

Yemen-Aid Stand Guide

The U.N. has declared Yemen the world's largest humanitarian crisis. As an organization that works to protect civilians around the world, STAND is calling on supporters to take action to end the atrocities in Yemen. A "Yemen-Aid Stand" is a lemonade stand you set up in your community, but with a twist! People have two options to get lemonade:

- 1. Call their representatives and ask them to support legislation that protects Yemeni civilians, or
- 2. Donate to STAND to support continued student activism on the crisis!

What's Going On In Yemen?

In 2014, a group known as the Houthis, a Shia-led political movement, captured Yemen's capital, forcing Yemeni President Abdrabbuh Mansur Hadi to flee to Saudi Arabia. In 2015, Hadi returned to Yemen and attempted to reclaim his power, triggering a civil war.

Two years later, the civil war is still going on, and has risen to what the UN is now calling the world's worst humanitarian crisis, in which:

- 4,600 civilians have been killed;
- 3,600 schools have been closed;
- 18.8 million people are completely dependent on humanitarian aid; and
- 500,000 people have contracted cholera because of the lack of clean water.
- The UN has accused both sides of committing war crimes by deliberately targeting civilians.
- President Hadi and his Sunni government are backed by a Saudi Arabia-led coalition which is supported by several Middle Eastern and African countries, and supported militarily by the U.S., U.K., Canada, and France, among others.
- Saudi Arabia is using American weapons to slaughter civilians and block humanitarian aid from reaching hundreds of thousands of civilians in need, making the U.S. complicit in war crimes.
- Our involvement in the war is only getting worse: in April, President Trump signed a \$110 billion arms deal with Saudi Arabia.

Setting Up Your Yemen-Aid Stand

Goals

Raise awareness about the conflict in Yemen. Many people don't even know that Yemen is in the middle of a civil war, let alone that the U.S. is involved in it. With a Yemen-aid Stand, you can educate people about this humanitarian crisis.

Pressure legislators to support House Concurrent Resolution 81. This legislation, introduced by Representative Ro Khanna, would withdraw U.S. military support from the war in Yemen because it was never authorized by Congress.

Setting Up Your Lemonade Stand

We recommend setting up your lemonade stand in your campus center or somewhere that lots of people will pass you. Make sure to bring plenty of lemonade - you don't want to run out! You might also want to consider selling snacks or other drinks that are popular with students on your campus.

Taking Action

In order to get lemonade, people will have two options:

Call their representatives right there. Print out the call-in scripts and have them available for people to use. Once someone calls their Senators, they can have lemonade.

Pay for it, and at the end of the day, you'll donate your profits to STAND. To give money to STAND, you can either go to http://standnow.org/donate/ and pay via PayPal or mail us a check at:

STAND LLC c/o Impact Hub DC

419 7th St NW, Suite 300 Washington, DC, 20004

Resources

Call In Scripts: You should print these out and have them available at your Yemen-Aid Stand. That way, it's easy for people to call their Senators right there and shouldn't take more than a minute. You can find them here.

Yemen One Pager: You should also print out STAND's one page guide on Yemen, which includes background information on the conflict and U.S. involvement as well as ways to take action. You can find it here.

Frequently Asked Questions

How can I learn more about the conflict in Yemen?

Here are some articles with information about Yemen's civil war and U.S. involvement:

http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-29319423

http://www.latimes.com/world/middleeast/la-fg-yemen-us-arms-2017-story.html

 $\frac{https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2017/08/31/opinion/columnists/yemen-famine-cholera.html?}{r=0}$

How can I take action beyond my chapter's Yemen-Aid Stand?

- 1. Call your representatives! Use the call-in guides at the end of this guide to call your Senators, and urge everyone you know to do the same thing.
- 2. Write an op-ed. Check out STAND's Op-Ed Talking Points to learn about how you can write and publish an article urging your Senators to stop arming Saudi Arabia.

PROTECT YEMENI CIVILIANS

Call the Capitol Switchboard at (202) 224-3121 and ask to connect to your Representative. Once connected, tell the staffer:

"Hello, my name is _____ and I am calling from [School or Town, State]. I want to urge Representative _____ to cosponsor House Concurrent Resolution 81, which would remove the United States Armed Forces from unauthorized hostilities in Yemen. Yemen has risen to what the UN is now calling the world's worst humanitarian crisis. US military assistance to Saudi Arabia, which is targeting civilians in Yemen, is an illegal act of war. Thank you for your time."

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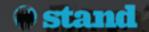
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