



December 2020

## Peaceful Christmas, New Year with Hope – Wishes from AEI



*Saturday 19 December: The Mufti of Bethlehem, Abdul Majeed Amarna, and Fr Rami, parish priest of Bethlehem on behalf of the Latin Patriarchate, attach Christmas balls of peace, hope and living together to the olive tree behind the Sumud Story House in Bethlehem.*

*For our Christmas and New Year greetings, conveyed by AEI's co-president Fuad Giacaman, see [here](#).*

*For an overview by AEI of the educational situation in the occupied West Bank during corona times, see [here](#).*

## Sumud

### Rania Murra about Christian and Inter-religious meanings of 'sumud'



AEI recently conducted a series of interviews with Moslem and Christian personalities about *A Christian-Islamic Religious Vision on the Concept of Sumud in Times of Covid-19 Crisis*, supported by KAICIID (Vienna). [Here](#) is the interview with Rania Murra, AEI's director.

This interview series is part of the larger school project *Citizenship and Diversity: Christian-*

*Moslem Living Together*. For a broad range of student-centered methodologies as applied by the 60 Moslem and Christian religious education teachers, see [here](#).

## Advocacy



### Never Give Up and Never Stop Caring

Coordinated by the Arab Educational Institute, a range of Palestinian schools and youth/women clubs in the occupied West Bank are involved in an advocacy project for Palestinian youth (2018-2020), called *Engaging, empowering and equipping diverse and marginalised youth and amplifying their voices for peace*. The project promotes civil society engagement in non-violent action for a just peace.

To follow its stories and photos, see instagram – “sumudstories” – see [here](#).

Or follow AEI’s Facebook page: Arab Educational Institute (AEI-Open Windows), [here](#).

For sumud stories by Palestinian teenagers and young women in the Bethlehem and Hebron area, “Never Give Up and Never Stop Caring,” see [here](#).

And for an article about the project by British partner CAFOD: see [here](#).

## Advocacy

### The Old Woman and the Doctor

“Palestinian Youth Protecting Civic Values in Conflict” led by AEI is the title of a ‘conflict advocacy’ project conducted over the last three years by 8 groups of 50 Palestinian school youth (13-17 years) in the larger Bethlehem district. See [here](#) for a story written by one of the youths along with further background information about the project.

## Christmas lottery by the “Friends”

For those who consider supporting AEI’s work, just join the Christmas lottery of the Friends of Young Bethlehem in the Netherlands, see [here](#) (in Dutch).

## More resources

[Click here](#) for more about AEI’s Sumud Story House.

[Click here](#) for info about AEI’s inter-religious school project, ‘Citizenship and Diversity: Christian-Moslem Living Together’,

For an overview of AEI’s wall posters, [see here](#)

(AEI-Open Windows)

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