



NOBEL PEACE PRIZE NOMINEE, 2017 & 2018

Water Campaign: Phase Three

Combatants for Peace works to build a democratic and equitable society for all Palestinians and Israelis, through revolutionary nonviolent strategy and joint resistance.

In the fall of 2021, Combatants for Peace launched a campaign to provide vulnerable Palestinian communities across the South Hebron Hills with the water they so desperately need. As part of this campaign, [we distributed water tankards to villagers in the South Hebron Hills](#) and, through nonviolent actions and activism, drew international attention to the disparity in water rights throughout Palestine and Israel. Building upon the groundbreaking success of our organizing thus far, [we're eager to launch the third phase of our campaign](#) - but we can't do it without your support.

As the sweltering summer season begins, indigenous Palestinian communities are forced to endure harsh occupation policies while simultaneously managing drastic climate changes. While the more than 640,000 illegal settlers across the West Bank enjoy unfettered access to running water, native Palestinian communities must make due with heavily restricted water supplies - their water consumption well below what is considered livable. As settlers fill their pools and water their gardens, Palestinian residents are prohibited from collecting rain water, restricted from accessing the water grid, restricted from building cisterns or wells, and (in many cases) only allowed to transport water tanks 1-3 days each week.

Simply put, marginalized Palestinian communities are forced to bear the brunt of growing climate concerns due to racially motivated policies regarding the distribution of limited natural resources.

The third phase of our water campaign aims to shift these three specific policies across the West Bank - three practical changes in policy that will mean a world of difference to struggling Palestinian communities.

1. **Palestinian communities deserve the right to transport water every day of the week.**
2. **Palestinian communities deserve the right to construct and maintain traditional water collection structures, including collecting rain water by using indigenous technologies (such as cistern).**
3. **Palestinian communities deserve equal access natural water sources, free of threat from nearby settlers.**

We are resolved to change these three specific policies, all under the jurisdiction of one man: Defense Minister Benny Gantz.

Through our previous campaign phases, we have made huge strides in lobbying Gantz and his administration to create more equitable policies for Palestinians across the Jordan Valley and the South Hebron Hills. From flyering Gantz's neighborhood, Rosh HaAyin, to meetings with Deputy Defense Minister Alon Schuster in the field, to regular briefings in the Knesset, we've maintained steady pressure on the Gantz administration in hopes of enacting practical and purposeful change.

Given the volatility of the current government, our mission is more urgent than ever. It's unknown how much longer the current coalition will remain in place, and one can only assume that the following administration will shift even further right. That's why we are urgently launching the next phase of our campaign. The issue of water rights is an urgent one, and the window of opportunity may be quickly closing.

Phase Three of our campaign will run from July to September 2022, with the objective of lobbying Benny Gantz to sign a comprehensive order concerning water justice.

The campaign will employ both digital and on-the-ground strategies to build awareness surrounding the issue of environmental justice and effectively sway the Gantz administration. Building upon major media coverage of previous phases, this phase will utilize traditional and social media channels to accurately portray the reality of environmental racism across the West Bank. Through public events across the Jordan Valley and South Hebron Hills, we plan to educate ordinary Israelis, international diplomats, and media liaisons about the brutal reality that indigenous Palestinian communities must contend with. Additionally, through focused advocacy and activism across Gantz's neighborhood of Rosh HaAyin, we hope to bring the truth of these policies to his very doorstep and increase awareness of water rights within his own community. Through this multifaceted approach, we are hopeful that our clear demands will yield decisive action.

Despite its far-reaching success, our water campaign has consistently struggled and stopped due to underfunding. Given the urgency of this upcoming phase, we are relying on you to take action and support this transformative initiative. The total budget of the campaign amounts to \$100,000 for the remainder of 2022. Major expenses include the costs affiliated with media engagement, including videography, marketing materials, and targeted outreach and placement. Additional expenses include the cost of transportation for public gatherings and major events, as well as practical supplies to ensure the health and safety of event participants.

As the effects of climate change transform the globe, Palestinians communities are one of the most affected. It is vital that we act now. Our campaign will attend to the immediate needs of these communities, while ultimately aiming to build a more sustainable future for Palestinian and Israeli communities alike. We're depending on your support to make that future possible, and we are grateful to partner with you on this urgent mission.