



Friends World Committee  
for Consultation  
EUROPE & MIDDLE EAST SECTION

**Europe & Middle East Section**

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Registered Charity No: SC036528

**Executive Secretary: Michael Eccles**

**To everyone attending Britain Yearly Meeting, 23-26 May 2025**

15 May 2025

Dear Friends,

We send loving greetings from the Friends World Committee for Consultation Europe and Middle East Section (FWCC EMES) as you meet. We hold you all in the Light as you are in God's presence as you spend time together. Julia Walloch, EMES Communication and Networking Coordinator, will join you as representative from our Section.

You are a part of our FWCC Section and with us and through us you are connected to thousands of Quakers across Europe and the Middle East. Friends in our Section are organised in 13 Yearly Meetings, one Monthly Meeting, many worship groups, international members and other individuals, spread across over 30 countries and speaking a multitude of languages.

EMES envisages a thriving, vibrant, inclusive, all-age, spiritual community of Friends in Europe and the Middle East, woven together in transformative faith and love, working and connecting with others, listening to the Spirit, actively living out our Quaker testimonies of truth and integrity, equality and community, simplicity, peace, and care for the earth. We invite you to join our [All-Age Gathering, August 8-15, 2026 in Germany](#), where we hope to continue to build this kind of community.

The wars in Ukraine and in Palestine still move us; we feel deep grief for those who suffer, and we feel hope listening to stories of courage. We have heard of Friends within our section working to maintain the dignity and humanity of all people affected by war: those who fight and those who refuse; those free to stay true to their conscience and those persecuted; those who stay and those who flee; those welcomed in new countries and those who are turned away. Our peace testimony requires us to act. We ask all Friends to lend their support in whatever way they can.

At our Annual Meeting 30th of April and 8-11 of May, Emily Provance enlightened and moved us, speaking about Acts 15 as a story about discernment, and inspired us to look at what it means for a community to experience spiritual unity in the presence of big cultural and theological differences. We experience unity of purpose when we allow ourselves to be changed through listening for points of connection rather than for points of disagreement. Through this we can connect to that of God in everyone, get acquainted better, and encourage the inward light that could overcome even the deep darkness of suffering.

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Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

FWCC World Office: 173 Euston Road, London, NW1 2AX Britain  
EMES Clerk: Ethel Livermore  
EMES Treasurer: Peter Spreij

We wish you an inspired and hopeful meeting.

In friendship,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ethel Livermore". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Ethel Livermore

Clerk

**FWCC-EMES**

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