



Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

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FIRST INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

Jane Addams
Nobel Peace Prize 1931

Boston, 03/17/2015

FIRST INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY

Emily Greene Balch
Nobel Peace Prize 1946

Dear WILPF members and Friends,

U.S. SECTION

Officers

Mary Hanson Harrison, President
Mildred Livingston, Treasurer
Candace Perry, Secretary

For nearly three years, our Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF US) Middle East Committee has been researching and writing the enclosed booklet, " Hamas at the Middle East Peace Table: Why?" The two of us tasked with the writing, Ellen Rosser and myself, faced the need to update the contents several times as situations in the Middle East changed. We have been witnesses to history as well as documentarians, with help from our editorial committee.

Interim Director

Paula Herrington

Our goals in presenting this subject remain the same. We still believe that chances of peace are greatly improved when all parties are present at the negotiating table, and that this requires enemies to speak to one another. Not only to speak, but also to listen. In order for this to happen, we must urge the U.S. State Department to remove Hamas from its list of terrorist organizations. As long as Hamas remains on that list, all participants are restricted in not being able to speak with a major party which needs to be included. After all, Hamas has been the one party with the power to stop the smaller groups in Gaza from firing rockets into Israel, and has done so.

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We hope you will study this booklet and be moved to action. Peace for all in the region is at stake.

We are happy to provide you with this booklet as a hard copy. You can either download additional copies from our web site or we can send you extra hard copies at \$5.00 per copy (guides plus shipping costs). We will also gratefully accept donations to help us to offset the costs of distributing copies to relevant policy makers in government and other costs associated with our campaign.

For peace,

Barbara Taft, co-author, and co-chair of the U.S. WILPF Middle East Committee