Israel and Palestine:
DECONSTRUCTING OUR STORIES

PRESENTED BY: THE CIVIL DISCOURSE LAB, HILLEL, THE MIDDLE EASTERN CULTURAL ASSOCIATION, AND UNH SOCRATIC SOCIETY

THANK YOU TO OUR EXPERTS -
JEANNIE SOWERS: EXPERT IN MIDDLE EAST ENVIRONMENT, POLITICS, POLICY AND CONFLICT
FREDRIK MEITON: EXPERT IN THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT
CESAR REBELLON: TERRORISM EXPERT

Discussion Guidelines

EVERY VOICE AND EXPERIENCE IS VALID

MAINTAIN CONFIDENTIALITY TO THE HIGHEST EXTENT

LISTEN TO UNDERSTAND AND AVOID INTERRUPTING

FOCUS ON DIALOGUE, NOT DEBATE

FOCUS ON THE ISSUE, NOT THE PERSON

Introductions

Introduce yourself and tell us something important to you outside of this topic. Share why you are here tonight.

Prompt 1: Tracing the Origins of our Stories

Prepare a chronological narrative of your viewpoints on the right. What do these messages and events mean to you? How have these messages and events influenced your thinking?

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Moving Forward

What language can we add or diminish in our discussions with each other? Do you feel that some language is more helpful than others when discussing the conflict? How can we talk about this conflict in ways that honor our own stories? Did you share any of this language in the stories you shared with each other? How do these words make you feel? How have they shaped your thinking?

Reflecting on the Last Two Exercises, Where Do We See Commonalities in Our Stories and Experiences?

What do we share? What did you learn this evening and add to (not replace) your understanding of the conflict?