

## Peace and Freedom Organization in Kurdistan (PFOK)

**Country:** Iraq

**Organisation responsible:** Peace Direct

**Period:** Since 2013

**Activity:** PFOK is a peace-building organisation based in Erbil, the capital of the Kurdistan region of Iraq.



### **Objectives**

- Spreading the culture of peacebuilding, conflict resolution and ethics of non-violence.
- Assisting vulnerable people – such as IDPs, refugees and the poor.
- Promoting awareness of human rights, civic rights, and public freedoms.
- Promoting a spirit of volunteerism.

### **Description**

PFOK works in two main projects:

'Human rights and public freedoms' project: PFOK works to raise awareness on human rights issues, with a particular emphasis on children's rights. This is done through human rights education, monitoring, and advocacy campaigns.

'Peace building and Non-Violence' programme: PFOK is raising awareness of non-violence among the Kurdistan citizens. That is achieved throughout networking among the national non-violence activists; addressing the causes of violence in the Kurdistan community; and supporting those affected by violence.

### **Beneficiaries**

Kurdistan citizens and civil society actors.

#### **GOAL 2: Reinforce education and resilience at local level**

(58) Develop participatory strategies to prevent the emergence of violent extremists, protect population from recruitment and from the threat of violent extremists, and support confidence-building measures at local level by providing appropriate platforms for dialogue and the early identification of grievances.

#### **GOAL 7: Promote democratic values and protect civil society space.**

(116) Promote the enjoyment of democratic values, economic, social and cultural rights, including human rights-based initiatives that help eliminate the conditions conducive to violent extremism.

#### **GOAL 3: Strengthen the responsibility to protect the victims**

(70) Promote an integrated framework to address violent extremism by all peaceful and nonviolent means. Preventing all forms of violent extremism requires conflict prevention and resolution, inclusive development, respect for human rights standards, and democracy reform.