

**Policy plan 2016**

**About us**

**Vision**

We envision a world where the principles of human dignity and equality enshrined in Article 1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights are enjoyed by all: “*All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood*”.

**Mission**

We work towards a world where all actors respect international law and human rights.

**Objective**

Promoting human dignity, justice, equality and freedom as enshrined in Article 1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and all that is related to, belongs to, or can be conducive to this.

**Values**

Our core values are dignity, justice, equality and freedom. We cooperate with people and organisations that share these values.

**How we work**

We collaborate with partners based upon shared values, in which the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is core. Collaboration with our partners is key and forms an integral and essential part of our work. Hence the word ‘collective’ in our name. Projects are selected based upon a shared analysis.

We hold violators of international law and human rights law accountable. We support people to enjoy their rights in inclusive societies without discrimination or oppression. We base our work on calls for justice from civil society based on respect for human rights. We contribute to building joint agendas and we develop and implement strategies to achieve equal rights for all.

**Organisation**

**Board**

The board approves the annual program, and narrative and financial reporting. The board presents its plans for advise to the Advisory Board. The Board is accountable according to Dutch law concerning reporting of a foundation and will publish its reports each year before the first of April.

Members of the board:

*Mieke Zagt, chair*

*John Veron, treasurer*

*Secretary, vacancy*

**Advisory Council**

The Advisory Council provides solicited and unsolicited advice about content and strategy of Article 1 Collective.

**Financial aspects**

Board members receive no remuneration or attendance fees for their work for the foundation. All financial means are being used for the mission and objectives of Article 1 Collective. Possible reserves on the balance can and will only be dedicated to Article 1 Collective’s objectives.

Declarations are being refunded based on submitted declarations, clearly indicating incurred costs related to Article 1 Collective.

Article 1 Collective raises funds through gifts from organisations and individuals. Article 1 Collective registers gifts in a detailed way. A professional administrator prepares the annual financial statements.

Article1 Collective has a bank account at the Triodos Bank.

**The Program**

In the 2015 -2017 program, Article 1 Collective focuses on Palestine. A sustainable just peace in Israel and Palestine can only be achieved on the basis of international law and respect for human rights.

This policy paper covering 2016 falls within this plan.

**Background:**

The 2004 International Court of Justice (ICJ) Advisory Opinion affirmed that the Palestinian people have the right to self-determination and that Israel has the status of an occupying power in Palestinian territory and is bound by international humanitarian law. The ICJ affirmed that Israel's construction of the wall and its associated regime and the settlements are illegal The ICJ reminded all states of their obligation not to recognize the illegal situation nor to render aid or assistance in maintaining the situation. The ICJ ruled that human rights instruments such as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child are applicable.

In 2011, the UN Human Rights Council adopted the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (‘Ruggie Framework’) which clarify the responsibilities and obligations of companies and states in ensuring that companies do not violate human rights. In 2012, the OECD has incorporated the UN Guiding Principles in its own Guidelines.

Based upon this, Article 1 Collective has the following strategic objective: To support the Palestinian people in their aim to implement their right to self-determination.

To achieve this, Article 1 Collective collaborates in its program with its partners on the following **two objectives:**

1. Contribute to accountability.
2. Contribute to a joint Agenda for Justice.

Article 1 Collective works to achieve these objectives through the following activities:

- Research into the responsibility of international, corporate and other stakeholders who profit from

 occupation or conflict.

- Development of campaign materials, including visuals.

- Dissemination of the research and campaign information (e.g. publication of articles).

- Lobby and advocacy at governmental, UN, company and organizational levels, towards equal rights

 for all.

- Recap the output with partners and develop a shared agenda for justice, based upon which, next

 year, the plan will be developed further.

- Networking with international partners who share our values based upon the Universal Declaration

 of Human Rights, towards equal rights for all.

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*Please contact us via:* *info@article1collective.org*