

Middle East Network Newsletter – Action Alert

Peace Not Walls Update
July 2013

Third Thursday Action Alert

Peace Not Walls, along with other organizations in the Faith Forum on Middle East Policy, will send out action alerts monthly on every third Thursday. Each action alert will focus on different issues so that members of Congress hear consistently that their constituents support a just and lasting negotiated resolution to the Palestinian Israeli conflict. This is the first of these monthly alerts.

Help Stop [Displacement and Demolition](#)

"[Firing Zone 918](#)" is located in Area C of the West Bank, and is home to over 1,000 Palestinians living in multiple villages that have centuries of history on that land. The area was named "[Firing Zone 918](#)" in the 1980s and claimed as an Israeli military training zone. Over the years, evacuation orders have been issued and several of the 12 villages have been evacuated only to be repopulated after challenging the Ministry of Defense's actions in court. The Ministry of Defense has petitioned recently to destroy eight of the 12 villages. The issue is currently being addressed in Israel's High Court of Justice.

Israeli author David Grossman along with 24 other writers published a petition urging the High Court of Justice to rule against evicting the Palestinians. "They live in constant fear, helplessly facing a ruthless power that does everything to displace them from the home they have inhabited for centuries," Grossman wrote in the petition.

The United States must utilize its relationship with Israel to ensure that human rights are not violated and that Palestinians in this area are not forcibly displaced from their homes. Urge your members of Congress to visit Firing Zone 918 and Area C of the West Bank when they visit Israel/Palestine. You can also ask your members of Congress to:

- **Raise this issue with the State Department**
- **Highlight the issue in Congress**
- **Visit the area while in Israel/Palestine**

Urge your members of Congress to visit Israeli and Palestinian peace-builders who are working to bring about a just and lasting resolution to the conflict.

To send a letter to your representative click [here](#).

To learn where to go in Israel/Palestine, visit the [Peace Not Walls](#) website for a list of delegations, tour groups and peace-building organizations in Israel and Palestine.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

