

Name of your organisation	Solutions Not Sides
Date of TFN event which you pitched at	08/02/2024
Name of the project TFN funded	Youth Education Programme
Were you able to undertake your project as you outlined in the application?	Yes
Can you describe and/or demonstrate the specific impact that TFN funding has had against your initial objectives?	<p>We initially pitched for funding to cover the cost of two extra schools' tours with Israeli and Palestinian peace builders as speakers. We had planned 12 one-week tours for the year, and were seeking to increase this to 14. Thanks to the generosity of funders, we raised enough money to run three additional tours before the end of the 2023-24 academic year, making a total of 17 tours. This meant that in the summer term of 2024, we reached over 2,000 students through five tours, and our annual total for the academic year exceeded 11,000.</p> <p>This was a record-breaking year for SNS. Our team grew by an additional staff member during the year to help meet the demand from schools, and we also trained over 2,000 adult teachers and community leaders in how to recognise and tackle antisemitism and Islamophobia around this issue. Our guide to avoiding hate speech went viral online, and we had over 3,000 views on our short film for schools.</p> <p>Our original KPIs were evidence in student feedback from our sessions of increased empathy, diversity of perspectives, and empowerment. We achieved good results in these areas, during those three tours please follow this link to view the impact report: https://drive.google.com/file/d/15vACu3Um1004qY-OrZ6doblllPhX-3_E/view?usp=sharing</p>
What portion of the project did TFN fund?	60% of the five tours we did in the summer term of 2024
How many direct beneficiaries did the TFN funded project reach?	1,230
How many indirect beneficiaries did the TFN funded project reach?	Approx 3,500
Were you able to leverage further funding as a result of TFN support?	No
If yes, how much were you able to raise and from whom?	-
Did you receive any pro-bono support, volunteer offers or introductions as a result of the event?	Yes
If yes, please can you provide details of the support you received?	Alan Morton continued to support us, and we also had quite a few people join our mailing list and reach out to us offering helpful networking connections after the event.

How important was TFN funding in helping you achieve your objectives?	We wouldn't have been able to achieve our objectives without TFN funding
Has the training you received from TFN better prepared you in pitching your organisation to potential funders?	Yes
Has TFN increased your capacity to raise further funds?	Yes
Can you tell us any personal stories to highlight the value of the project?	<p>Following our sessions at their school, some students at one of our Olive Branch schools in Bradford set up a new club called the SNS Youth Group. They decided to start their further studies on this issue by using our Student-Led-Learning pack on Journalism in Conflict. Their teacher sent us some quotes from these students about their responses to our session and why they were motivated to continue their learning journey:</p> <p>“The mood in the room was incredibly sombre and quite emotional as it was clear that even once the session finished for us, the speakers would be affected permanently by the conflict. Their experiences won’t be forgotten by us.”</p> <p>“We all gained raw, truthful knowledge that covered in depth how horrific the conflict really is, yet there was the constant reminder that peace is the desired outcome and to achieve this, all sides of the conflict need to come together.”</p> <p>"It was inspiring, the empathy and power the two women had despite the circumstance and their fight for peace definitely urged me to want the same.”</p> <p>The teacher wrote to us to say: "Just wanted to say that it was so lovely to have SNS in a few weeks ago. Both staff and speakers were amazing!"</p> <p>This school is now our leading school for our Olive Branch Award, with 15 'leaves' on their 'olive branch'!</p>
Since presenting at TFN, has your organisation undergone any other significant changes?	No
Do you have any other comments or feedback on the experience of the TFN process?	<p>The event was hugely encouraging in terms of raising awareness and momentum behind the expansion of our programme at a critical time. Our team really appreciated the good faith and support shown, especially as we get a lot of pushback and disinformation circulated about us from groups with political agendas. The fact that you gave us a platform to explain firsthand what we do to so many people who can spread the word felt very empowering, thank you. The training you offered has also been very helpful for creating funding pitches more generally and for presenting to an audience like this.</p>