor in Gaza as well as with a Ph.D. student.

Then the war started. We heard that the professor is safe and has fled Gaza, but he doesn't know if the Ph.D. student is still alive.

We maintained contact with the family who provided vegetables before the war started in Gaza in 2023. They have two young children. Their youngest child was born during the war. They escaped death when bombing started close to their home.

See the 'Media section' for opinion articles about Israel and Gaza published by Peace SOS on the website Joop of BNNVARA.

PAKISTAN

In 2024, we started providing free medical camps to the people of the brick kilns around Faisalabad with help of a local evangelist.



We provided eleven free medical camps including fruit in the summer and chickpeas in the winter. Peace SOS received many photos and videos of the medical camps, but due to the privacy of the vulnerable patients, we don't publish them in our annual reports.



We also set five families free who were being forced to work in modern slavery in the brick-making factories. For many families, we also provided a small business, such as a second hand rickshaw. The local evangelist made videos of every release and sent them to the Peace SOS team.

We also supported four vulnerable Pakistani widows every month with food, so that they could afford to pay school fees for their children. Every month, a photo of the women holding a sign with the date on it and the ration food is sent by the local evangelist.

In addition, CARE Foundation provided stitched clothes for Christmas and schoolbags to children of the brick kilns in Pakistan. Another local evangelist provided warm blankets to women in need.

UGANDA

David Adengu was worried about the young people hanging around in his village and having nothing to do. He decided to grow passion fruits with the help of Peace SOS. The

NGO David established is called Teso Youth Agricultural Production Initiative for Peace (TEYAPI for Peace).

The monitor for the project who was found via a partner organization of Peace SOS, Global Harmonization Initiative, wanted to serve as a monitor as well in 2024. In 2024, the monitor did not make any visits, but remained in contact via telephone. In May 2024, 250 euros was provided to TEYAPI. However, TEYAPI decided to postpone setting up the three demonstration farms until early March 2025, to coincide with the beginning of the rainy season.

In addition, Humanity Heart Foundation in Uganda reported about their project: *Establishment of Permaculture Gardens and Skills Training Hub for Refugees*. The idea of the Permaculture Garden is:

- Refugees will be trained to practice sustainable agriculture.
- The gardens will cater to the food needs of the community and any surplus can be sold, generating income.

Before the project was approved, a monitor visited the project. The monitor advised funding the project. This is the same monitor as for the TEYAPI for peace project.

In October 2024, Humanity Heart Charity wrote to Peace SOS:

“We have successfully started a small vegetable demo farm on the land, where we are currently growing onions, cabbages, sukuma, spinach, and eggplants. This initiative is already showing promising results, and we are hopeful that it will serve as a model for sustainable agriculture in the community.

Additionally, we have designated the upper section of the land for our Refugee Women Beehive Project. So far, we have set up 15 beehives for five women’s groups – three from Rwamwanja and two from Nakivale. The enthusiasm and dedication of the women involved have been truly inspiring, and we look forward to expanding the project further.

We have also planted maize, although we faced a slight challenge with early planting this

season. However, we are optimistic that by the next planting cycle, we will be better prepared. We are actively working towards acquiring an irrigation pump from SunCulture, which will enable us to plant throughout the year, regardless of the season. This will significantly enhance our agricultural output and overall impact.

Once again, thank you for your unwavering support. We are excited about the future and deeply appreciate your partnership in helping us empower refugee women and the wider refugee community.”



Photo: Maize, Humanity Heart Charity Uganda

ZIMBABWE

With support from Peace SOS, Manica Youth Assembly (MAYA) donated foodstuffs to elderly women in the Old Location Sakubva in Zimbabwe under the Give Back to the Community programme. MAYA has helped twenty women, including twelve elderly women. These women were all affected by El Niño. Zimbabwe is one of five countries within Southern Africa that have been heavily affected by El Niño. El Niño-induced drought has affected vulnerable populations, especially the elderly, and women in particular.

MAYA conducted a second project in 2024, see below part of their blog which can be found on the Peace SOS website. During the months of December 2024 and January 2025, the Manica Youth Assembly (MAYA) undertook a significant journey to Kadzere, which was supported by Peace SOS. The organization, known for its commitment to empowering communities, aimed to help the local residents tackle their water woes through innovative techniques. Their arrival was met with eager anticipation, and over 50 members of the community gathered for a pivotal meeting. Jussa Kudherezera, the Director of MAYA, and a passionate advocate for sustainable practices, introduced the community to the concept of water harvesting. He spoke about how these techniques could alleviate their over-reliance on distant water sources, reduce the risk of waterborne diseases, and enhance food security through irrigation.

The community members listened intently as Jussa and his team explained various water harvesting methods, such as rooftop rainwater harvesting, ground-level rainwater collection, and even fog collection, amongst others. With every new idea shared, the residents began to see a glimmer of hope; these techniques could transform their struggle into a story of resilience.



Photo: providing food to elderly women in the Old Location Sakubva in Zimbabwe

LETTERS TO HEADS OF STATE AND DIPLOMATIC CONTACTS

Peace SOS wrote an open letter to the Egyptian Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs to ask for the opening of the border for humanitarian aid in Gaza in April 2024. The letter was co-signed by the chair of The Hague Peace Projects, and the coordinator of Doctors for Peace. We did not receive a reply.

In August 2024, we sent a reply to the Iranian minister of Foreign Affairs. This was because the Iranian embassy in the Netherlands sent us a statement and a letter to the United Nations regarding the assassination of Ismael Haniyeh – leader of Hamas – in Iran. We mentioned that we were shocked by all the violence in Israel and in Gaza. We called upon all parties to refrain from violence – an eye for an eye makes the whole world blind – and to solve violent conflicts via peaceful negotiations.

In 2024, we sent several messages to the Israeli ambassador in The Hague to ask for a meeting and to call for an end to the violence, humanitarian aid in Gaza, and the release of the hostages. Peace SOS also sent opinion articles about Gaza to the Israeli ambassador. He did not reply to our requests for a meeting, however. The personal assistant of the Israeli ambassador mentioned that she had drawn his attention to our e-mails.

Peace SOS had a meeting with the American ambassador Pete Hoekstra, and several meetings with another diplomat of the American embassy. The protocol assistants of the ambassador of the American embassy stated however that the ambassador could not accommodate our request for a meeting in 2024.

PEACE EVENTS 2024

Peace SOS took the initiative to organise two peace events in 2024. One peace event was centred around peace in Israel and Gaza. The other event was at The International Day of

Peace for a global ceasefire, humanitarian assistance, and a worldwide ban on nuclear weapons.

The event for Israel and Gaza was organised on March 16th at Dam Square, Amsterdam.

We were calling for:

- A permanent ceasefire
- Humanitarian aid for the people in Gaza
- The release of the hostages.

This event was supported by:

Artsen voor Vrede

Burundian Women for Peace and Development

Jobar Oranje, vredesactiviste

Een Ander Joods Geluid

Gandhi Center Italy

FNV

The Hague Peace Projects

International Peace Bureau (winner of the Nobel Prize for Peace 2010)

Kerk en Vrede

Pais

Pax

Peace SOS

Platform Vrouwen voor Duurzame Vrede

The Quakers

Religies voor Vrede

Vredesmissies zonder wapens

Vrouwen voor Vrede Enschede

We stood in a circle of silence at Dam Square, holding images of doves of peace and waving peace flags. Following the peace event, an article was published in the Dutch daily *De Telegraaf* (see the section below).

On the International Day of Peace, on September 21, we organised a peace demonstration on Dam Square. Over a hundred people from various peace organisations took part, including Doctors for Peace, Pais, Peace SOS Women's Federation for World Peace,



A better and fairer world for all of us.

Universal Peace Foundation. Our peace event was joined by the flashmob of the group of George van Houts, Jona Walk and Martijntje Smits.

We stood together in silence for:

- A global ceasefire
- Humanitarian aid for people in need
- A nuclear weapons ban

For world peace. A World Where All Children Can Play. 🌿❤️🙏

This peace event was supported by:

Gandhi Centre Italy
International Peace Bureau (Berlin)
Kerk en Vrede
MasterPeace
NVMP-Artsen voor vrede
Peace SOS
Platform Vrouwen voor Duurzame Vrede
The Quakers
Religies voor Vrede
Ukrainian Pacifist Movement, Ukraine
Vredesbeweging Pais
Vredeswijzer VZW, België
World Beyond War



Photo: The peace demonstration, September 21st, 2024. Photo by Camiel Verberne

May-May Meijer, the chair of Peace SOS attended a memorial protest to commemorate all the children killed in the war in Gaza. The event was organised by Plant een Olijfboom (Plant an Olive Tree) and took place at the Mediapark in Hilversum. Palestinian authorities say that around 17,000 children have been killed in Gaza. For each child who died, a pair of shoes was placed on the ground. Thousands of pairs of shoes covered the Mediapark.



Photo: thousands of children's shoes to commemorate the children killed in Gaza

In addition, May-May visited the 192 portraits of the journalists who were killed in the war in Gaza. This exhibition was organised by Free Press Unlimited and also took place at the Mediapark.



Photo: portraits of the journalists who were killed in Gaza

MEDIA COVERAGE ABOUT PEACE EVENT AND OPINION ARTICLES ABOUT THE NEED FOR PEACE

Following the peace event for Israel and Gaza, an article was published in De Telegraaf, 16 March 2024. [Bescheiden opkomst vredesmanifestatie Dam: 'Maar de duiven tellen ook mee'](#)

Noord-Hollands Dagblad published an article about our peace event on the International Day of Peace.

May-May, Andre en Martijntje zwijgen voor de vrede, Noord Hollands Dagblad, 23 September 2024. [May-May, Andre en Martijntje zwijgen voor de vrede](#)

May-May wrote the following opinion articles in 2024, the articles can be found via this hyperlink: <https://peacesos.nl/media-press/>

- Denk aan de Palestijnen en gijzelaars in Gaza en onderhandel, BNNVARA, 17 Oktober 2024
[Denk aan de Palestijnen en gijzelaars in Gaza en onderhandel](#)
- Overwinningsplan Zelensky erg risicovol', BNNVARA, 08 Oktober 2024
[Overwinningsplan Zelensky erg risicovol](#)
- Red de mensen in Rafah en heel Gaza, BNNVARA, 11 Februari 2024
[Red de mensen in Rafah en heel Gaza](#)
- Koester de mensen in Gaza, BNNVARA, 06 Februari 2024
[Koester de mensen in Gaza](#)

MONITORING

The project of the local evangelist who set people free from slavery in Faisalabad, Pakistan was visited by a monitor in 2023. In 2024, the project of the evangelist in Faisalabad was monitored via Facetime calls, videos and photos. The TEYAPI4Peace project in Uganda was monitored by the monitor, whom we met via Global Harmonization Initiative (GHI). Before the water harvesting project with the NGO Manica in Zimbabwe started, there was an online meeting with a food scientist from GHI in Zimbabwe, the two representatives of the NGO in Zimbabwe, the former president of GHI, and the chair of Peace SOS.

PEACE SOS WEBSITE

We published many blogs in 2024 on the Peace SOS website. There was a short story by May-May “A Mother’s Call for Peace”, which had won the first prize at a story competition organised by Women for Peace Enschede; there was a call for a Christmas ceasefire by the Quakers in Ukraine; a blog about the need to implement the law on children’s rights in Pakistan; a call from more than 150 NGOs for a ceasefire in Lebanon, Gaza and Israel, an account of the drought that was caused by El-Niño in Zimbabwe; a call for peace from DR Congo; a message from a father in Gaza, and several calls for a ceasefire and humanitarian aid in Gaza, the need to release the hostages, and the need to stop delivering arms to the Israeli government.

The updating and English translation of the website still needs to be completed.

POSTAL ADDRESS AT THE HAGUE PEACE PROJECTS

The Peace SOS postal address was at the office of the Hague Peace Projects in the Hague. The chair and all Peace SOS volunteers work from their home, with no office costs.

SPONSORING AND FUNDING

With regard to funding, Peace SOS is funded by a few private individuals and not by any government or large institution. Although we regretted this at first, we consider it now as an advantage. Peace SOS is independent. We can fully concentrate on our peace mission and use the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as our starting point.

As in previous years, the chairperson of Peace SOS works approximately 0.8 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) without a salary to boost the activities of Peace SOS. Peace SOS also notes that some NGOs express opinion articles in paid publicity value. However, for us it

is more important that our calls for peace are heard. In 2024, May-May worked regularly from home.

BANK ISSUE 2023

In the annual report of 2023, we forgot to mention that we had experienced difficulties transferring the gift for the project in Yemen. We tried to do so via our bank, Triodos Bank. But again, this money did not arrive in Yemen. This is the second or third time that Triodos Bank has failed to transfer our money. Triodos Bank refunded our money, and we rely on remittance services. This is actually not an ideal situation, since remittance services are not intended to be used by NGOs.

ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING AND ANTI-TERRORISM DOCUMENT

In 2024, payment service provider Mollie requested an anti-money laundering and anti-terrorism document, which Peace SOS provided.

PEACE SOS TEAM

The legal form of 'Stichting Peace SOS' is a foundation. Peace SOS has been active since September 21, 2015, when the Peace Manifesto was presented at Nieuwspoort in the Hague. Peace SOS received its statutes on April 22, 2016. In the year 2024, the board and advisors of Peace SOS consisted of the following persons:

Alex de Brouwer, sends Peace SOS interesting articles from Share NL magazine.

Esmay Versteegh, advisor Peace SOS.

Jamal Badr, advisor Yemen. Jamal is born in Yemen and works for NGOs.

Jason Sindram, is webmaster for Peace SOS, he is also founder of DP web solutions

Kumar Jamdagni, is a Dutch-English translator at Peace SOS. He is a native English speaker and professional translator..

Lonieke Ultee, general advisor of Peace SOS. Lonieke is owner of a language centre.

Marlene Schmolke, Peace SOS secretary, student. Master in conflict studies.

Martijn Müller, publishes the Peace SOS newsletters.

May-May Meijer, chairperson and founder of Peace SOS.

Miraj Murshed, advisor Bangladesh.

Miranda de Vries, advisor. Miranda joined the Peace SOS demonstration March 16th.

Sander Glas, is Peace SOS treasurer and financial expert.

Simone Lips, advisor. Simone joined around the same time as Miranda.

Timo van Kempen, Peace SOS advisor. Timo is a conscientious objector and mental health nurse.

The official board of Peace SOS consisted of three persons: the chair, the secretary, and the treasurer. In practice, Peace SOS operates as a team, although only a small group is present at the team meetings.

THE NEW PEACE MOVEMENT

Peace SOS became a member of the new peace movement (De Nieuwe Vredesbeweging), established in 2024. The new peace movement is an umbrella organisation. Jakob de Jonge chair of The Hague Peace Projects is one of the initiators.

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2024

ASSETS		2024	2023
		EUR	EUR
Deposits	-	-	-
Prepayments	-	-	96
Cash & Bank	776	1.223	
Total	776	1.318	
LIABILITIES		2024	2023
		EUR	EUR
Equity	776	1.318	
Accounts Payable	-	-	
Total	776	1.318	

Notes to the Balance Sheet

Prepayments

During 2023, annual costs for domain names were paid in full. The services related to this payment were partly consumed in 2024.

Cash & Banks

Cash and cash equivalents are recognized at nominal value.

Statement of Income & Expenses 2024

Income	2024	2023
	EUR	EUR
Gifts	15.278	19.604
Total income	15.278	19.604
Expenses	2024	2023
	EUR	EUR
Organization costs	920	1.087
Activities	14.901	17.531
Total expenses	15.821	18.619
Result	-543	986
<i>Result destination:</i>		
<i>Change in equity</i>	<i>-543</i>	<i>986</i>

Notes to the Statement of Income & Expenses

Gifts (from individuals)	EUR
Various	15,278
Organization costs	
Virtual office rent	289
Insurance	224
IT	221
Bank	186
Total	920
Projects	
Brick Making factories, Medical Camps and Debt relieve, Pakistan	10,865
Care Foundation, Pakistan	1,640
Water harvesting, Manica, Zimbabwe	1,280
Brick Making factories, Blankets, Pakistan	350
TEYAPI for Peace Uganda	450
School going Children, Pakistan	266
Burundi Women for Peace	50
Total	14,901

Gifts

In 2024, the chair donated an amount of €13,900 to Peace SOS.

Remuneration of the Board

All the staff of Peace SOS (the board members, advisors, translator and IT staff) did not receive any remuneration in 2024. The chairperson works app. an average of 0.8 full time equivalent (FTE) on Peace SOS unpaid.

Statement of approval of the Annual Report 2024

The board and advisors of the Foundation Peace SOS have discussed the annual report of Peace SOS in one of her online team meetings. The concept annual report of 2024 was approved on June 7th 2025. The final report was discussed via email.