

# The preconditions of lasting peace

A statement by Endeavour Forum, Inc., a non-government organisation (NGO) with special consultative status with the Economic & Social Council of the UN (ECOSOC).

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Web site: [www.EndeavourForum.org.au](http://www.EndeavourForum.org.au)

The pursuit of lasting global peace is a noble cause supported by Endeavour Forum, Inc.

However, it is important how we define peace. It cannot be a mere suspension of hostilities between nations, ethnic groups or ideological movements (a temporary ceasefire). It cannot be a militarily-enforced “peace” imposed on a subject population by curfews and terror. Nor should it be — worst of all — the peace of the graveyard, i.e., genocide.

Peace, in order to be genuine and beneficial for all, must be characterised by freedom. This broader and more satisfactory conception of peace was famously encapsulated in former President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s State of the Union speech, of December 8, 1941, in which he espoused what he called **the Four Freedoms**. These were:

1. Freedom of speech.
2. Freedom of worship.
3. Freedom from want.
4. Freedom from fear.

These freedoms were incorporated in the Atlantic Charter, a statement issued on August 14, 1941, which set out American and British goals for the world after the end of World War II, months before the U.S. entered the war. American artist Normal Rockwell famously illustrated the Four Freedoms in 1943. 996 (U) 11 0 952 841.98 reW\*nBT7