

## Our Common Ground

Not In My Name, as a predominantly Jewish organization, is deeply committed to a peaceful and just resolution of the Israeli/Palestinian conflict, a resolution that will provide safety, security and freedom for Jews, Palestinians, and all others living in this region. We believe that such a peace can only be achieved when Israel withdraws from its settlements in the Palestinian territories and addresses the legitimate national and human rights of the Palestinian people. We do not accept that Jewish survival depends on unconditional support for the Israeli government and its policies. Rather we believe that the future safety and survival of our people rests on our ability to live in peace with our neighbors and to work to ensure justice and security for all people.

We therefore advocate for:

**An end** to Israel's military occupation of the West Bank, Gaza Strip, and East Jerusalem and a complete withdrawal from its settlements and occupation infrastructure;

**The removal** of the illegal wall Israel is erecting inside the West Bank;

**An immediate end** to collective punishments (banned under international law) and human rights violations of Palestinians including demolition of homes, arbitrary arrests, torture, the closure and encirclement of villages and communities, an end to the uprooting of trees and travel restrictions;

**The rights of Israelis and Palestinians** to self-determination and collective sovereignty within a political entity or entities of their own choosing; full equality, civil rights and economic justice for all;

**A shared** Jerusalem;

**A just resolution** to the plight of Palestinian refugees; the applicability of international law including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states (Article 13-2) that "Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country."

**Freedom from violence and terror** for all people of the Middle East; we condemn violence by any party against Palestinian or Israeli civilians;

**Equitable distribution** of critical natural resources, including water, oil, gas, electric power;

**A suspension** of all US military aid to Israel until Israel ends its occupation of the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, and East Jerusalem.

## Support the World Court Verdict & UN Vote Against the Israeli Wall

On July 9, 2004, the International Court of Justice ruled (14 to 1) that the Wall, which the Israeli government has been building in the occupied West Bank, is illegal and should be removed. The Court rejected Israel's position that its security concerns justify these illegal measures.

On July 20, the United Nations General Assembly voted 150 to 6 (10 abstentions) to endorse the Court's ruling and urge its implementation. The U.S. voted against this overwhelming expression of world opinion.

The Israeli government has been building this wall within Palestinian territory occupied and colonized by Israel since 1967. When completed, the 400 miles of wall will surround many Palestinian cities and villages. Israel will effectively annex much of the West Bank and its resources for its own exclusive use, and the remainder will comprise small, disconnected Palestinian regions, each surrounded by a physical wall or electrified fence and Israeli military.

The U.S. government appears once again ready to disregard international law. Following the Court decision, the White House rejected the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice in this matter. The U.S. Congress, which allocates billions of tax dollars in military aid to Israel each year, echoed the sentiment that international law is not relevant when it involves the human and civil rights of Palestinians.

Not In My Name (NIMN) is a predominantly Jewish organization working for a just peace between Israelis and Palestinians. We insist that real security for both Israelis and Palestinians can only be attained when there is a lasting peace between the two peoples, respecting their common humanity and right to self-determination.

Therefore we call on our fellow Americans to support and defend international law, support and defend the recent decisions of the International Court of Justice and the U.N. General Assembly, and oppose any attempt by our government to veto, disregard, or trivialize this important verdict. By raising your voice, you will be helping the Israelis and the Palestinians achieve peace.

**Tear Down This Wall!**

*Not In My Name* — [www.nimn.org](http://www.nimn.org)



Seeking a  
**Just Peace**  
between  
**Israelis and**  
**Palestinians**  
through an  
end to Israel's  
Occupation of the  
West Bank, Gaza  
Strip, and East  
Jerusalem

# Not In My Name

**NOT IN MY NAME**, a predominately Jewish Chicago-based peace group, was formed in November 2000 to work for a just peace between Israelis and Palestinians. We believe that the first step toward attaining this peace must be for Israel to end its 37-year-old military occupation of the West Bank, Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem, as required by international law.

We condemn all acts of violence against civilians, including attacks on Palestinians by both the Israeli Defense Forces and Jewish settlers, and by Palestinians on innocent Israeli civilians. Neither can be morally justified and we categorically condemn such acts as criminal.

We call on other American Jews to follow their conscience and their Jewish values of social justice, *tikkun olam* ("repairing the world").

## Offering an Alternative Jewish Voice

We call ourselves "Not In My Name" because the Israeli government often claims to act in the name and interests of all the Jews in the world, but these actions do not reflect our Jewish values and beliefs.

While it is particularly challenging for Jews to criticize the policies of the Israeli government, we believe it is crucial for us to do so. It is not enough to quietly express our concerns to family and friends. It is necessary that American Jews speak out publicly, thereby making it possible for both Jews and non-Jews to have an open and informed dialogue about how best to pursue peace between Israelis and Palestinians. Criticism of Israeli policies is not anti-Semitic; after all, many Israeli Jews criticize these policies every day.



Although we are an organization that is primarily Jewish, and speak with a clear Jewish voice, we welcome the full membership, participation, and support of non-Jews. We do this in recognition of the fact that we are not an isolated community, but are living within a larger community, one that gives us strength and support.

## Taking Action

NIMN has held weekly "End the Occupation" vigils since March 2001. This consistent, dignified presence has allowed us to reach thousands of ordinary people with our message of justice and peace. All are welcome to join us each Sunday from noon until 1pm at 830 N. Michigan (Water Tower Park) in Chicago.

We also hold special events, religious & cultural observances, and participate in actions called by other coalitions.

## Educating and Challenging

Not In My Name is recognized by the media and public as a clear, alternative Jewish voice seeking a just peace. The public education work of NIMN involves media activity, such as ads in the Chicago Jewish print media, appearances on talk radio and television, as well as commentaries in the Chicago newspapers. It also includes presentations, panel discussions, conferences, and speaking tours. We have hosted Israeli and American peace activists and Israeli military resisters and refusers.

## Building Bridges between Jews and Palestinians

NIMN seeks to establish close working relationships with various organizations and leaders in the Palestinian, Arab-American, and Muslim communities. We organize public demonstrations, presentations, and conferences with these organizations, which may require careful negotiation of a common message. We hope to break down barriers, reduce prejudice and hatred, and form bonds that will enlarge and strengthen the movement for a lasting, just, and secure peace.

## Your membership or donation can help support our work



We invite you to join Not In My Name or make a contribution to support our work. Please visit our website at [www.nimn.org](http://www.nimn.org) to register as a member or supporter. Or clip and mail this form with your check.

- Yes! I want to join as a member: \$36.00 per year, or what you can afford.
- Yes! I want to support the work of Not In My Name by making a contribution in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_.
- Please contact me about working with NIMN

Comments:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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Our web site provides much more information and includes a calendar of events. We encourage you to visit it:

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