

**The Revd Ruth Gee**  
President of the Methodist Conference  
**Dr Daleep Mukarji**  
Vice-President of the Methodist Conference

Methodist Church House  
25 Marylebone Road  
London NW1 5JR  
  
+44 (0) 20 7486 5502 (enquiries)  
helpdesk@methodistchurch.org.uk  
www.methodist.org.uk  
registered charity no 1132208

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Dear Colleagues,

The desire for peace and justice is central to the response of the Methodist people to situations around the world including the very complex issues in Israel/Palestine. To recognise the complexity of a situation is not to deny the reality of suffering or to fail to challenge injustice. Suffering and injustice in past and present are the experience of many in Israel/Palestine and any response we make must acknowledge this.

We will continue to listen carefully to the voices of Palestinian Christians and to stand alongside them, as we listen to the voices of Christians around the world and seek to stand alongside those who suffer or are oppressed. Prayerful discernment is needed as we seek the best way in which to do this.

Prayerful discernment includes careful consideration of factual information. This briefing responds to the request of the Conference of the Methodist Church in Britain in 2013 for a report on “the arguments for and against the Boycott Divestment Sanctions (BDS) Movement”.

As you engage with these issues:

We ask you to listen well;

We ask you to respond to a complex and challenging situation from a place where you seek understanding, appreciate the insecurities felt by many in the region and challenge injustice;

We ask you to recognise that others will, with integrity, differ from your conclusions; and

Most of all, we ask you to pray.



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