



The Peace & Justice Centre has worked in Edinburgh and across Scotland since 1980 to create a culture of peace and to promote nonviolence, human rights, conflict resolution and ecological sustainability.

Our Purpose: We challenge systemic injustices and act as a catalyst for a more peaceful and just Scotland.

Our Vision: A Scotland engaged in a global community: supporting life through a regenerative world economy, with peaceful and just local communities celebrating nonviolence, diversity, equality of opportunity, cultivating respect for all.

A Resource & Activity Hub: We maintain a calendar of events, provide meeting space for community groups that share our values and bring people together to advocate locally and nationally on to promote our values.

Promoting Peace and Nonviolence

We organise events and publish *Peace & Justice News* and have an active social media presence.

Programmes

PeaceBuilders in Schools

Our foundation *Cooperative Games & Conflict Resolution* and *Collaborative Classrooms* provide training for teachers and pupils in nonviolent communication, a restorative practice of conflict resolution and peer mediation.

Opposing War Memorial

We lead a consortium of groups working to create a memorial to conscientious objectors in Princes St Gardens. This bronze peace tree and granite bench will be a space for reflection on alternatives to war in a World Heritage site.

Peace Cranes

140,000 origami cranes made by people in many countries form the heart of an exhibition at 2021 Just Festival remembering Hiroshima raising awareness of Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty.

Don't Bank on the Bomb

We initiated this network in Scotland that advocates moving the money from financial institutions that invest in nuclear weapons to socially responsible investment.

Values

- **Nonviolence**
- **Honouring Life**
- **Solidarity**
- **Collaborative Creativity**
- **Ecological Responsibility**

Our Mission

Offering training in conflict resolution and nonviolence.

Raising awareness and challenging pervasive militarism, advocate for disarmament and ecological responsibility.

Promoting human rights by engaging in events and collaborating with individuals, organisations, and communities.

Being an ally to those experiencing violence and oppression and standing for equality.

Bringing together organisations and individuals within the peace movement by activating our networks and providing accessible resources and a welcoming meeting place.

Modelling the values of a peaceful and just society.

Financial Management / Funding

Day to day financial operations are carried out by the Administrator. Accounts are maintained by our Treasurer and independently examined prior to submission to OSCR as required annually.

Funding is through a mix of membership dues and donations, grant funding and fundraising activities. The Centre has enjoyed steady growth over the past five years, with several new projects and associated funding streams.

Our History

An independent charity the Centre was initiated by the churches in response to the nuclear arms race. Based for many years at St John's Church, on Princes Street, we are now located at City of Edinburgh Methodist Church.

Governance & Staffing, Interns, Work Placements & Volunteers

Board of Trustees

The Edinburgh Peace & Justice Centre is a Charity registered in Scotland. Our Trustees are elected by the members at our Annual Meeting. Trustees comprise a Convenor, Secretary, and Treasurer and up to six further members. Members normally serve a term of three years. The Trustees are responsible for governance and setting strategic direction.

Staff

The work of the Centre is carried out by three part time paid staff. The Coordinator oversees programmes and project development and supervises staff and volunteers to carry these out.

The Administrator handles day to day financial operations, events organisation, and develops our online presence and promotions.

The PeaceBuilders Coordinator liaises with Primary Schools and supports our Facilitators who are employed on a sessional basis.

Our Facilitator Training Programme is delivered by experienced professional trainers and offers certificates in Peacebuilding and Conflict Resolution for Schools.

Training includes theory and practice and work in schools alongside a professional Facilitator.

Interns and volunteers

Edinburgh Peace & Justice Centre is run by a mix of paid staff and volunteers. We provide volunteer and work experience opportunities for students to gain skills in a vibrant NGO and meaningfully engage with the diversity of issues we work on.

Students on work placements are supported through a mentoring programme to research and write briefings and other publications, engage in outreach, advocacy and programming, and wide range of other work. Members are encouraged to be involved as volunteers, and to take part in our events and workshops. We rely upon the support and involvement of our members.

Strategic Plan & Objectives

The Peace and Justice Centre has worked in Edinburgh and across Scotland since 1980.

It was founded as an initiative of the churches at a time when many such centres were established in Scotland, the UK, and globally in response to the Cold War and the threat of nuclear war.

Raising awareness and advocating for nuclear disarmament in Scotland continues to be core work.

The Centre seeks to provide a vital national resource available to organisations and grassroots community groups that share our values.

We identify, initiate and carry out projects that fit with our values and carry them into the community in Edinburgh and across Scotland.

We make effective use of social media to support that programme and further promote our values.

We cultivate relationships with decision makers and continually work in partnership with a wide variety of community, national and international organisations and networks.

We seek to ensure wider recognition of the Centre and awareness of our values and to advocate for social and political changes that reflect these core values.

Equalities and Diversity Policy

The Peace & Justice Centre believes that all persons should have equal rights to recognition of their human dignity, and to education, work, services and participation in society. Our Equalities and Diversity Policy is designed to ensure the promotion of equal opportunities within the Centre and affiliated organisations.

Network and Coalition Memberships

Cross Party Group on Nuclear Disarmament, Scrap Trident Coalition. As a partner in the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) we were co-recipients of the Nobel Peace Prize in 2017.

Our Work & Achievements: A Selection

Challenging Militarism

Conscientious Objectors Day Vigils

With Protest in Harmony we organise the annual Edinburgh vigil to in honour conscientious objectors to all wars, and solidarity with current Conscientious Objectors. The vigils pay tribute to resisters with reading of the names of COs from Scotland and recollections by COs' descendants.

Opposing War Memorial Campaign

The Peace & Justice Centre brought together and leads a consortium of local, Scottish, UK wide and international organisations working to create a Memorial to COs and all who oppose wars in Princes Street Gardens. www.opposingwar.scot

Legacies of Resistance to the First World War

We partnered Workers Education Association Scotland on this 2-year HLF funded adult education project, with learner groups in three cities exploring the impact of conscientious objectors on their communities.

Marking the Centenary of Conscription

We organised this event with Quakers in the Scottish Parliament, with Patrick Harvie MSP, Trevor Royle (author of 'The Flowers of the Forest') and Brigadier David Alfrey (Director of the Edinburgh Tattoo) and descendants of First World War conscientious objectors.

White Poppy Remembrance

We organise an annual candlelit ceremony with poetry and reflections and lay a white poppy wreath at the War Memorial remembering all victims of war, military and civilians. We distribute 600 white poppies via 16 venues each year.

Fly Kites Not Drones Days

In solidarity with people living under threat of drones, we organise these family friendly events annually, with kite making and decorating. Last year 300 people made 130 kites.

Challenging Militarisation of Youth

We work within Scottish Peace Network to organise a presence with the message: War is Not Family Entertainment at Armed Forces Days and wherever children are encouraged to play with automatic weapons.

Creating a Culture of Peace

140,000 Origami Cranes Workshops

Workshops making Origami Peace Cranes take place at the Peace & Justice Centre and at libraries, schools and community centres across Scotland. People in many countries have contributed. These 140,000 origami cranes will form the heart of an exhibition at the 2021 Just Festival in memory of Hiroshima and to raise awareness of the Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty.

Planting the Peace Pole

The Centre planted a Peace Pole with "May Peace Prevail on Earth" in four languages, one of thousands erected in towns and cities around the world that carry the same message in hundreds of languages.

Scottish Peace Covenant

With Scotland's for Peace we commissioned books with frontispiece by Alasdair Gray declaring "Scotland should be known for its international contribution to peace and justice rather than for waging war".

This was signed by the Bishop of Edinburgh, First Minister Alex Salmond, and the Moderator of the Church of Scotland at the Scottish Parliament.

Teaching Conflict Resolution

Peacebuilding for Primary Schools

Since 2015 the Peace & Justice Centre has run Cooperative Games & Conflict Resolution courses in 50 Primary schools to develop a culture of peace.

Further conflict resolution sessions build skills in class groups to prevent and resolve conflict and to put in place processes for restorative justice.

Our Partners

The EP&JC collaborates with local groups and national organisations. Some of our partners include Scottish Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, Iona Community, Quakers in Scotland, WILPF Scotland, Pax Christi, WEA Scotland and Voices for Creative Nonviolence.

Our Work & Achievements: A Selection

Day of Action Against Military Spending

Each year we work with Edinburgh Campaign Against the Arms Trade (CAAT) and others to organise public events raising awareness of global military spending.

Divestment from the Arms Trade

We're working with Edinburgh CAAT to call on the Lothian Pensions Fund and the Scottish Parliament to divest from arms companies.

Nuclear Disarmament

Love the Planet – Scrap Trident

We worked with the Scrap Trident Coalition to coordinate demonstrations in 37 towns and cities across Scotland.

Scrap Trident Demonstrations

With the Scrap Trident Coalition, we organised demonstrations in which thousands of people marched, liaised with Scottish Parliament, arranged First Minister Nicola Sturgeon and Greens Convenor Patrick Harvie as speakers, and did mainstream and social media work. We also helped organise nonviolent action at the Faslane nuclear weapons base.

Don't Bank on the Bomb Scotland

The Centre initiated a network in Scotland working on the Don't Bank on the Bomb campaign developed by Pax in the Netherlands.

People and Parliament Against Trident

With Scotland's for Peace, we were principal organisers of a major demonstration at which First Minister Alec Salmond spoke.

Workshops, Speakers, Conferences

The Centre has organised dozens of talks and workshops led by a wide range of writers and activists. Highlights include:

- *Trident and International Law: Scotland's Obligations Conference*. Dynamic Earth, Edinburgh. Keynote Speaker HE Judge Mohammed Bedjaoui, President of the International Court of Justice.
- *Scotland and International Law*. Keynote Speaker: HE Judge Christopher Weeramantry, International Court of Justice. *Scottish Parliament*.

Support for Refugees

Candlelit Vigil for Refugees. With the French government preparing to demolish the Calais refugee camp, we held a vigil and collected signatures on letters calling on the UK and French governments to protect the children.

Meeting the Needs of Refugees and Unaccompanied Refugee Children

We published a briefing for decision makers and convened a panel of speakers from Scottish Refugee Council, Citizens UK, The Welcoming Group, East Lothian Aid to Refugees, and Oxfam to discuss how to advocate for the UK to admit its fair share of refugees, especially unaccompanied children. Attended by 200 people.

Working Through the Arts

The World is My Country Exhibition

Held at the Scottish Storytelling Centre the exhibition celebrated the people and movements that opposed the First World War, featuring disobedient soldiers, feminist peace initiatives, a Maori princess, a famous Cambridge philosopher, and the graphic art of Emily Johns.

Light Against Darkness

An Exhibition of Artwork by Syrian Refugee Children held at City of Edinburgh Methodist Church, Edinburgh University Chaplaincy and St John's Church featured 166 paintings and drawings created by Syrian refugee children during a therapeutic project at Shatila refugee camp in Lebanon. We raised over £1,600 to support the programme.

The Drones Quilt Exhibition

Held at the Craft Fair during the Edinburgh Festival the exhibition was seen by thousands of people. Each square in the 40-foot quilt was made by a different person to represent the humanity of those killed by drones.

New Scots Photo Exhibition

We commissioned and organised an exhibition at Ocean Terminal of large format photographs by Indian photographer Herman Rodrigues of prominent people who migrated to Scotland.