

The Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of **Global Dialogue and Democracy**

المبادرة الفلسطينية لتعميق الحوار العالمي والديمقراطية



2018 Annual Report

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Situation Analysis

1. Situation Analysis

Throughout 2018, numerous developments have taken place on the international, regional and local levels that impede Palestine's realization of self-determination, independence and sustainable development. The main characteristic of the previous period is the blatant bias of the US Administration towards Israel; this is evident in the formulation and development of the "*Deal of the Century*" that steers away from traditional American foreign policy of "managing the conflict" and seeks to dilute "Permanent Status Issues"¹ as per the Oslo Peace Accords of 1993. The US Administration's bias manifested in the relocation of the US Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem following the decision of US President Donald Trump to "recognize" Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. The latter constituted a dangerous breach of the Charter of the United Nations in compromising the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory through force, and Jerusalem's status as "*Corpus Separatum*" under UNGA Resolution 181 of 1947.

Furthermore, a cut-off in US funding to UNRWA, which has been providing basic services for Palestinian refugees since 1950, is another attempt by the Trump administration to reset the terms of the Palestinian cause in Israel's favor through eliminating the issue of Palestinian refugees. The US's decision aims to strip these Palestinians of their refugee status in the region and take their issue off the table in negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians, proposing instead to naturalize them in their host countries.

On a different, yet connected level, the Israeli Knesset enacted a law that would enable it to deduct the allowances paid to Palestinian prisoners and families of martyrs from the State of Palestine's clearance revenues. The law unlawfully encroaches on funds owed to Palestinians under agreements signed between the PLO and Israel's government. The law, by itself, is a breach of the Paris Protocol, which stipulates that Israel is entitled to only collect and transfer the clearance revenues (taxes) but not dictate their allocation and usage. Furthermore, the fact that this was issued by the Knesset instead of through a directive by the Cabinet makes it a matter all the more worrying in that the channels available for challenging this law are relatively limited compared to if it were a Cabinet directive. Secondly, this entrenches an Israeli government policy of publicly abandoning the two-state solution, as the clearance tax amounts to more than 60% of the tax revenues of the Palestinian treasury and the refusal to transfer them could seriously jeopardize the stability of the Palestinian Authority.

These recent developments, coupled with the restrictions on the movement of people and goods to and from Gaza, imposed by Israel in the early 1990s and intensified after August 2005, have undermined the living conditions of about two million Palestinians in that area, 75% of which are refugees that depend on UNRWA's services.² According to OCHA [The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs], these restrictions continue to reduce access to livelihoods, essential services and housing, including health services, electricity and water; they therefore disrupt family life, and undermine people's hopes for a secure and prosperous future.

Since 30 March, marking Land Day, independent activists organized and initiated the peaceful "Great March of Return", which was later endorsed by Palestinian political factions in the Gaza Strip. The marches, culminating on the occasion of the Nakba, saw Gazans protesting along the fence at the buffer zone, demanding the right to return of Palestinian refugees to the homes and land their families were expelled from 70 years ago. The Israeli response to these peaceful protests was disproportionate and in violation of the basic principles of international law and human rights, primarily the principle of proportionality and the right to life. According to OCHA, over 180 civilians were killed in the most violent escalation since the 2014 war on Gaza.³ The persistence of the demonstrations and accompanying violence called for an international response and attempts to provide protection. These attempts were thwarted at the Security Council by the US's use of its veto power. Alternatively, the subsequent vote at the General Assembly (GA/12028) was adopted by a landslide. The US's veto further demonstrates the outright bias of its administration towards Israel and its relentless pursuit of providing a protective cover to Israeli crimes.

Another development that raises alarm is the enactment of the "*Basic Law: Israel as the Nation-State of the Jewish People*" in July 2018. The law essentially legalizes domination and discrimination of Jews in Palestine by declaring the land of Israel as the land of Jewish people, sanctioning Jewish settlement expansion as a national value and endeavor, emphasizing that united Jerusalem is the capital of Israel, and demoting the Arabic language into special status instead of an official language, among other aspects. The most contentious aspect of the Nation-State Law is that the scope of its applicability remains to be determined. This could signify another step by the Israeli polity to

1 (1) Jerusalem, (2) refugees, (3) settlements, (4) security arrangements, (5) borders, (6) relations and cooperation with other neighbors, and (7) other issues of common interest

2 <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/monthly-humanitarian-bulletin-may-2018>

3 OCHA, 2018: More Casualties and Food Insecurity, Less Funding for Humanitarian Aid < <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/2018-more-casualties-and-food-insecurity-less-funding-humanitarian-aid>>

legalize settlement outposts in the West Bank and proceed forward with the annexation of parts of the whole of the West Bank.

Notwithstanding the calamity of such developments, the systematic targeting of east Jerusalem has intensified since Trump assumed office. In March 2017, the Israeli government authorized the construction of the first new settlement, Amihai, since 1992. Since Trump's declaration, the authorization of new housing units has been consistently increasing, with 13,987 housing units constructed so far.⁴

In another infringement on human rights and fundamental freedoms, Israel is seeking to enact a law that would prohibit the photographing and filming of the crimes and practices perpetuated by the Israeli army; the law has been so far approved by the Ministerial Committee for Legislation. The law stipulates a sentence of up to five years for photography, recording or distributing Israeli army activity on social media with "the aim of hurting the soldiers' spirit. This sentence increases to a maximum of 10 years for anyone convicted of "seeking to harm national security."⁵

On the other hand and in a first, the Palestinian leadership submitted a referral to the International Criminal Court to investigate Israeli crimes against Palestinians. The referral calls on the Office of the Prosecutor to open an immediate investigation into Israeli crimes in the occupied State of Palestine. The referral addressed a myriad of issues, including settlement expansion, land grabs, illegal exploitation of natural resources, as well as the brutal and calculated targeting of unarmed protesters, particularly in the Gaza Strip. This is considered a significant step, as previously the State of Palestine had only accepted the jurisdiction of the Court. This could be perceived as a passive move of good will; however, the referral signifies the priority that the State of Palestine gives to this issue and its demand for reciprocity of attention by the international body.

On another level, the State of Palestine submitted its first report on the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) which Palestine acceded in 2014 without reservations. The Palestine State report and civil society organizations shadow report were presented in the 70th session of CEDAW Committee in July 2018. Both sets of reports provided an opportunity to advance Palestinian women's call for equality and protection. The Concluding Observations of the CEDAW Committee highlighted the role of the occupation but did not exonerate the State of Palestine of their legal obligations under the Convention. Significant aspects highlighted issues of violence against women, political participation, access to decision-making and leadership positions, and unemployment and economic empowerment.

Finally, in terms of Palestinian governmental policy and fiscal allocations, the social sector was allocated a total of 47.2% of the 2018 public budget, with expenditure reaching 46.2% of the total annual expenses. Additionally, the Education, Health and Social Development Ministries were allocated 40.3% of the 2018 public budget, with expenditure reaching 38.3% of the total annual expenses. Furthermore, in the cases of the Health and Education Ministries' developmental budget expenditure, it stood at 151% and 112%, respectively. This signifies a shift in government policy to give a higher priority to these three crucial Ministries.

4 Middle East Eye, How Israel boosted its settlement programme after Trump's election victory <<https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/how-israel-boosted-its-settlement-programme-after-trump-election-victory-west-bank-palestine-khan-al-ahmar-147396207>>

5 Middle East Eye, Palestinian Activists Slam Draft Law Prohibiting Filming of Israeli Forces < <https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/palestinian-activists-slam-draft-law-prohibiting-filming-israeli-forces>>

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Introduction

2. Introduction

MIFTAH Vision:

A sovereign, independent, democratic, tolerant and inclusive Palestinian state, which grants Palestinians their basic rights, preserves their dignity, and enjoys international recognition and respect.

MIFTAH Mission:

Established in 1998, MIFTAH seeks to promote the principles of democracy and good governance within various components of Palestinian society; it further seeks to engage local and international public opinion and official circles on the Palestinian cause. To that end, MIFTAH adopts the mechanisms of an active and in-depth dialogue, the free flow of information and ideas, as well as local and international networking.

MIFTAH's strategic objectives

1. To Enhance Good Governance in Palestine

- Specific Objective 1: To advance policy advocacy and lobbying to ensure social justice and equality;
- Specific Objective 2: To enhance women and youth participation in policy and decision-making within the public sector and local government organizations;

2. To Strengthen National Unity and International Awareness of the Palestinian Narrative

- Specific Objective 1: To enhance internal dialogue to reach consensus on key political positions imperative to the Palestinians;
- Specific Objective 2: To promote the Palestinian narrative as a just and fair cause;

In its 2017-2021 Strategic Plan, MIFTAH focuses its resources towards delivering on its mission and objectives in several interlinked policy areas. It will work towards mobilizing support to reform the policy framework to address gender inequalities and violence; enhancing good governance and decision-making towards citizens' rights; improving the democratization of Palestinian society; activating internal policy dialogue; supporting women and youth and reviving efforts to enhance global dialogue. More specifically, MIFTAH works towards achieving the following policy priorities:

- Enhancing good governance and democracy within Palestinian society, to influence the legislation framework to ensure the safeguarding **of citizens' rights** and the contribution to the **democratization of Palestinian society**, through holding policy meetings with decision makers, as well as through addressing policy recommendations and policy proposals.
- Holding **policy dialogue to enhance multichannel communication** among all sectors of society, including political leaders, government, civil-society organizations and the private sector, with the view of supporting policy formulation at one level and to follow up on upcoming political issues at the other. This will be carried out by engaging politicians, academics, ministers and decision-makers in open and candid exchanges of information and ideas.
- **Supporting women and youth** to be well prepared to take on political roles and to become involved in political and public spheres
- Promoting **gender equality and equity including protection against gender-based violence** within policy framework; addressing recommendations at different levels including policy and legislative, in addition to governmental and non-governmental organizations, to influence mechanisms and procedures that support gender justice.
- **Expansion of networks and alliances** at the local, regional and international levels through MIFTAH's active engagement in different relevant activities carried out by civil society organizations (public meetings, conferences, workshops etc.) at the local, regional and international levels.
- As a member of the AMAN coalition, MIFTAH advocates for reinforcing **adherence to the principles of Integrity, Transparency and Accountability (ITA)** in the various Palestinian sectors, with the aim of participating in the building of **a national integrity** system.
- Reactivating the Media and Information Unit (Web site) to shed light on critical political opinions and increase awareness about the Palestinian narrative, through drafting opinion pieces, political statements, position papers, reports, studies and factsheets to bolster solidarity with the Palestinian cause.
- Contributing to promoting the Palestinian narrative at the global level (Global Dialogue) through hosting international delegations, conducting briefings and discussion sessions and holding meetings with diplomatic missions.
- Reviving the Palestinian (national) internal dialogue on timely political issues

In line with the above policy priorities, MIFTAH was able to achieve the following results during 2018:

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Results by Objective

3. Results by Objective

1. To Enhance Good Governance in Palestine

1.1 Enhancing Women and Youth Participation in Decision Making and within the Political System

1.1.1 Promoting the Role of Youth in the PLO

A public policy paper was submitted to the Executive Committee of the PLO and a commitment from all factions on the need to revive GUPS [General Union of Palestinian Students] was reached. The paper included proposed and agreed amendments to the Constitution of GUPS. These amendments were reached through MIFTAH-led meetings and discussions held throughout 2017 and 2018 through its contacts with all parties of interest, including representatives from political factions, student bodies and groups, PLO departments, popular unions and university student bodies. The most important amendments to the Union's bylaws were discussed in a way that would guarantee fair representation for Palestinian youth in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, by considering each Palestinian university an individual branch of GUPS, determining the age of GUPS members and members of its leadership bodies and representation of young women of no less than 30% according to a PLO Central Council decision. These demands were included in the public policy paper sent to the PLO's Executive Committee as recommendations to be approved after review and discussion.

The participation of student body representatives in political factions in these discussions indicated to their aspirations on the need to revive youth bodies within the Palestinian political system. Several of the youth ran for membership in the PNC in its most recent session, some of whom did gain membership as youth representatives of their factions. This was considered a success for all efforts previously made by MIFTAH and contributed to developing national efforts and directing them towards more attention to this vital issue. It had a direct impact on renewing the legitimacy of the youth component of the Palestinian political system through reviving GUPS and making it a priority for political action for youth.

1.1.2 Developing the "Youth Empowerment" Program Action Plan 2019-2020

As part of its "Youth Empowerment" Program, MIFTAH concluded the activities of its annual winter camp for 2018. The camp brought together members of MIFTAH's Youth Network and representatives of the Palestinian Students' Union and Student Councils. The activities of the camp focused on the review of the Youth Political Agenda and the preparation of an action plan for the Youth Empowerment Program covering the next two years. The action plan included interventions that feed into MIFTAH's strategic priorities in empowering youth leadership capacities towards participating in decision-making positions, as well as integrating them in policy formulation processes with the view of increasing its responsiveness to their needs. Moreover, the action plan focused on promoting the use of the Youth Political Agenda as a framework for the general principles in the work of student blocs inside Palestinian universities, as well as target student union councils through the development of a consensual lobbying plan with the view of activating the General Union of Palestinian Students (GUPS), as a unifying framework to advance youth representation within the Palestinian polity and particularly in the Palestinian Liberation Organization. The conference also fostered the opening of dialogue between student blocs on one side and decision-making bodies inside Palestinian political parties, on the other. This dialogue was conducted with the view of reviving democratic values and means in renewing the legitimacy of leadership bodies within political parties, as well as ensuring representation of youth and women inside these bodies, in order to promote the participation of various social components, and address exclusion and discrimination.

1.1.3 Enhancing Capacity Development of Youth

In line with MIFTAH's efforts to promote the active participation of all components of Palestinian society, women and youth in particular, MIFTAH completed a series of training workshops. The training workshops targeted active youth from Palestinian universities and members of MIFTAH's Youth Network. The specialized trainings covered topics such as;

1. Local and popular union elections in the PLO (preparatory stages of the elections, electoral laws and regulations, monitoring over general elections and ways to improve them). (30 trainees: 17 males and 13 females)
2. Preparation of factsheets and position papers and the development of policy papers. (24 trainees: 12 females and 12 males)
3. Mediation, negotiation skills and policy dialogue sessions. (22 trainees: 14 females and 8 males)

1.1.4 Proposals for Amendments to the Electoral System to Promote Women and Youth Participation

MIFTAH held a policy meeting entitled, "Proposed amendments to the electoral system to promote the participation of women and youth," which discussed the recommendations of a research paper prepared by MIFTAH on the available means of amending the electoral system in a way that would promote a democratic climate in Palestine. The participants discussed the challenges facing the introduction of amendments to the electoral law in Palestine including the General Elections Law, the Local Councils Law, No. 10 of 2005 and the amendments to this law, No. 12 of 2012. The recent local council elections results of 2017, based on Central Election Committee (CEC) reports, showed that women's representation did not exceed 20%. The participants concluded their discussion with a consensus to cancel the restriction imposed on the candidacy age for youth, making it 18 years, to call for equal representation of women in electoral lists, and to lower the threshold from 8% to 5%. They also agreed on the need for factions and civil society institutions to agree to the proposed amendments in addition to a genuine and serious political will to work on these amendments.

1.1.5 Awareness Raising on Political Participation

MIFTAH as part of its strategic direction to enhance citizens' and public awareness about principles of democracy and good governance including the concept of civic engagement, active citizenship through participation, the importance of women and youth political participation, continues to mobilize public opinion and awareness. During 2018, MIFTAH successfully conducted 84 outreach town hall meetings with the participation of around 1,800 citizens the majority of which are women, who were exposed to civic engagement and elections related issues based on the informative material that was prepared by MIFTAH. These include the electoral system in Palestine, elections laws and legislations, reform policy recommendations to enhance gender equality in the elections' legal and procedures framework for supporting women and youth participation in elections as voters and candidates through democratic means to achieve social change. In addition, MIFTAH is working on enhancing citizens' awareness about CEDAW with special focus on Articles 1, 2, and 7 with addressing proper smooth linkages to the right to political participation and gender equality in political participation and the public sphere.

1.1.6 Capacity Building for Current Women Members in Local Government Units (LGUs)

MIFTAH was able to support building the leadership skills of 55 women members of LGUs representing different local communities in seven districts in the West Bank including Jerusalem. The women members were targeted through a comprehensive training agenda that includes enhancing communication and networking skills among women council members, team building mechanisms and strategies of activating their roles as team players within the LGUs' different technical committees and decision making processes including addressing their positions in discussion sessions and participating in finding solutions for problems facing their local communities. Furthermore, the training agenda included providing the women council members with proper tools for utilizing media as means of advocacy to shed light on the role of women council members, the setbacks and challenges facing them and as a means of promoting the successful cases of women leadership roles in local government units.

The evaluation of the training showed that 95% of the targeted women council members expressed their eagerness and willingness to activate their role within the LGUs as women leaders building on the knowledge they gained and the self-confidence in their capabilities to play an influential role within their local councils and to become engaged in decision making processes.

1.1.7 Towards a Feminist Vision in the Palestinian Constitution

As part of MIFTAH's efforts in promoting women's political participation and influencing public policies to promote equality and social justice for all, MIFTAH is sponsoring national dialogue on the Palestinian draft constitution with representatives of the women's movement to ensure a clear feminist vision in drafting the constitution's a constitution that guarantees state secularism, democracy, participation and justice, as well as the inclusion of clear texts that emphasize equality, non-discrimination, protection of women and elimination of violence against women. This comes within the context of serving as a first in the efforts to reach a feminist consensus for a Palestinian constitution through a comparative review between the Tunisian and Palestinian contexts, as well as build on MIFTAH's recent efforts in the development of a feminist vision that includes a legal framework for the social and political agenda of Palestinian women.

These efforts build on the outcomes of the study tour that was organized to Tunisia earlier this year. The tour included a delegation of Palestinian women activists, decision and law makers and influencers to get a better understanding of the Tunisian women movement and CSOs influential role in reshaping the Tunisian constitution in adopting women's agenda with clear articles indicated to gender equality, combating violence and discrimination in the Tunisian constitution of 2014. A meeting followed the study tour that brought together the participants to discuss appropriate work mechanisms that are in line with the Palestinian context. The meeting's recommendations were as follows:

- Initiating dialogue with women's groups and parties on including the women's agenda in the constitution and on expanding the scope of networking and building alliances
- Stepping up action in the field with popular bases with the goal of creating social awareness to support the principles of justice, equality and zero discrimination in the Palestinian constitution.
- Preparing an exclusive document for Palestinian women with consensus over mutual issues and on the basis of Palestinian women's rights.
- Implementing a social movement approach, which would require a degree of independence from the factions and a focus on societal action, all while stressing that the cause of women is the cause of the society and is not exclusive to them.
- Supporting GUPW to form a unifying and comprehensive framework that would promote the union's pioneering role and strengths.
- Reestablishing a unifying women's discourse that would reflect the diversity of women's participation in Palestine.
- Promoting the role of the media in being involved in the dialogue about integrating the women's agenda in the Palestinian constitution and in interpreting the Basic Law from the angle of women's rights.

The importance of this study tour lies in being in line with current efforts to harmonize Palestinian legislation and laws with conventions and treaties that the State of Palestine acceded to, as well as the efforts of the Constitution Committee in drafting a constitution as a cornerstone that guarantees fundamental freedoms and social justice for Palestinians.

1.1.8 Capacity Building of Potential Women Candidates in PLC Elections

Within its Elections Support Program, MIFTAH has increased the readiness of 60 female cadres nominated by the Palestinian factions in four clusters (north, middle and south of the West Bank and Gaza Strip) to enable them to participate in the anticipated legislative elections. A series of training sessions focused on skills that will help these women candidates to run and win legislative elections such as; campaign strategy, political communication and social media, campaign organizing, the electoral system in Palestine, the general elections law, and preparation of the electoral program.

1.2 Advocating for the realization of the Palestinian Women Peace and Security (WPS) Agenda at the National and International⁶ Level

1.2.1 CEDAW Recommendations 30, 32, 35 in the Palestinian Context

MIFTAH and the General Union of Palestinian Women (GUPW) held a special session with members of the Women's Civil Coalition for Implementing the CEDAW Agreement in Occupied Palestine, and GUPW members to discuss the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) general recommendations 30, 32, and 35 in relation to the Palestinian situation. The session aimed at producing a paper that would constitute a reference for the Palestinian women's movement in discussions and debates at the local and international levels, particularly in terms of demanding protection for Palestinian women and girls given the circumstances of the Israeli occupation and internal division under which they live in Palestine and the Diaspora. They also discussed the repercussions of these three recommendations on the specificity of Palestinian women under occupation, which would therefore promote discourse on women's issues in matters relevant to engaging the Israeli occupation and other relevant parties in international arenas. The most important recommendations were as follows:

- Regarding Recommendation 35, these included: expanding the concept of protection for women to include economic and financial support; to develop a clear intervention strategy with concrete mechanisms for their protection; and to pressure decision-makers to create a protective legal system.
- In terms of the General Recommendations No. 30 and 32, the session put forth the following: to call on the international community and its various organizations to legally and morally commit to the protection of civilians in the Palestinian territories in general and of women in particular; to pursue and hold Israel accountable for its grave violations of international law; to call on the UN to implement its agreements; and to guarantee women's representation in decision-making positions.

⁶ For more details on International Advocacy efforts, please see section 2.2

1.2.2 An Expanded Dialogue Session on the Files of Reconciliation

Within the context of MIFTAH's efforts to situate the Women, Peace, and Security agenda within the dialogue efforts related to the national reconciliation files, MIFTAH and WIFAQ held an extensive dialogue session on three files of the national reconciliation: freedoms' committee, social reconciliation, and Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) files. During the session, facts were presented reflecting the exclusion of women from the national reconciliation efforts. MIFTAH supported WIFAQ in developing three factsheets that dealt with the files based on data from MIFTAH and human rights organizations' reports that documented human rights violations. The factsheets highlighted the voice of women among the different components of Palestinian society, which were marginalized during the period of division, through in-depth meetings with the local community in the West Bank, including Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip. The session, in which the officials of the three reconciliation files participated, was considered an opportunity to listen and discuss, and serve as a platform for the participation of all relevant parties to reach an agreement on public policies on national reconciliation, the freedoms' committee, social reconciliation, and PLO files.

The main recommendations were as follows:

- The need to take serious collective steps to stand against division and preserve the national project, while stressing the important role of political factions and civil society organizations in addressing gender exclusion, which casts a shadow over Palestinian society and the Palestinian political system.
- The need to agree on a comprehensive national project, review the procedures for imposing sanctions on the Gaza Strip, afford respect for public rights and freedoms in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and give the feminist discourse appropriate means of pressure on both sides of the divide.
- Calling on the PLO to play its role in accountability, activating the role of different factions in this regard, and calling for a unified political review based on genuine political partnership and a national mechanism for action based on dialogue.

1.2.3 Legal and National References of the Palestinian Women's Agenda: Priorities and Interventions

MIFTAH contributed to reaching a Palestinian feminist consensus on the priorities and framework of their political and social agenda, which was presented in a memorandum to the Palestinian National Council. This came as a result of the follow-up session to the regional meeting held in Amman, Jordan, with the participation of women leaders from inside the Green Line, the West Bank (including east Jerusalem), Gaza Strip, the Diaspora; Syria, Lebanon, Egypt and Jordan, where they discussed the outcomes of the meeting, and agreed on a set of priorities and tools. The participants formulated a memorandum that constitutes a reference for women in their demands and visions, in preparation for raising them to the National Council. Participating women leaders and civil society representatives also discussed the status of women in the State of Palestine, unions, laws and legislations related to Palestinian women.

The memorandum includes a number of demands, the most important of which are: the equal representation of women, working on the consolidation of Recommendation No. 9 of the Central Council, which stipulates that women representation in all decision-making positions in public institutions and those of the PLO should not be less than 30% reaching full equality, and to emphasize the political role of women in their places of residence, including refugee women and women within the Green Line.

1.2.4 Review of UNSCR1325 Implementation in Palestine: Fact Sheet on the National Action Plan and Timeline of UNSCR 1325 Implementation

MIFTAH completed a factsheet to monitor the achievements in reference to the National Action Plan for the Implementation of UNSCR 1325 (NAP) in Palestine. The paper also addresses the challenges facing the implementation of the NAP and presented practical recommendations for dealing with and overcoming challenges by the High National Committee for the Implementation of UN Resolution 1325.

Moreover, a comprehensive report on the timeline of implementation of UNSCR 1325 in Palestine is being finalized. The timeline tracks the Palestinian experience in the implementation of UNSCR 1325 since the initial discussions between members of the Palestinian women's movement in 2002 until today. Through this report, MIFTAH aims to highlight the gaps that have characterized the course of work on the implementation of the UN resolution, and the obligations resulting from the implementation of the resolution locally and internationally and the future steps proposed to all parties according to their center of responsibility.

1.3 Enhancing Women Protection from GBV

1.3.1 Policy Meeting Discussing Findings of Paper on Sexual Violence against Women

As part of its Women Protection Program, MIFTAH held a central policy meeting in Ramallah on sexual violence (rape, incest, and harassment in public spaces) at the level of decision-makers in civil society, government institutions and social leaders. This was preceded by a series of sessions held in the northern, central, and southern districts aimed at producing recommendations on topics from working papers that included data and findings on violence. The goal of this policy meeting was to develop a public policy for halting gender-based violence and ensuring a rights-based system that protects male and female citizens in Palestinian society, including health and reproductive rights for Palestinian women.

The session resulted in a number of recommendations including: reconsideration of the law pertaining to how cases of sexual violence are handled in a way that would protect battered women; to overcome the legal problems which still constitute the most significant challenges in rulings on these issues; and the need to enact a special law for dealing with cases of sexual harassment in the public sphere. The recommendations also addressed the mechanisms and measures used in the referral system between the private and public sectors and the problems of referral, which remain an obstacle in protecting battered women and survivors of violence, calling to overcome them.

1.3.2 Preparing “Reproductive Health and Gender-based Violence Guidebook for Imams, Preachers and Community Leaders.”

MIFTAH prepared the first of its kind Arabic guidebook on “Reproductive Health and Gender-based Violence for Imams, Preachers, and Community Leaders.” The guide aims to provide imams, preachers, and community leaders with information and guidance that broaden their knowledge on gender-based violence, to support them while conducting awareness-raising and counseling activities, and to provide them with practical guidance relevant to the national referral system for battered women. MIFTAH also prepared a special report documenting the success stories, conclusions, and lessons learned from targeting imams, preachers, and community leaders to build future MIFTAH interventions.

1.3.3 Mobilize Community and Religious Leaders as Advocates for Enhancing Reproductive Health and Rights, Family Planning, GBV and Youth Health

More than 4,000 citizens in different local communities within the governorates of Nablus, Jenin, Tulkarem, Hebron, Bethlehem and Jericho and the Jordan Valley were offered awareness raising on reproductive health and rights (PHR), family planning, GBV and youth health. This was achieved through MIFTAH's work with 73 community and religious leaders (imams and preachers) to reach out to and conduct 276 awareness sessions in the six governorates across the West Bank.

1.4 Enhancing Fiscal Transparency and Social Justice

1.4.1 MIFTAH publishes the Fair Tax Monitor in Palestine

MIFTAH issued the Fair Tax Monitor in Palestine report, which aims to provide the public and civil society organizations with quantitative and qualitative analysis of all components of the Palestinian tax system and to evaluate the determinants of tax justice. The research was undertaken in accordance with the methodology of the joint research framework, which was developed in cooperation with Oxfam and the African Tax Justice Network. The methodology includes six main categories that provide a comprehensive and multidimensional analysis of the tax system in Palestine: tax structure; tax burden and progressivity; tax leakages; effectiveness of tax administration; government spending; and transparency and accountability.

The “Fair Tax Monitor” research is the first of its kind in Palestine and is a unique advocacy tool that is based on rigorous scientific research, highlighting policies and practices that affect the fairness of the tax system, and providing recommendations related to suggesting policies that contribute to improving the fairness of the tax system and support the principle of progressivity in the setting of tax brackets, as well as developing the administrative efficiency of the tax system. Based on the results of this report, MIFTAH seeks to open dialogue with the relevant official parties, especially the Ministry of Finance and the General Tax Administrations, in partnership with the Civil Society Team on Public Budget Transparency (CSTPBT) to support budget transparency in terms of the adoption of tax policies that contribute to improving the fairness and performance of the Palestinian tax system.

1.4.2 Organizing a Regional Study Tour on Financial and Tax Policies

During 2018, MIFTAH carried out a study visit to Tunisia during which meetings with government and civil society institutions in the capital, Tunis were held. The tour was aimed at exchanging expertise and knowledge between both the Palestinians and Tunisians in adopting the criteria for good governance in financial and tax policies. The visit included several meetings with Tunisian civil society institutions and government ministries which briefed them on their institutionalized work, its contribution in preserving the democratic transition and ensuring the participation of all Tunisians in representing the interests of its sectors and the practical application of the principles of good governance. These are represented in the right to participation, the rule of law, transparency, affectivity, accountability and integrity.

1.4.3 Supporting Line Ministries in the Release of the Citizen Budget

Since the beginning of 2018, MIFTAH has continued to work on the development and release of the 2018 citizen budget with the Ministry of Social Development Ministry of Education and Higher Education and Ministry of Health. This comes within the framework of diligent efforts with partner organizations that culminated in the release of the citizen budget of the Ministry of Education and Higher Education for the second consecutive year and the citizen budget of the Ministry of Social Development for the third consecutive year. Through the release of the citizen budget, MIFTAH seeks to summarize the main policies and approaches of the Ministry for the upcoming year, represented in numbers and figures and in reflection of the public budget. MIFTAH also seeks to familiarize Palestinian citizens with the distribution and types of expenditure, including both operational and developmental budgets, and thus contribute to the adoption of standards of international transparency.

In order to institutionalize the work with the line ministries, MIFTAH developed the "Citizen Budget Preparation Manual in the Ministry of Finance and Planning" and commenced the preparation of the draft Citizen Budget Preparation Manual for the Ministry of Education and Higher Education and Ministry of Health.

1.4.4 Promoting Transparency within Public Spending on the Social Sector

MIFTAH prepared two Facts and Figures Sheets relevant to public spending on the social sector and organized a hearing session with the representatives of the Ministry of Social Development on budgets allocated for the economic empowerment and social protection programs at the ministry. The hearing session pushed for increasing budget allocations for these two programs.

- Facts and figures sheet on "Social Sector Budgets and Expenditure in Palestine for 2016-2018". The paper demonstrates the allocated budgets and compares them to the actual expenditure for the ministries of the social sector in Palestine over a three-year period.
- Facts and figures sheet on "Ministry of Social Development Budget and Poverty Allocations." The paper analyses the budget allocations for the Ministry of Social Development over 2016, 2017 and 2018. The paper also employs a comparative approach to actual expenditure to reflect the priorities of the Ministry in addressing poverty and empowering marginalized groups.

1.5 Contribute to Supporting Women's Economic Participation

In an attempt to empower women in remote and marginalized areas in Jerusalem, MIFTAH is supporting 40 women in leading income-generating projects in eight areas; Isawiya, Beit Diku, Beit Iksa, Ezzariya, Silwan, Kubeiba, Jadira and Anata. The support is manifested in providing small grants along with a comprehensive capacity-building program to empower targeted women to assess, plan and manage their income generating projects, which effectively would enhance their self-reliance and their self-esteem and empower their roles in their local communities. The small income-generating projects varied between drawing and engraving on accessories, oriental and western sweets, pastries and spices, floral arrangements, accessories and embroideries, and sewing and tailoring,

2. To Strengthen National Unity and International Awareness of the Palestinian Narrative

2.1 Enhance internal dialogue to reach consensus on key political positions imperative to the Palestinians

2.1.1 Policy meeting on “Possible repercussions of the collapse of the international order on the Palestinian issue”

As part of MIFTAH’s efforts to promote the dissemination of the Palestinian narrative and bolster solidarity with the Palestinian cause, MIFTAH organized a special policy meeting entitled: “Possible repercussions of the collapse of the international order on the Palestinian issue in the light of the statements made by Mr. Antonio Guterres in the opening of the 73rd session of the UN General Assembly”. Dr. Hanan Ashrawi led the meeting with the participation of a number of representatives of human rights organizations and diplomatic missions working in Palestine.

Discussion revolved around how the possible collapse of a global order impacts the Palestinian cause and their quest for independence and statehood. The discussion particularly revolved around the shrinking space for Palestinians civil society to act in the protection of human and civil rights and the growing Israeli influence on US policies vis-à-vis the Palestinians, and ways of circumventing these obstacles in order to preserve our national goals and ensure sound civil society processes and action in the process. The participants discussed the current global situation in light of the US administration’s adoption of the most extreme and racist policies of the Israeli government. By fully aligning itself with the occupation, this has further enhanced impunity for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his coalition.. As a result, the Palestinians have been excluded from protection, and the peace process is near collapse.

The session concluded by stressing that, in spite of the weakness of the global system and the domination of certain member states, it is crucial to work within this system to realize the aspirations of Palestinians. This can be done through working with parliamentarians and civil society in various countries to push our agenda forward, to push for imposing sanctions on Israel in order to make the occupation costly, and to urge the international community to pool together its own views and just laws.

2.1.2 A Conference to Discuss Implications of Regional and International Developments on the Future of the Palestinian Cause Palestinian Scenarios- Women and Youth Visions

In March 2018, MIFTAH organized its annual conference, during which the implications of regional and international developments on the future of the Palestinian cause were discussed, as well as proposed scenarios and alternatives to the Palestinians from women’s and youth perspectives. In the first session, following the opening session, PLO Executive Committee member Dr. Hanan Ashrawi presented an overview of the nature of regional and international changes and their impact on the Palestinian situation and available options. Furthermore, Dr. Naser Al-Qudweh, Fatah Central Committee member, presented proposed and available political scenarios. This session was followed by two different sessions where the focus of the conference was presented.

The sessions presented women’s and youth visions to address political challenges, the impasse in national reconciliation and ending political division from two angles: The first focused on strengthening the internal front. The attendees noted the absence of broad societal sectors from national reconciliation dialogues, despite the disproportionate impact the political division has on women and youth. This is based on a number of studies and working papers recently completed by MIFTAH, which focused on the absence of a protection and participation system for both groups. Meanwhile, the second angle focused on available scenarios to Palestinians at the international level and the identification of national priorities and alternatives from women’s and youth perspectives. The conference concluded with a number of recommendations:

- Follow-up on attaining full membership in the United Nations and joining international organizations
- Develop a unified national strategy engaging all political and social actors.
- Advance the role of the Palestinian people in protecting national achievements and defending the national strategy.
- Improve the relationship with Palestinian delegations abroad and enhance its role in networking and engaging with their societies.
- Examine available alternatives and scenarios by researchers, research centers and politicians to disengage from treaties signed with Israeli occupation authorities

2.1.3 “Hosted by MIFTAH”

Interviews with prominent individuals and political leaders were conducted, to share current political developments at the national and international levels and their impact on the Palestinian cause and published on MIFTAH’s website under “Hosted by MIFTAH”. The following special interviews were conducted and published:

Dr. Omar Rahhal, Director of the Human Rights And Democracy Media Center ‘Shams’: He discussed civic peace and the rule of law in light of the growing phenomenon of violence and high rates of crime, including murder, and their repercussions on the Palestinian society and social fabric.

Mr. Sami Mshasha, UNRWA Spokesperson, Public Relations and Communications Director, spoke about the financial pressures that are guiding UNRWA’s work after the US decision to halt funding.

Dr. Huneida Ghanem, political and social science expert, researcher and director of Madar Center for Israeli Studies, spoke about the nation-state law and its implications for the national rights of the Palestinian people.

Dr. Sana Soroghli: Professor of constitutional law at An-Najah University. The interview focused on the importance of the Constitutional Court in the process of state-building and separation between the authorities.

Ola Awad: Head of the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics. The interview discussed the results of the latest census, housing and establishments, which are an indicator of the paradigm shift achieved by the Bureau towards e-data and linking this to geographic information systems, in spite of the challenges they faced. Ms. Awad also discussed the census of refugees in Lebanon which will provide a comprehensive and up-to-date database on the demographic, economic, social and living status of Palestinian refugees in Palestinian camps and communities.

Majida Al-Masri: Politburo member of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP). Ms. Al-Masri discussed the political and national factors behind the participation of the DFLP in the 23rd session of the Palestinian National Council, and the importance of supporting the representation of women and youth in the National Council and all decision-making positions.

2.2 Promoting the Palestinian Narrative as a Just and Fair Cause

2.2.1 Young Human Rights Defenders Network Commences in Monitoring and Documenting Violations in Jerusalem, Hebron, and Gaza

The Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy “MIFTAH” concluded the preparation phase of creating, empowering, and enabling the Young Human Rights Defenders Network. This comes in conclusion to a series of collective efforts in mobilizing and building the capacities of Youth Network members, identifying the topics that the interventions will focus on, developing the tools that would enable the youth defenders to monitor and document violations of these rights, and identifying the host organizations as a strategic partner in the proposed interventions to be implemented within the next two years. Within this framework, 37 defenders from Jerusalem, Hebron, and the Gaza Strip were chosen; including both males and female youth who are active in their communities and have a desire and passion to defend human rights in Palestine.

The area of focus in the West Bank will be on the right to education and cultural rights relevant to Palestinian national identity. As such, within the framework of the right to education, focus will be on house arrests, conditions of classrooms, obstacles to accessing schools, school drop-outs and the taught curriculum. In terms of cultural rights connected to Palestinian national identity, focus will be on the curriculum taught in schools, right to worship and access to religious sites, imposition of constraints and harassment of organizations working in the field of culture, in addition to the imposition of restrictions on expanding and renovating shops and structures. Conversely, in Gaza, focus will be on the right to work and right to healthcare. Within the framework of the right to work, focus will be on the targeting of fishermen and farmers and adherence to workers’ rights. Alternatively, within the framework of the right to health, focus will be on the granting of medical treatment permits, obstacles to accessing medical facilities, quality of services and medical negligence, and provision and availability of health services.

The choice to focus on these rights and aspects is based on the mapping research on Palestinian and International Organizations that Monitor and Document the Perpetrated Violations in Jerusalem, Old City of Hebron and the Access Restricted Area of the Gaza Strip. Within this framework, “MIFTAH” determined the rights violated in the specific

areas of intervention, alongside the rights whose violations are being monitored and documented by Palestinian and international organizations. These efforts came with the view of promoting consolidation of efforts among civil society organizations, avoiding duplication of interventions and results, and expanding the number of rights whose violations are being highlighted.

2.2.2 MIFTAH holds a series of meetings within international platforms in Geneva, New York, and Brussels to amplify women's voices and highlight violations against Palestinian women in Area C and Jerusalem

In 2018, MIFTAH held a number of international meetings that included intensive discussions on Palestinian women's issues within the Women's Peace and Security (WPS) agenda and United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325. MIFTAH shared statistics and data that clearly reflect the ongoing violations against Palestinian women in Area C and Jerusalem. This data pointed to the scope of violence exercised against Palestinian women in these areas, with a focus on violence against women as a result of Israeli occupation measures. These include home demolitions, settlement expansion and forced evictions, all of which have a disproportionate impact on Palestinian women due to the lack of sufficient services such as water, electricity, and housing. This is over and above the almost total lack of medical services, weak economic resources and restrictions on freedom of movement.

Furthermore, the issues of Palestinian women in Jerusalem were highlighted with a focus on residency rights. Palestinian women in the city live under constant threat from the Israeli government of being stripped of their rights as permanent residents of Jerusalem, either because they are married to Palestinian citizens from the West Bank or Gaza Strip or because they are West Bank residents and could be expelled from the city at any time. In addition, they must endure the heavy restrictions and financial burdens demanded by the Israeli government in order to prove that Jerusalem is their "center of life". This has threatened the Palestinian family as a fundamental unit in the city, has dispersed its members and allowed for the loss of women's rights as a result of both Israeli civil laws and laws enacted by the PA.

These meetings took place within the framework of the Human Rights Council's 39th session in Geneva, as well as meetings with members of the European Parliament in Brussels, a team from the Belgian Foreign Ministry, a number of international non-governmental organizations, and the Women's Peace and Security Week commemorating the 18th anniversary of UNSCR 1325 at the UN headquarters in New York.

2.2.3 Presentation of Recommendations on the Protection of Palestinian Women under Occupation in the 62nd Session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women

During its participation in the 62nd session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in New York, MIFTAH presented the findings of an in-depth analytical research that highlights the human rights violations that Palestinian women are subjected to under occupation. In partnership with other women and human rights organizations, MIFTAH contributed to the development of the report that seeks to highlight the flagrant violations women are subjected to and showcase them in international human rights arenas and platforms.

MIFTAH contributed to the report by documenting violations against women and girl refugees in Palestine through the filing of 500 questionnaires. The utilized tool was developed based on the relevant international legal frameworks. The report also seeks to press for a lasting and just solution for the Palestinian refugee issue in general and the protection of refugee women in particular, as well as lobby stakeholders to uphold their due responsibilities, conferred by relevant international conventions and resolutions on the protection of refugees.

MIFTAH also presented a brief on the status of rural women in Jerusalem, which reflects the policies and procedures utilized by the government of Israel towards the ethnic cleansing and forced displacement of Palestinians in the West Bank, including east Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip. The brief discussed Israeli policy relevant to closure and imposition of constraints on freedom of movement, settlement expansion, the construction and expansion of the Wall, and house demolitions. These policies and procedures have a disproportionate impact on Palestinian women as a vulnerable social group, which further exacerbates poverty and violence against women, as well as being subjected to violence at the hands of Israeli authorities, military, settlers and intelligence services.

2.2.4 MIFTAH's "Facts and Figures"

MIFTAH believes that presenting accurate information is a key part of its mission. These "Facts and Figures" offer specific information on subjects related to the Palestinian condition, Palestinian-Israeli conflict and final status issues. Most recently, the following fact sheets have been compiled:

- Factsheet on **Israeli Settlement in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.**
- Factsheet on **Palestinian Liberation Organization**
- Factsheet on **United Nations Resolutions**
- Factsheet on **Palestinian Child Prisoners**
- Factsheet on **Violations Against the Palestinian Women and Girls in East Jerusalem by the Israeli Occupation**
- Factsheet on **Violations Against the Palestinian Women and Girls by Israeli occupation in Areas designated as C**

4

Lessons Learned

4. Lessons Learned

The weak social participation related to financial and economic issues, at both national and sub-national levels, is not only due to the unwillingness of national and local formal bodies to cooperate or engage, but mainly because of the lack of flow of fiscal data due to the absence of the Access to Information Law in Palestine, which, resulted in low public interest and motivation and narrowed citizens' space in tackling fiscal issues.. Therefore, raising the awareness of the public and promoting access to information by citizens, along with monitoring and influential mechanisms leads to creating a strong motivation for citizens to participate effectively and hold authorities accountable in addressing their needs and priorities in development plans while reflecting these needs in national and local budgets. Additionally, it contributed to addressing social justice as a key factor in enhancing fiscal policy formulation and influencing government spending towards achieving pro-poor policies, promoting gender equality and combating GBV strategies

The findings of deep analytical research papers should be transformed into national indicators to enhance the role of CSOs as watchdogs to monitor and follow up fiscal policies including government spending, increasing revenues, alleviating tax burden on tax payers (citizens), and recognizing future challenges on the national level.

Diversifying the tools used in capacity-building such as study tours and coaching coupled with specialized informative trainings on international budgetary measures in relation to principles of Good Governance lessens fill the gap between the practical and the theoretical knowledge the participants acquire. Furthermore, the study tours helped the participants to further network with likeminded CSOs, ministries women and youth within the region. Similarly, the coaching that followed the specialized training in creating citizens' budgets advanced the institutionalization of transparency and accountability measures within the fiscal policies at key ministries. (A Success story of change)

MIFTAH's work on women and youth as marginalized groups shows great potential to influence the future of Palestine. If women and youth are empowered they can be catalysts for change. It is essential to activate this unused potential and provide women and youth with the tools to contribute in the state-building process in Palestine. Enabling women and young women potential leaders to participate and exercise leadership at all levels of decision-making can only happen if the political system in Palestine becomes more responsive to women's needs and aspirations and in terms of reforms.

This can be achieved by advancing the WPS agenda at the international level, building on the facts and figures of HR violations against Palestinian women and girls in Seam Zones, Area C, H2 and Jerusalem on international influential platforms including HRC, CSW, and the EU Parliament in terms of promoting solidarity and support to Palestinian women's call for protection and to voice their rights at the international forums, in addition to promoting global dialogue on women and girls' rights under occupation. Meanwhile, advocacy efforts at the national level continued towards enhancing the reform of the legislative and policy framework in accordance to CEDAW and HR conventions to ensure and secure women and girls' rights. Furthermore, MIFTAH continued to provide evidences on HR violations against women in the Gaza Strip due to the internal political division.

5

Challenges and Risk Analysis

5. Challenges and Risk Analysis

MIFTAH is aware of the risks associated with the implementation of the programs' activities, many of which are general and pertain to all development projects in Palestine while others are specific to projects that promote Good Governance and the Palestinian Narrative. The main risks currently pertaining to the work of MIFTAH and means of risk mitigation are summarized below:

1. The ongoing Palestinian political divide between WB and GS and the paralyzes of the Palestinian Legislative Council. Given the complex political context, this risk will need to be accepted. However the outputs of MIFTAH's work result in an informed and organized cadre of mostly women and men who are politically aware and alert.
2. The unstable political Palestinian situation linked to the continued Israeli occupation over Palestinian land and its control over financial and natural resources. The escalating political situation in the occupied Palestinian territory, in addition to the restrictions on movement between districts imposed by Israeli military forces in the West Bank and the closure of Gaza Strip constitute a major challenge against an efficient implementation of the planned activities. The escalating crisis in Gaza constitutes a major challenge alongside the timely accomplishment of the planned group meetings and training workshops.
3. The absence of an Access to Information Law restricts ability to access certain public fiscal data. MIFTAH has access and experience in approaching high positioned political figures and soliciting cooperation with governmental bodies on such issues and or securing information from main source (government) and alternative credible sources.
4. Lack of political will from the PA and the ministerial office (cabinet) to issue laws and legislations in support of women. Additionally, the national committee's lack of commitment to advance WPS agenda and UNSCR 1325 NAP in Palestine. However, MIFTAH, in coordination and collaboration with other human rights and women organizations, continued to push for the adoption of more progressive policies that would support women and youth.
5. Intensive focus on addressing HR and IHL in the oPt among CSOs means there is a chance of overlap with other national programs. MIFTAH conducted assessments including mapping of other programs as well as provided intensive consultations with different stakeholders including CSOs. MIFTAH encourages regular coordination with national coalitions including Human Rights National and International Organizations.
6. Shrinking space of CSOs in Palestine from both the leading authorities and the Israeli NGO monitor. MIFTAH continued to provide credible information, evidence based researches, facts and figures and statements to reflect on the reality within the Palestinian status/ context.
7. Continued Palestinian youth and women's political underrepresentation. MIFTAH adopts policies, strategies, advocacy campaigns and programs to promote the political role of youth including women to transform in the direction of leadership and create a stable ground for lobbying at the policy-making level to enforce formulating responsive and inclusive policies and regulations with a remarkable advocacy youth mobilization to restore their right as youth in leading the General Union Of Palestinian Students (GUPS).

6

**MIFTAH's
Publications
in 2018**

6. MIFTAH's Publications in 2018

Women Peace and Security:

- [Analytical Study: Documenting Violations by the Israeli Occupation against Refugee Women in Palestinian Refugee Camps in the West Bank and Gaza Strip](#)
- [An Analytical Report on Violations Against the Palestinian Women and Girls in Gaza Strip During the National Division](#)
- [TimeLine Report on the implementation of UNSCR 1325 in Palestine](#)
- [Fact Sheet on the Implementation of the National Action Plan for the Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325](#)

Women Political Participation:

- [Women Transformative Leadership in Palestine - Documentation of Shadowing Opportunities for Potential Women Leaders](#)

Fiscal Justice:

- [The Fair Tax Monitor in Palestine](#)
- [Government Spending on the Social Sector from a Social Justice Perspective](#)
- [The Tax Burden from the Perspective of Tax Justice](#)
- [Manual: Citizen Budget Preparation Manual in the Ministry of Finance and Planning](#)
- [Manual: Citizen Budget Preparation Manual in the Ministry of Health](#)
- [Manual: Citizen Budget Preparation Manual in the Ministry of Education and Higher Education](#)
- [Citizen Budget 2018 - Ministry of Education and Higher Education](#)
- [Citizen Budget 2018 - Ministry of Social Development](#)
- [Citizen Budget 2018- Ministry of Health](#)
- [Factsheet: The Budget of the Ministry of Health 2016, 2017 and 2018](#)
- [Facts and figures sheet on "Social Sector Budgets and Actual Expenditure in Palestine for 2016-2018". The paper demonstrates the allocated budgets and compares them to the actual expenditure for the Ministries of the social sector in Palestine over a three year period.](#)
- [Facts and figures sheet on "The Budget of the Ministry of Social Development and Allowances for the Poor". The paper analyses the budget allocations for the Ministry of Social Development over the years 2016, 2017, and 2018. The paper also employs a comparative approach to actual expenditure to reflect the priorities of the Ministry in addressing poverty and empowering marginalized groups.](#)

Protection of Women from GBV:

- [Factsheet on sexual violence against women \(rape, incest, and harassment in public spaces\)](#)
- [Manual: Reproductive Health and Gender-based Violence Guidebook for Imams, Preachers and Community Leaders. Pocket guide for trainers, preachers, imams and leaders.](#)
- [Success stories and lessons learned as part of MIFTAH's experience with imams, preachers and community leaders](#)

Promotion of Human Rights:

- [A Report on the Mapping Research on Palestinian and International Organizations which Monitor and Document the Perpetrated Violations in Jerusalem, Old City of Hebron, and the Access Restricted Area in the Gaza Strip](#)

