

Civil Society Dialogue Network Discussion Paper No. 12

Civil society peacebuilding actors in Iraq

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Civil Society Dialogue Network

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1. Background

The following mapping of civil society actors draws largely on participants in the periodic multistakeholder meetings on peacebuilding and social cohesion which took place in 2016 and 2017 in Ninewa Governorate. These meetings, which were promoted by partners in the ‘Nineveh Paths to Social Cohesion, Coexistence and Peace’ (NPSC) and ‘The Day After for Ninewa Governorate’ programmes, constituted an attempt by civil society actors to share information with United Nations (UN) agencies and organisations such as the United States Institute for Peace (USIP) about various peacebuilding programmes in Iraq. The mapping does not cover many civil society actors who work on specific issues such as gender-based violence (GBV) or threats against free journalists and media. However, the authors have attempted to include some of these types of actors, particularly those who have adopted a more explicitly peacebuilding-focused approach. In addition, it is limited in its coverage of faith-based organisations, research centres and other actors with a strong focus on central and southern Iraq.

2. Areas of engagement for civil society peacebuilding actors in Iraq

In Iraq, most current strategies and both governmental and non-governmental interventions are focused on alleviating/mitigating the impacts of the conflict whereas a more multifaceted approach is required. Civil society actors tend to agree that peacebuilding can be done before, during and after conflicts. Peacebuilding is about addressing the root causes and drivers of conflict as well as its impacts on society; laying foundations for a real, lasting peace; and building the capacities of society and governments to handle conflicts constructively, effectively and through peaceful means. It has to be owned by the people, communities and countries affected by the conflict in question, and it requires real capacity (infrastructure for peace) built up within the community rather than just relying on external agencies and engagement. In this context, the EU should strengthen its engagement with Iraqi civil society actors. In addition, a gender-sensitive approach to peacebuilding is necessary in order to include women effectively, and to understand how the impacts of peacebuilding programmes are felt differently by women and men and by girls and boys.

- **Security sector reform (SSR) and disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration (DDR)**
 - The involvement of civil society organisations (CSOs) in SSR and DDR processes in Iraq is extremely limited and there is a lack of information and transparency about government strategies or the actors who are implementing them.
 - For security reasons, the space for CSOs to engage in such sensitive issues in Iraq has shrunk. As a consequence, while recent conflicts in the country have altered local security and political dynamics, SSR and DDR efforts take place without a framework for local community engagement and generally exclude women, youth, and minorities.
 - The international non-governmental organisation (INGO) PAX is working with the Iraqi Al-Amal Association and Impunity Watch to implement a project which is aimed at incorporating local security perspectives into SSR with a gender-sensitive approach, increasing the influence of women organisations and networks in SSR discussions, and enhancing the capacities of local civil society actors to undertake gender-sensitive conflict analysis.
 - The INGO Geneva Call played an important role in training members of the People's Mobilization Forces (PMF) militia and the Peshmerga on respect for international humanitarian law (IHL) and the protection of civilians in the ‘Fighter not Killer’ campaign¹, with support from religious and political leaders and the involvement of CSOs.

¹ See <https://genevacall.org/infographics-2016-geneva-call-iraq/>

- **Stabilisation and reconstruction**

- The Global Coalition against Daesh² has promoted a narrow vision of stabilisation, focusing mainly on physical reconstruction and dedicating little attention to rebuilding the social fabric of society or the need to foster political dialogue. This is apparent in the way the UN Development Programme (UNDP) managed the Funding Facility for Stabilization (FFS), providing very limited and short-term funding to peacebuilding programmes with respect to other axes and failing to adopt a do-no-harm approach with communities engaging in conflict management.
- CSOs dealing with reconstruction and stabilisation and bodies such as the Iraqi Civil Defence Corps require more training in conflict-sensitivity.
- Some ‘cash-for-work’ programmes in Iraq had negative impacts on conflict dynamics in newly-liberated areas due to a lack of comprehensive analysis by the implementing NGOs.
- There is a lack of joint strategising among implementing agencies and donors on the development of a stabilisation plan which reflects the perspectives of local communities in Iraq.

- **Governance and reconciliation**

- Most CSOs which work on the promotion of citizens’ participation in public policy-making in Iraq do not have a peacebuilding approach. However, notable exceptions include the ‘Mesopotamian Youth for Democratic Governance, Social Cohesion and Reconciliation’ and ‘*Kulluna Muwatinun*’ (‘We Are All Citizens’) projects.
- Most CSOs which are engaged in reconciliation programmes in Iraq have a vision for long-term change but often fail to address justice issues or victims’ rights.
- It has proved difficult to link up community-level initiatives, which have at times proved successful, with Track 1 initiatives as the latter are often blocked by conflicts and lack of trust among Iraqi political parties.
- The support which is provided by international actors such as the UN Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) and the UNDP has also created confusion due to a lack of coordination and some duplication of efforts (in particular with the National Reconciliation Committee).
- The UNAMI enjoys credibility among Iraqi actors and seems to have sufficient expertise to work on national reconciliation. However, it suffers from a limited mandate and budget constraints.
- In general, national reconciliation efforts at the political level are not linked to community-level reconciliation programmes.

- **Education**

- Education is key to addressing the root causes of conflicts and tensions within local communities in Iraq.
- Since high levels of literacy can be key to building positive peace in conflict-affected contexts, civil society peacebuilding actors are very concerned about the high dropout rate of students of both sexes from Iraqi schools (e.g. one estimate is that 60% of those who enrolled in primary schools in 2015 have since dropped out).
- A wide variety of educational programmes aimed at building social cohesion and capacities for nonviolent conflict transformation in children and young people have been developed. Although the impact of these programmes on school curricula nationwide is currently relatively limited, work on education remains a priority for many CSOs.

² <http://theglobalcoalition.org/en/home/>

3. Main challenges and needs identified by peacebuilding actors in Iraq

- Overall, there is a lack of security for Iraqi human rights defenders (HRDs) and peace workers, particularly women.
- The space for civil society actors to work on sensitive issues in Iraq is extremely limited. This is particularly notable when armed actors are involved and when issues such as SSR or transitional justice (TJ) are being discussed.
- There is a perceived lack of justice and presence of double standards within the Iraqi judicial system. Iraqi judicial institutions do not seem to take the necessary actions to prosecute human rights violators and other criminals even in cases in which the evidence presented is derived from international reports.
- Corruption in Iraq is widespread and multilevel, and there does not appear to be any clear strategy for tackling it.
- It appears that no clear educational strategy exists in Iraq, that educational systems are underdeveloped and that the participation of NGOs is limited.
- Social and political processes and dynamics in Iraq are highly male-dominated and affected by an excessive influence of religious leaders. This often results in the exclusion of women and secular groups from social interactions which could have potential for conflict transformation.
- Peacebuilding actions and programmes are highly-fragmented, actors are reluctant to share information about methodologies and partnerships, and there is a lack of coordination between the Federal Government of Iraq, the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG), international and UN agencies and INGOs. As a result, there are conflicting priorities and visions, duplication of activities, and multiple requests to affected communities and victims in certain areas but a lack of action in many others where peacebuilding programmes are required.
- Donors are unwilling to make long-term commitments and, as a result, multiannual funding for peacebuilding programmes is limited. In addition, there is insufficient monitoring of, impact assessments on or follow-up to these programmes.
- Donors tend to contract Iraqi CSOs as service providers rather than developing programmes in partnership with them, thus generating competition rather than co-operation.
- Many reconciliation programmes in Iraq lack justice measures and fail to address victims' rights or the need to promote the return of all displaced communities to their home areas. Alternatively, they are limited to investigating and prosecuting crimes of one party to the conflict (i.e. Daesh).
- Iraqi judicial institutions appear to be excessively focused on securing prosecutions rather than ensuring justice, with hastily conducted trials and rushed execution of those sentenced to death. The arbitrary detention of minors is also highly problematic.
- Iraqi civil society actors lack expertise in mediation and conflict transformation theory and practice. This may limit their ability to implement peacebuilding programmes effectively. They also lack the capacity to undertake advocacy and joint strategising due to a combination of political instability and a lack of understanding of the Iraqi context by international peacebuilding experts.
- Dialogue and reconciliation initiatives are often top-down and lacking in transparency and they often fail to reach out to and/or consult victims.

4. Local civil society actors (e.g. NGOs, think tanks, academics, religious organisations, civil society networks, etc.) currently engaged in activities with relevance for peacebuilding in Iraq

- **Al-Amal Association**³
 - has a strong focus on women's empowerment and women's roles in promoting peace and security; has been a key organisation for the development, implementation and monitoring of the Iraqi national action plan (NAP) for the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 in co-operation with the Iraqi Women Network;
 - in 2017, organised several countrywide youth forums with UNAMI entitled 'Iraq: Youth and Coexistence' involving over 100 18-35 year old participants in each city in order to chart the road to future peaceful coexistence in Iraq, to deliberate post-conflict issues and to engage in national reconciliation;
 - empowers and supports young people who organise events such as the Peace Carnival in Baghdad to celebrate World Peace Day each year.

- **Al-Mesalla**⁴
 - since 2007, has organised training programmes and awareness campaigns, and developed educational material to spread a culture of nonviolence with the Iraqi Nonviolence Group (LaOnf Baghdad);
 - partners with PAX in 'The Day After for Ninewa Governorate' programme;
 - aims to start a peacebuilding programme for the creation of local peace committees in Mosul after recently opening local offices there.

- **Al-Tahreer Association for Development**⁵
 - in 2016-2017, within the NPSC programme, trained and managed the facilitators for local peace teams in four sub-districts of Ninewa Governorate;
 - implements programmes enabling people to participate in local decision-making processes and to reinforce the transparency and accountability of institutions.

- **DAK**
 - dedicated to empowering Ezidi women with a strong focus on the protection of and justice for victims;
 - organised activities for the implementation of UNSCR 1325 in camps for internally displaced people (IDPs) and several locations in the Kurdistan Region (KRI) and Ninewa;
 - in 2016-17, within the NPSC programme, trained and managed women peacemakers for local peace teams in four sub-districts of Ninewa Governorate.

- **Dijlah Strategic Planning Center**⁶
 - think tank based in Baghdad and working on political reform and reconciliation, particularly in Anbar Governorate, promoting a leading role in society for academics, educated elites, nationalist and non-sectarian Iraqis;
 - organised strategic seminars in Anbar on the participation of local political forces after Daesh which were focused on finding alternative solutions to the root causes of conflicts (e.g. combating corruption and ending sectarian policies).

³ <http://www.iraqi-alamal.org/>

⁴ <http://www.almesalla.net/>

⁵ <https://www.facebook.com/Al-Tahreer-Typical-Society-465537943546996/>

⁶ <https://www.facebook.com/1582082478704429>

- **Ezidi Organization for Documentation**⁷
 - monitors and documents crimes committed by Daesh, especially within the Ezidi community, and supports survivors; collects testimonies to advance peacebuilding in Ninewa and connects truth-telling to local reconciliation efforts;
 - runs a project in Sinjar and several advocacy initiatives to connect documentation and TJ measures.
- **Hawa'a Organization for Relief and Recovery**
 - based in Dyala and focused on developing Iraqi women socially, economically and politically;
 - leads advocacy campaigns for obtaining women's rights and access to fair legislation;
 - has an interest in educational programmes on peace and the prevention of violent extremism (PVE), and disarmament campaigns to stop the proliferation of small and medium weapons in Iraq.
- **Iraqi Institution for Development (IID)**⁸
 - runs programmes to support victims of GBV and torture in Ninewa and the KRI;
 - conducted assessments of the needs for peace among households in Mosul and IDPs from Mosul, and on the psychological effects of extremist education by Daesh on children.
- **Iraqi Social Forum (ISF)**⁹ (secretariat managed by the **Information Centre**¹⁰)
 - gathers hundreds of CSOs and approximately 3000 participants, including workers' unions, in annual national events promoting civil society actions for peace and coexistence, social justice and human rights;
 - organises thematic awareness and advocacy campaigns on 'Sports Against Violence' (including a Peace Marathon in Baghdad), workers' rights, water rights, freedom of expression, minority rights and women's participation in social and political life;
 - launched youth groups in nine governorates to promote social cohesion, including in liberated cities such as Hit in Al-Anbar as part of the 'We love Iraq' campaign, connecting cities along the two rivers of Mesopotamia;
 - partners with the recently-established **Kurdistan Social Forum (KSF)**¹¹ to break the divide between CSOs in the KRI and the rest of Iraq.
- **Iraqi Women And Future**
 - works to promote gender equality and to improve access to the job market for women and young people;
 - believes that peacebuilding starts by reassuring young people that they share a national identity and by activating anti-corruption and anti-sectarian measures.
- **LaOnf Baghdad**¹²
 - informal group of skilled activists and trainers who organise programmes on active nonviolence and coexistence in co-operation with the ISF, particularly for its youth groups, all over Iraq;
 - often partners with the **Soutna Association**¹³ of citizens journalists in order to produce videos about their peacebuilding activities.

⁷ <https://www.facebook.com/Eyzidi-Organization-For-Documentation-159371542422511/>

⁸ <http://www.iidiraqi.org/>

⁹ <http://iraqsf.org/>

¹⁰ <https://www.facebook.com/infocenteriq/>

¹¹ <https://www.facebook.com/Kurdistan-Social-Forum-1403045843100609/>

¹² <https://www.facebook.com/LaOnf/>

¹³ <http://www.soutuna.com/>

- **Masarat Institution for Cultural and Media Development (MCMD)**¹⁴
 - produces key research on and assessments of minority rights in Iraq and is currently leading the ‘Bridges of Trust’ campaign which aimed at restoring trust and defending minorities in the post-Daesh era;
 - advocates for and organises events on interreligious dialogue and minority rights; has a campaign against hate speech and manages the ISF’s working group of on these issues jointly with a Peacemaker Team.

- **Middle East Research Institute (MERI)**¹⁵
 - undertakes strategic research on policy issues to promote democracy and publishes policy briefs¹⁶;
 - undertakes assessments, commissioned by USIP, of the underlying causes of conflict and opportunities for reconciliation in Ninewa from the point of view of the many minority communities in the province (e.g. Turkmen, Shabaks, Sabean-Mandaeans, Christians, Ezidis and others).

- **Peace and Conflict Resolution Studies Centre of Dohuk University**¹⁷
 - promotes the inclusion of peacebuilding elements in university courses; recently launched a peacebuilding course in a Syrian refugee camp and ran research projects on issues such as mediation within the Iraqi court system;
 - in recent years, organised a number of major symposia on topics such as the promotion of moderate religious discourse and PVE, the intersection between peacebuilding and education in Iraq, and the design of community-based peacebuilding programmes;
 - in 2016-2017, organised the three levels of the ‘Alternative to Violence Project’ (AVP) workshops on nonviolent conflict resolution for local young facilitators;
 - produced publications on peace, reconciliation, tolerance in Arabic and a manual on conflict resolution in Kurdish;
 - supported various conflict assessments and the documentation of stories of victims groups in Ninewa.

- **Peace and Freedom Organization (PFO)**¹⁸ (formerly PFOK)
 - mainly dedicated to promoting coexistence by building trust and collaboration between different components of society;
 - conducts peacebuilding activities in the KRI as well as in Baghdad, Basra, Dyala, Kirkuk and Ninewa; currently engaging with the UNDP to implement a project on local peace committees in some of these locations;
 - supports the ‘Kulluna Muwatinun’ (‘We are all Citizens’) project which gathers and mobilises young people from diverse religious and ethnic communities and develops their advocacy capacities;
 - formed youth committees to advise local governorate councils on policies which have an impact on youth and peacebuilding; also engaged with national and regional parliaments;
 - in 2016, as a partner of the NPSC programme, trained young peace workers from peace teams in four districts of the Ninewa Governate, and used its strong expertise in issues related to media and freedom of expression to train local media actors in peace journalism;

¹⁴ <http://masaratiraq.org/>

¹⁵ <http://www.meri-k.org/>

¹⁶ <http://www.meri-k.org/publications/>

¹⁷ <http://web.uod.ac/about/president-university/peace-and-conflict-resolution-studies-center/>

¹⁸ <https://www.facebook.com/Peace-and-Freedom-Organization-PFO-484637138366425/>

- manages the secretariat of the KSF and partners with Un ponte per (UPP) in the EU-funded project ‘Mesopotamian Youth for Democratic Governance, Social Cohesion and Reconciliation’ as well as the EU-funded ‘Fursa. Resilient Communities’ project with its youth centre and community radio in Erbil.
- **Rasan Organization for Defending Women’s Rights**¹⁹
 - runs projects which are focused on coexistence and social cohesion through the use of arts, social awareness focus groups, livelihood projects, encouraging individuals from different backgrounds to engage in activities together (e.g. focus group discussions on women rights and coexistence with women of different ethnicities but who live in the same area);
 - engages community leaders from different sectors in community forums on gender identity, equality and coexistence;
 - advocates for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning, intersex (LGBTQI) rights in Iraq generally and in the KRI specifically.
- **Reform Institute for Development**²⁰
 - think tank focusing on institutional reform in the KRI in order to increase participation in policymaking processes and the capacity of institutions to manage conflicts constructively;
 - in 2016, undertook research on conflict dynamics and perspectives for return and reconciliation²¹, within the NPSC programme.
- **Sanad for Peacebuilding**²²
 - leads facilitated dialogue with the USIP in sensitive areas such as Hawija, Tal Afar and Bartella in order to help tribal and community leaders to reach agreements in a peaceful way after areas are liberated from Daesh, to reduce revenge killings and to set out terms for justice within the Iraqi legal system, thus enabling reconciliation;
 - with the USIP, supports two networks: the **Iraqi Network of Facilitators (INF)**²³ which carries out mediation programmes, and the **Alliance of Iraqi Minorities (AIM)**²⁴ which worked with the Iraqi Ministry of Education to reform and revise the school curriculum by incorporating the recognition of minorities and their history.

5. INGOs currently engaged in activities with relevance for peacebuilding in Iraq

- **Christian Peacemaker Teams (CPT)**²⁵
 - provides unarmed civilian accompaniment to HRDs at risk through international and local volunteers in the KRI;
 - advocates in partnership with mountain village and shepherd communities struggling for peace and stability against displacement caused by Turkish and Iranian cross-border military operations; calls for an end to bombing of civilians;
 - provides training to local civil society on peacebuilding when requested to do so.

¹⁹ <https://www.facebook.com/rasanorganization/>

²⁰ <http://www.rid-k.org/en/en>

²¹ <http://www.iraqicivilsociety.org/archives/5185>

²² <http://sanad-iq.org/>

²³ http://sanad-iq.org/?page_id=1298

²⁴ http://sanad-iq.org/?page_id=1306

²⁵ <http://cptikurdistan.blogspot.it/>

- **Crisis Management Initiative (CMI)**²⁶
 - supports the National Reconciliation Commission and the office of the Iraqi Prime Minister in developing a strategy and organising international conferences on the issue of reconciliation.
- **Foundation for Relief & Reconciliation in the Middle East (FRRME)**²⁷
 - works to give a voice to Iraqis to be heard by people in the West;
 - focuses on the general plight of persecuted/disadvantaged minorities in Iraq through education and empowerment workshops and projects with relief recipients in IDP camps and refugees in Jordan;
 - facilitates dialogue across communities within Iraq to contribute to reconciliation between different faith and racial groupings through directed intergenerational arts projects;
 - advocates internationally for the needs and rights of IDP and refugee families through its founding membership of the ‘NGO Caucus for the Persecuted Church’.
- **GOAL**²⁸
 - implements the ‘Resilient Economy through Agricultural Livelihoods’ and the ‘Emerging Small Business through Capacity Development’ programmes which contribute to stabilisation by ensuring improved livelihoods through a market systems approach, identifying local opportunities and challenges in the labour market and value chains to foster local growth, and governance and education in the agricultural sector.
- **Heartland Alliance International**²⁹
 - since 2004, has been helping victims of human rights abuses in Iraq to heal and obtain justice, and building the capacity of Iraqi human rights activists and organisations;
 - active in torture prevention and treatment, preventing GBV, suicide prevention, tackling human trafficking, juvenile justice reform, LGBT rights, mental health, refugee protection, and religious and ethnic minority rights;
 - partners with local NGOs such as the IID and the MCMD; funds their peacebuilding programmes and provides expertise.
- **Iraqi Civil Society Solidarity Initiative (ICSSI)**³⁰
 - links the activities and campaigns of INGOs and local NGOs on human/environmental rights and peacebuilding, promoting joint advocacy and awareness campaigns;
 - provides particular support to the ISF and the KSF for social cohesion campaigns involving Iraq and some regions of Turkey and Syria;
 - runs a nationwide, EU-funded project through UPP and several local partners entitled ‘Mesopotamian Youth for Democratic Governance, Social Cohesion and Reconciliation’ which promotes human rights campaigns with a strong peacebuilding focus;
 - organises conferences aimed at building a sense of national unity through joint action for social change in which the ISF and the KSF’s five thematic working groups (women’s participation, workers’ rights, media freedom, minority rights and water rights) exchange information.
- **Kvinna till Kvinna**³¹
 - builds the capacities of Iraqi women’s organisations and women HRDs to strengthen women’s participation and the respect and advancement of women’s rights;

²⁶ <http://cmi.fi/>

²⁷ <http://frrme.org/>

²⁸ <https://www.goalglobal.org/>

²⁹ <https://www.heartlandalliance.org/international/about-hai/middle-east-north-africa/iraq/>

³⁰ <http://www.iraqicivilsociety.org/>

³¹ <http://kvinnatillkvinna.se/en/country/iraq/>

- considers women’s role and actions in peacebuilding crucial and works in the framework of UNSCR 1325 to support women’s participation both in community-based peacebuilding processes (i.e. with community groups of “rights-holders” as primary participants and drivers of the process) and in “formal” peacebuilding processes (i.e in which community actors and women’s rights organisations work to influence policy actors/duty bearers’ actions with the aim of supporting peacebuilding through advocacy strategies).
- **Mennonites Central Committee**³²
 - supports several local partners in Iraq such as the Al-Amal Association and is directly involved with the Eastern Mennonite University’s Centre for Justice and Peacebuilding in programmes which are focused on Iraqi youth and academics in order to build a culture of peace;
 - supports academic training aimed at producing a peacebuilding curricula for universities across Iraq.
- **Mercy Corps**³³
 - focuses on emergency response, children and youth, conflict and governance in Iraq;
 - implements the ‘Promoting Reconciliation in Crisis Affected Areas of Iraq’ (PRC) programme which is aimed at reducing violence and improving social cohesion at the community and provincial levels in Diyala, Kirkuk, Ninewa and Saladin governorates.
- **NOVACT**³⁴
 - in 2007-10, supported and provided training to LaOnf Baghdad;
 - in 2011, published a report entitled ‘Searching for Peace in Iraq (SfP-Iraq)’³⁵ which was drafted by a joint international and Iraqi research team, and which listed and evaluated 24 different types of peacebuilding and peacemaking activities which were being undertaken in Iraq;
 - trains young facilitators in youth centres in the KRI through the EU-funded, UPP project entitled ‘Fursa. Resilient Communities’ within which it is currently finalising research on social cohesion among young people from different communities in the KRI.
- **PAX**³⁶
 - has a variety of programmes in Iraq, aimed at peacebuilding, citizenship, diversity management, community consultation, community dialogue, reinforcement of the role played by women in peacebuilding and security-building, and quality of local government;
 - since 2013, has supported the 'Kulluna Muwatinun' ('We Are All Citizens') project which is aimed at promoting civic youth involvement in decision-making and reducing sectarian tensions and violence;
 - since 2015, has been implementing the ‘The Day After for Ninewa Governorate’ programme by establishing local peace committees in various areas and linking them to provincial and national authorities;
 - publishes regular policy alerts containing contextual analysis and policy dialogue³⁷
 - undertakes shared advocacy with civil society from different parts of Iraq towards authorities in the KRI and the rest of Iraq, EU Member States, the EU and the UN;

³² <https://mcc.org/learn/where/middle-east/iraq>

³³ <https://www.mercycorps.org/countries/iraq>

³⁴ <http://novact.org/?lang=en>

³⁵ <http://novact.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/Searching-for-Peace-in-Iraq-Strategic-conflict-and-peace-analysis-improving-civil-society-peacebuilding-strategies-and-impact.pdf>

³⁶ <https://www.paxforpeace.nl/our-work/programmes/iraq>

³⁷ <https://www.paxforpeace.nl/publications/all-publications/iraq-alert-v>

- supports the **Basra Network for Peace and Development (BNPD)**, which is led by the Iraqi **Al-Firdaws Association**, and the Al-Amal Association's 'Women Against Violence' programme in Kirkuk in line with the Iraqi NAP for the implementation of UNSCR 1325.
- **Social Inquiry**³⁸
 - research collective which performs conflict assessments, and monitoring and evaluation for peacebuilding and development projects in Iraq;
 - publishes articles on various issues.
- **Un ponte per... (UPP)**³⁹
 - runs a number of civil society empowerment and advocacy programmes which are aimed at building peace and defending human rights;
 - supports the ICSSI; together with ICSSI partners, manages the 'Mesopotamian Youth for Democratic Governance, Social Cohesion and Reconciliation' EU-funded project;
 - in 2007-10, supported LaOnf Baghdad through the provision of training and financial support for actions in all 18 governorates of Iraq;
 - in 2016-2017, managed the NPSC programme⁴⁰ which supported local peace committees and peace teams in four districts of Ninewa Governorate and set the basis for an early warning and early response system at the community level;
 - runs social cohesion projects in youth centres in the KRI as part of the EU-funded 'Fursa. Resilient Communities' project and in a UNDP-funded community centre in Arbat (Sulaymaniya) in order to promote coexistence between the host community, IDPs and refugees in the sub-district.
 - applies a conflict-sensitive approach in its humanitarian and educational programmes, and focuses mainly on psychosocial support, reproductive health, cultural and recreational activities for youth and women in the KRI and Ninewa, and the protection of minorities.
- **World Vision International**⁴¹
 - seeks to promote individual human rights awareness in order to encourage inter-community harmony and to discourage militia recruitment of young people who are vulnerable to violence or extremism;
 - works primarily at the grassroots level on Track 3 Peacebuilding but also finds ways to link to Track 2 peacebuilding organisations
 - much of its work starts at personal mental and emotional health levels (e.g. psychosocial support, counselling, support to victims of emotional trauma etc.) and preparing people for reconciliation;
 - focuses on children and young people.
- Other peacebuilding organisations are currently in the process of registering and assessing the scope of their missions in Iraq to deploy unarmed civilian peacekeepers and civil peace corps: **Forum ZFD**⁴² from Germany (including its Academy for Conflict Transformation which organised training programmes with Dohuk University in 2016) and the **Nonviolent Peaceforce**⁴³ which implemented civilian accompaniment activities for IDPs through humanitarian corridors out of Mosul and in Ninewa Governorate.

³⁸ <https://social-inquiry.org/>

³⁹ <https://www.unponteper.it/en/cosa-facciamo/>

⁴⁰ The publications which were produced during the first phase of the project can be downloaded in both English and Arabic here: <https://www.unponteper.it/projects/la-strada-per-ninive/>

⁴¹ <http://www.wvi.org/iraq>

⁴² <http://www.forumzfd.de/en/>

⁴³ <http://www.nonviolentpeaceforce.org/>