

From Conflict to Reconciliation

STORIES OF HOPE FROM THE MIDDLE EAST

The Middle East is widely regarded as an area of unmitigated negativity. However, there are more creative and hope-giving initiatives being undertaken than we might imagine.

Assaad Chaftari and Haidar Ammacha are members of 'Fighters for Peace', a group of Lebanese former militia fighters who fought on opposite sides during the Lebanese civil war (1975-1990), but who have since come to regret their role in it.

In the last 3 years, Fighters for Peace have spoken to over 15,000 young people in schools and universities to 'de-romanticise' the image of war. The British Council in Lebanon recently produced a short documentary about their work, 'Fighting for Peace'.

They will be joined by two Syrian women,

Iman Ghafari, a teacher and counsellor, and Ola Amin, a lecturer in Architectural Engineering at Damascus University, whose work in Damascus is inspired by Initiatives of Change's 'Creators of Peace' programme, which aims to develop women's potential for peace-making.

Come hear personal stories from a visiting delegation from Lebanon and Syria whom are working for peace through finding new perspectives and a change of heart.

This event will be chaired by Dr Scherto Gill, Senior Fellow and Executive Secretary of our partner the GuerrandHermès Foundation for Peace (GHFP), an international thinktank and research institute.

Rachel Bird from The Forgiveness Project will give a vote of thanks,

10 May 2018

6.30pm - 9pm

 #StoriesOfTrust  Initiatives of Change UK

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the world's divides