

The Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of **Global Dialogue and Democracy** MIFTAH
المبادرة الفلسطينية لتعميق الحوار العالمي والديمقراطية



2024
Annual Report

January – December 2024

Contents

1.	Situation Analysis.....	4
2.	Introduction	5
3.	Results by Objective.....	7
1.1	Result 1: Thematic evidence-based research on laws, regulations and policies	7
1.1.1	Documenting human rights violations against Palestinian women in the region and in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.....	7
1.1.2	Mapping of needs of Palestinian women who fled Gaza and are residing in Gaza:	9
1.1.3	Fiscal Justice: Publishing Citizen Budget 2024 and Comparative Spending Reports 2023-2024	9
1.1.4	Updating the Fair Tax Monitor	9
1.1.5	Preparing research papers on Shrinking Civic Space	10
1.1.6	Mapping the status of Palestinian digital rights for CSOs and consequences of the genocide and Preparing Evidence Based Research on Digital Rights	10
1.1.7	Analyzing the legal consequences of Israeli policies against UNRWA	11
1.1.8	Preparing a reference paper regarding the National Referral System	11
1.2	Result 2: Public debate and joint actions for the enhancement of policies and practices are initiated	11
1.2.1	MIFTAH holds open dialogue entitled 'Challenges facing the Palestinian political system	11
1.2.2	Fostering dialogue with Civil Society Leaders and Representatives on the role of CSOs during the Israeli Genocidal War against the Palestinian people.	12
1.2.3	Opening dialogue on the Shrinking Civic Space.....	12
1.2.4	Opening dialogue with university students across the West Bank.....	13
1.2.5	Organizing dialogue and accountability sessions with the official institution to influence fiscal policies.	13
1.3	Result 3: Relevant stakeholders are equipped to support in the realization of the amended policies and legislations.	14
1.3.1	Preparing three new batches of Narrative Ambassadors.....	14
1.3.2	Capacity building of CSOs to enhance digital rights and advocacy.....	14
1.3.3	Empowering university students on the use of the ADI	14
1.3.4	Raising public awareness in the West Bank.....	15
1.3.5	Psychological support and counseling in the Gaza Strip.....	15
1.3.6	Capacity building of women members in local government units	15

1.3.7	Awareness on the Complaints System for female members of Local Authorities in the West Bank	15
2.1	Result 1: Content of the Palestinian public discourse is formulated and presented continuously	16
2.1.1	MIFTAH uses digital media to promote the Palestinian narrative.	16
2.2	Result 2: Engagement in international advocacy dialogue is facilitated	17
2.2.1	Organizing Political Briefings with Diplomatic Missions:	17
2.2.2	MIFTAH organized several networking and advocacy trips to several European cities:	18
2.2.3	MIFTAH Participates in the 55 th 56 th and 57 th Human Rights Council sessions	19
2.2.4	MIFTAH hosted several delegations, solidarity groups, and students who visited Palestine.	20
2.2.5	Organizing webinars to discuss the situation of Palestinian women during the genocide:	21
4.	Risks and Challenges:	21
5.	PSEA Update:	22

1. Situation Analysis

By the end of 2024, the Israeli Genocidal War in Gaza enters its 15th month, and the International Community is yet to fulfil its legal obligations to stop it. In these 15 months of deliberate and indiscriminate air, land and sea attacks, Israel killed more than 45,000 Palestinians, more than 65% of which are women and children. At least 106,962 Palestinians have been injured by Israeli bombardment including thousands with life-changing injuries such as amputations.¹ The infrastructure in Gaza suffered extensive damage, with Israeli bombardments destroying residential buildings and public infrastructure. The fuel crisis posed a serious threat to the continuation of essential humanitarian operations in the Gaza Strip.² The humanitarian situation was further exacerbated by the blockade, leading to severe shortages of food, medicine, and other essential supplies.

The closures, along with heavy presence of Israeli forces and armed settlers on roads, have resulted in significant movement restrictions for Palestinians, hindering their ability to access markets, workplaces, emergency services, as well as health and educational facilities. Since October 2023, Israeli authorities have imposed additional restrictions on the movement of more than 3.3 million Palestinians across the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, in the form of physical obstacles or restricted access regulations. Settler violence targeting Palestinian infrastructure and civilians surged during this period, contributing to the overall instability. The war has also severely exacerbated multidimensional poverty. The Palestinian Authority's (PA) financing gap is projected to reach US\$1.86 billion in 2024, more than double the gap of 2023, which may pose elevated risks potentially affecting public service delivery³.

Internationally, the conflict drew widespread condemnation and prompted legal actions. The International Court of Justice (ICJ) issued an advisory opinion declaring Israel's occupation of Palestinian territories, including the West Bank, East Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip, to be illegal under international law. The ICJ called for the immediate and total withdrawal of Israeli settlers from these territories.⁴

Additionally, South Africa filed a case against Israel at the ICJ, accusing it of genocidal acts in Gaza, leading the court to confirm the application concerning alleged violations under the Genocide Convention.⁵

¹ [PCBS | Dr. Awad, presents a brief on the status of the Palestinian people at the end of 2024](#)

² [UNRWA Situation Report #155 on the Humanitarian Crisis in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem | UNRWA](#)

³ [Flash Appeal for the Occupied Palestinian Territory 2025 | United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs - Occupied Palestinian Territory](#)

⁴ [ICJ opinion on Israeli occupation is vindication of Palestinians' rights](#)

⁵ [The Court gives its Advisory Opinion and responds to the questions posed by the General Assembly](#)

Despite these developments, the international community struggled to effectively intervene and halt the hostilities. Public mobilization worldwide increased, with mass protests and direct actions such as boycotts of products supporting Israel. Citizens pressured their governments to enforce an immediate and permanent ceasefire, lift the blockade of Gaza, and end the Israeli occupation and apartheid. However, governmental positions, particularly in Western countries, often remained misaligned with the demands of their populations, highlighting a growing divide on the issue of Palestine.

In response to the escalating crisis, organizations like MIFTAH adapted their operations to address the urgent needs of Palestinians. In 2024, MIFTAH focused on fostering dialogue to influence public policies, shedding light on Israeli violations in the West Bank and Gaza Strip as part of our commitment to advance the **Women, Peace and Security Agenda**, and promoting the Palestinian narrative on an international level. These efforts aimed to build consensus on political positions and draw global attention to the humanitarian and legal challenges faced by Palestinians.

2. Introduction

The year 2024 marks the third year in MIFTAH's strategic plan 2022-2026. Within this strategy, MIFTAH worked towards the realizations of three main strategic objectives:

Specific Objective 1: Enhanced policies and practices in line with civil rights and social justice in Palestine

Specific Objective 2: Enhanced promotion of the Palestinian narrative at the international level

Specific Objective 3: Improved effective institutional and human capacity development at MIFTAH

To achieve the above strategic objectives, MIFTAH works through two main programs:

1. **Good Governance and Democracy Program** with the following main interventions:
 - a. Conduct analytical research, financial analysis, reviews and opinion polls of different policies, laws and services.
 - b. Generate needed content and use media to reflect the findings and the data collected.
 - c. Open national dialogue with relevant stakeholders to reach consensus on proposed policies and procedures.
 - d. Provide capacity building opportunities for youth and women (and other relevant stakeholders) to support in the realization of the amended policies and legislations.

2. **Communication and Public Diplomacy Program** with the following main interventions:
- a. Continuously develop and formulate public diplomacy content in addition to the development of oral and written statements and positions.
 - b. Deploy different social media outlets to disseminate the developed content
 - c. Facilitate the dissemination of the narrative through international platforms, exchange visits and camps as well as receiving international delegations
 - d. Conduct policy meetings (briefings) with diplomatic missions and delegates

During 2024, MIFTAH was able to achieve the following results:

3. Results by Objective

Specific Objective 1: Enhanced policies and practices in line with civil rights and social justice in Palestine

1.1 Result 1: Thematic evidence-based research on laws, regulations and policies

1.1.1 Documenting human rights violations against Palestinian women in the region and in the West Bank and Gaza Strip

During 2024, MIFTAH exerted intensive efforts to collect and document data on violations against Palestinian women in the West Bank and Gaza Strip governorates, in addition to neighboring countries of asylum - Lebanon, Egypt and Jordan, with the aim of shedding light on the impact of Israeli crimes on the lives of Palestinian women and strengthening human rights advocacy work.

Women Fleeing the Genocide in Gaza to Egypt:

A total of 60 testimonies were collected from women who had fled from Gaza to Egypt. The testimonies documented a wide range of violations—including reproductive genocide, mass killings and deliberate targeting of civilians—faced by women fleeing the genocide in Gaza.

[Instagram Erasing a Future: The War on Palestinian Mothers](#)

Reproductive Genocide in Gaza:

In response to the ongoing genocide in Gaza and the emergence of new forms of violations against women and girls, MIFTAH documented grave abuses related to women's health and the systemic targeting of their reproductive rights through four field reports, which covered women in the northern, central, and southern governorates of Gaza, were based on approximately 25 sworn and documented testimonies from Palestinian women who faced challenges and violations of their reproductive health rights and access to services for cancer patients. These reports, supplemented by an extensive desk review, were compiled and analyzed in a comprehensive study titled "**Reproductive Genocide**", identifying it as a critical and deliberate component of the broader genocide taking place in Gaza. The study highlights the unprecedented threats Palestinian women have faced—and continue to face—since October 2023, with a focus on violations that endanger their physical and mental health at multiple levels. These include the deliberate killing of women, denial of prenatal and reproductive healthcare, banning of essential medicines and treatments, and the targeted destruction of medical facilities. The study further underscores the devastating impact on women's mental health, compounding their suffering and undermining their resilience amid the crisis. By analyzing these occupation practices, MIFTAH's report concludes that such violations not only amount to crimes against humanity, but also meet the criteria of systematic, ongoing genocide under international law, constituting one of the most egregious forms of gender-based violence in the context of armed conflict.

[Reproductive Genocide](#)

Impact of Loss on Women in the West Bank and Gaza:

A total of 550 instances documenting violations against women in the West Bank by the Israeli occupation have been collected, alongside 45 testimonies from Palestinian women in the Gaza Strip. The documentation focuses on the devastating impact of these violations, including the profound loss resulting from the killing or capture of family members. This data was analyzed and presented in a comprehensive report.

[Impact of loss](#)

Home demolitions and raids:

42 sworn affidavits were collected documenting violations against Palestinian women in the West Bank as a result of Israeli occupation crimes. These included home demolitions, denial of adequate housing, and exposure to abuse and torture during night raids and arrests. The affidavits accentuate the use of collective punishment as a key tool of suppression of resistance, which feeds into Israel's settler colonial policy. [Report](#)

Freed Women from Israeli Captivity:

Fifteen testimonies have been recorded, documenting the violations experienced by released female prisoners from the West Bank and Gaza Strip. These testimonies detail the torture and sexual violence endured during arrest and interrogation, as well as the harsh conditions of detention and methods of intimidation and threats. The collected testimonies are currently being organized into media materials to support international advocacy efforts.

[Factsheet Sexual violence as a weapon of genocide.pdf](#)

https://www.instagram.com/p/C5yQz8ZNC_L/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link

https://www.instagram.com/p/C664HmRNRJn/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==

Documenting violations in Lebanon, Egypt, and Jordan:

Eighty-six testimonies have been collected from Palestinian women in countries of asylum to document the human rights violations faced by Palestinian refugee women. These testimonies focus on violations of economic, social, and cultural rights, including education, health, residency, employment, and domestic violence, in accordance with relevant international agreements.

The collected data and testimonies are analyzed, into detailed reports prepared to present the findings and highlight the real impact of these violations on Palestinian women. Additionally, the

testimonies and documentation are used to create media materials aimed at supporting international advocacy for human rights and justice issues. These efforts are part of a broader initiative to enhance the monitoring and documentation of violations, enabling the international community to take concrete steps to support the rights of Palestinian women and hold the occupation accountable for its crimes against the Palestinian people, with a particular focus on women.

1.1.2 Mapping of needs of Palestinian women who fled Gaza and are residing in Gaza:

In response to the urgent and emerging needs of displaced women and families in Egypt, and following consultations with GUPW, MIFTAH conducted a detailed needs assessment, which was shared with GUPW members and relevant national and international stakeholders. The needs assessment covered many issues including residency rights and hurdles, access to health, access to education, appropriate housing, food security, legal aspects, economic conditions and right to work, psychological burden and peace and security.

A matrix of needs from this assessment will form the basis for further advocacy efforts in 2025.

[Exploratory Study Identifying Needs of Women Displaced from Gaza to Egypt Ar.pdf](#)

1.1.3 Fiscal Justice: Publishing Citizen Budget 2024 and Comparative Spending Reports 2023-2024

MIFTAH for the 10th year in a row continues to provide financial data on government budget allocations. This year MIFTAH supported 22 official institutions including ministries through the issuance of annual comparative spending reports for the years 2023-2024. Additionally, MIFTAH supported budget teams across 22 ministries to develop the CBs for the year 2024. Through ongoing guidance and coaching from MIFTAH, these 22 CBs have been prepared. Each ministry received a customized version, which MIFTAH designed and published on both its e-portal and website.

This published data constitutes a space for carrying out reform interventions and adjustments to financial policies and open dialogue to demand the promotion of social justice in spending allocations. This specialized data can be found on the citizen budget e-portal: [Home | موازنة المواطن \(citizenbudget.ps\)](#).

For a full list of Spending Report, please follow the link: [MIFTAH - Publications](#)

1.1.4 Updating the Fair Tax Monitor

MIFTAH completed updating the Fair Tax Monitor to include financial information related to the tax system for the years 2019-2024. This update takes into account the current political situation and the impact of the occupation on the performance of the Palestinian government, particularly concerning financial obligations, including both revenues and public spending, especially in the aftermath of October 7, 2023.

The update of the FTM aims to support evidence-based advocacy and its importance in shaping fair financial policies while promoting transparency and accountability. The research contributes to the broader goal of strengthening lobbying efforts, civic engagement, and collective action to raise awareness of financial policy rights, with a focus on tax systems and public spending. Furthermore, it seeks to enhance citizen participation in these processes to ensure their needs are met and to reinforce the role of civil society as a watchdog and influential actor in reform efforts and public policy formulation.

1.1.5 Preparing research papers on Shrinking Civic Space

MIFTAH prepared three background research papers, which focus on identifying the challenges facing the civic space of different components of civil society and how these challenges affected their role in the current political situation. The first research focused on the wide activism and outreach of the university's students' councils highlighting on the internal bylaws and the extended military force used by the Israeli occupation against university students' councils' members. The second research focused on the effectiveness of Palestinian trade unions and their role within the current circumstances. Additionally, MIFTAH prepared a third research paper presenting the setbacks and obstacles facing social movements in Palestine.

Click here to read the reports:

[The effectiveness of Palestinian trade unions and their role within the current circumstances Ar.pdf](#)

[Shrinking space of student councils due to the Israeli occupation and the restriction of public freedoms Ar.pdf](#)

1.1.6 Mapping the status of Palestinian digital rights for CSOs and consequences of the genocide and Preparing Evidence Based Research on Digital Rights

As part of its work in the field of public and digital diplomacy to expand global communication outreach in support of the Palestinian cause, MIFTAH conducted an assessment survey on the cognitive capabilities of civil society organizations in the West Bank, including Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip, on digital rights and its implementation.

[MIFTAH - Factsheet on the status of Palestinian digital rights for CSOs and consequences of the genocide](#)

Additionally, MIFTAH prepared evidence-based research on internet access and Palestinian digital rights. The research aims to provide critical insights and data to support civil society organizations advocating for Palestinian digital rights under Israeli occupation. It focuses on data protection, information security, and digital literacy, while addressing necessary reforms in national policies to ensure freedom of expression and access to information.

[Evidence Based Research on Internet Access and Palestinian Digital Rights Ar.pdf](#)

1.1.7 Analyzing the legal consequences of Israeli policies against UNRWA

Following the plans and measures taken by the occupation government against the United Nations Relief and Work Agency for Palestinian Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), which is one of the main United Nations agencies that aim to safeguard the rights of the Palestinians and provide humanitarian aid to the Palestinian refugees in their different locations, MIFTAH carried out a legal study on the dimensions of the war waged by the occupation authorities against UNRWA. The study comes after several resolutions by the Israeli legislative “Knesset” to criminalize UNRWA and describe it as a terrorist organization.

[Targeting the UN](#)

1.1.8 Preparing a reference paper regarding the National Referral System

MIFTAH has prepared a reference paper on the report by the State Audit and Administrative Control Bureau regarding the National Referral System for Battered Women. This paper provides an analytical review of the Bureau's report on the performance of the executive bodies involved in the National Referral System. MIFTAH highlighted the findings of the report and conducted a comparative analysis of the data included in the Bureau's report against the data published by the executive bodies of the National Referral System, specifically the Ministry of Social Development, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Women's Affairs, and the Police Department.

1.2 Result 2: Public debate and joint actions for the enhancement of policies and practices are initiated

1.2.1 MIFTAH holds open dialogue entitled 'Challenges facing the Palestinian political system

In November 2024, MIFTAH held a hybrid-style open dialogue entitled “Challenges facing the Palestinian political system”. The conference shed light on the challenges facing the Palestinian political system and the escalating political and humanitarian situation after the 37th Israeli government under Benjamin Netanyahu took office at the end of 2022.

The conference brought together several experts, scholars, analysts and political and national figures, in addition to official institutions, diplomatic missions, NGOs, INGOs and university students. Its focus was on pressing issues within the Palestinian political system, especially in light of the genocide against the Palestinian people and its subsequent political repercussions.

MIFTAH's objective was to hold a discussion on political courses of action and proposals that could help develop a joint Palestinian vision for confronting challenges to the internal Palestinian relationship between the PLO and PA and relationships with international organizations, including the inflammatory Israeli assault on UNRWA.

The conference's interventions focused on two major points: the first session discussed the institutional relationship between the PA and PLO, while the second session focused on the political system's relationship with international organizations, with UNRWA as a case study.

[Conference outputs and interventions](#)

1.2.2 Fostering dialogue with Civil Society Leaders and Representatives on the role of CSOs during the Israeli Genocidal War against the Palestinian people.

MIFTAH held a series of dialogue sessions with civil society organizations and notable figures to discuss the necessary steps for Palestinian civil society to confront the crimes of the Israeli occupation against the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip, West Bank, and Jerusalem. The participants agreed that the current situation demands a clear vision and an integrated work program from civil society organizations to unify efforts, influence public opinion, and enhance comprehensive Palestinian dialogue. Emphasis was placed on the importance of communicating with international bodies, networks, and institutions to secure full support for the Palestinians and to ensure accountability, preventing impunity for the crimes committed.

During the discussions, the role of civil society organizations in promoting Palestinian dialogue and strengthening the democratic framework for building Palestinian state institutions was highlighted. The need for a unified national vision for Palestinian civil society was emphasized, along with the importance of fostering authentic discourse, supporting citizens' resilience, revitalizing the grassroots base of civil society, and activating national unity in the face of Israel's genocidal war and ethnic cleansing.

The sessions underscored that the current phase may present the most serious challenge for Palestinians since the Nakba in 1948. However, it could also provide an opportunity to unify the Palestinian national ranks and reform the Palestinian political system with a comprehensive vision. Strengthening the oversight role of civil society was deemed crucial, particularly in monitoring government performance and ensuring that decisions, policies, and procedures adhere to the law. It was suggested to form specialized task forces to monitor government performance in key sectors such as the economy, education, health, security, and public freedoms, with the aim of establishing an observatory to consolidate oversight efforts and enhance accountability.

1.2.3 Opening dialogue on the Shrinking Civic Space

MIFTAH organized a series of dialogue sessions with civil society organizations to address the challenges posed by the current unstable situation, with a particular focus on the impact of the war on Gaza and the shrinking civic space for CSOs and human rights defenders. These discussions were based on three background papers prepared by MIFTAH.

One of the key topics explored was the increasing restrictions on Palestinian unions and social movements during the war on Gaza, as well as the growing limitations on university student councils in Palestine. MIFTAH's team presented studies that examined the state of Palestinian civil space and the main obstacles faced by active organizations.

1.2.4 Opening dialogue with university students across the West Bank

MIFTAH expanded its dialogue sessions to include university students across several Palestinian universities, including Bethlehem University, Hebron University, Birzeit University, An-Najah National University, Al-Quds Open University (Tulkarem branch), and the Arab American University in Jenin. Over 21 seminar and discussion sessions were conducted, focusing on critical national issues that MIFTAH regularly engages with through its elite, political, and expert circles.

These sessions involved students from faculties of political science, international relations, media, and law, and addressed topics such as visions for the Palestinian state and current options in light of ongoing political shifts. Discussions also covered the implications of the Israeli decision to ban UNRWA's operations and the institutional relationship between the PLO and the Palestinian Authority.

The sessions witnessed strong student engagement, contributing to increased awareness of urgent national and political issues among the youth.

1.2.5 Organizing dialogue and accountability sessions with the official institution to influence fiscal policies.

During 2024, MIFTAH held a series of special sessions focusing on governance, finance, and social justice.

Special Session with Representatives of Security Agencies

MIFTAH conducted a special session with representatives from various security agencies, including the finance, procurement, gender, and human rights units. The session presented the findings of financial reports and identified gaps from a gender perspective. Practical steps were discussed to address these gaps, with a focus on enhancing women's access to decision-making positions and their influence on executive procedures related to women's and girls' access to protection services. The session concluded with a recommendation to continue work on issuing financial documents and data, and to pursue further consultations with the Ministry of Interior and security agencies to develop policies and procedures that cater to the needs of community groups and bolster women's representation in decision-making roles.

Follow-Up on Budget and Planning Consultations

MIFTAH continued to hold follow-up sessions and consultations with budget and planning teams across various responsibility centers and official bodies, including 22 ministries and responsibility centers such as the Ministry of Finance. These sessions were aimed at enhancing transparency and fairness in budgeting and planning processes, ensuring that the needs of marginalized segments of society are adequately met.

Meetings and Consultations with the Ministry of Finance

MIFTAH also maintained ongoing meetings and consultations with the General Budget Department at the Ministry of Finance and the Tax General Directorate. As part of these consultations, important financial documents are being prepared, including the Citizen's Budget for 2024 and 2025 and the Fair Tax Monitor covering the period from 2019 to 2024. These efforts are geared toward improving transparency and equity in budgeting and financial planning.

These efforts are part of a broader initiative to improve transparency and fairness in financial management, achieve gender equality in decision-making positions, and strengthen international cooperation to support the Palestinian cause and address the needs of Palestinian society.

1.3 Result 3: Relevant stakeholders are equipped to support in the realization of the amended policies and legislations.

1.3.1 Preparing three new batches of Narrative Ambassadors

In 2024, the Narrative Ambassadors Program successfully hosted three rounds of camps in Ramallah, bringing together around 65 students for three days each round. The camps featured a series of sessions that explored the political landscape, human rights issues, and gender-related aspects of the Israeli occupation's crimes. It also highlighted the role of youth in international advocacy, emphasizing the importance of spreading the Palestinian narrative through networking with international solidarity groups and student movements in universities abroad.

1.3.2 Capacity building of CSOs to enhance digital rights and advocacy

During the last quarter of 2024, MIFTAH worked on empowering 26 civil society organizations, including grassroots organizations from seven governorates across the West Bank, on digital rights and digital protection mechanisms—particularly in the context of conducting advocacy campaigns both locally and internationally. The capacity-building efforts also focused on enhancing their ability to craft clear, concise, and data-driven messages, avoiding rhetorical or overly lengthy content. In addition, participants were introduced to digital advocacy strategies aimed at effective communication and influence at both the national and international levels.

1.3.3 Empowering university students on the use of the ADI

In the second half of 2024, MIFTAH empowered 41 students from An-Najah National University in Nablus and Palestine Polytechnic University in Hebron to collect data using MIFTAH's Anti-Discrimination Index (ADI). The index, developed by MIFTAH between 2019 and 2020, is designed to monitor discriminatory practices, procedures, or policies based on gender. The data collection tool was updated to identify gaps in procedures and policies across public life, political participation, and the economic and social spheres within universities. Students were equipped with the appropriate tools and skills to collect data from individuals who had experienced

discrimination at the targeted universities. As a result, 521 forms were collected and uploaded to the ADI platform, where they were analyzed by MIFTAH's research department. Visit the ADI portal: <http://adi.miftah.org/>

1.3.4 Raising public awareness in the West Bank

In 2024, MIFTAH conducted 160 town hall meetings under the title "Guidelines for Emergency Response During Crisis," addressing the urgent needs of women and youth in local communities amid the aggression against Gaza and escalating violence in the West Bank. These sessions, attended by around 4500 participants, focused on emergency response mechanisms, psychological support, and first aid for women and youth. They also included psychological relief activities to help women cope with economic and security crises since October 2023. Women highlighted rising domestic violence, economic hardships, and limited access to employment, particularly for workers unable to reach jobs in the 1948-occupied territories. In late 2024, additional sessions emphasized active citizenship and community participation, highlighting the need to empower women in social and political spheres, raise awareness of their role in decision-making, and implement programs to alleviate their psychological burdens.

1.3.5 Psychological support and counseling in the Gaza Strip

In the Gaza Strip, MIFTAH organized around 50 psychological support and counseling sessions for more than 600 women in the central governorates. These sessions, led by a team of specialized psychologists, offered emotional and psychological support to women affected by the violence and pressures stemming from the war of extermination.

1.3.6 Capacity building of women members in local government units

MIFTAH organized a series of specialized training sessions targeting approximately 132 female members of local councils. The trainings focused on:

1. Empowering women council members to effectively perform their roles within local government bodies in line with the Gender Charter developed by MIFTAH in coordination with the Ministry of Local Government in 2019.
2. Enhancing their capacity to utilize and rely on the complaints system established by MIFTAH in 2023, which provides a safe platform for women to report challenges such as exclusion, marginalization, blackmail, harassment, threats, and suspected corruption within their councils.
3. Enabling both the members and local communities to apply accountability and oversight mechanisms regarding the management of emergency aid by local councils.

1.3.7 Awareness on the Complaints System for female members of Local Authorities in the West Bank

MIFTAH also conducted 21 awareness sessions for female members of local authorities and community activists across 10 governorates in the West Bank, including Hebron, Bethlehem,

Jerusalem, Ramallah and Al-Bireh, Jericho and the Jordan Valley, Tubas, Nablus, Qalqilya, and Jenin. These sessions, which engaged 484 women, introduced the complaints system established by MIFTAH in partnership with Al Najda Association. Participants were guided through the complaints system procedures using a prepared manual. The system is designed to enhance accountability mechanisms, enabling female members to report violations related to local governance and public policies. This initiative aims to improve the transparency and effectiveness of local governance while protecting female members from discrimination and exclusion.

Specific Objective 2: Enhanced promotion of the Palestinian narrative at the international level

2.1 Result 1: Content of the Palestinian public discourse is formulated and presented continuously

2.1.1 MIFTAH uses digital media to promote the Palestinian narrative.

In 2024, MIFTAH focused much of its media production on highlighting the gendered impact of the ongoing genocide in Gaza and the escalation of Israeli military actions against Palestinians in the West Bank, with an emphasis on the active role women are playing during the conflict. Efforts to promote the Palestinian narrative on social media continued, utilizing modern visual materials to keep pace with daily events and reflect key reports and occasions over the past months.

[MIFTAH مفتاح | Facebook](#)

[MIFTAH مفتاح \(@miftahpal\) • Instagram photos and videos](#)

MIFTAH also began producing a series of episodes addressing the situation of women in Gaza amid the occupation's crimes and war of extermination. These episodes will also shed light on the violations faced by women in both the West Bank and Gaza Strip due to ongoing attacks and the continuing conflict.

[Women of Palestine Episode 1: Reflections on a Genocide: MIFTAH's story](#)

[Women of Palestine Episode 2 :Love in the Time of Occupation](#)

[Women of Palestine Episode 3: Status of Female Prisoners After October 7th](#)

[Women of Palestine Episode 4: Nakba turned genocide: 76 years and counting](#)

[Women of Palestine Episode 5: Resilient against erasure: The sumud of Palestinian women](#)

[Women of Palestine Episode 6: Reporting under fire: Palestinian women journalists](#)

[Women of Palestine Episode 7: Tenacity in the Face of Genocide](#)

[Women of Palestine Episode 8: From Gaza to West Bank: Israel's relentless destruction](#)

[Women of Palestine Episode 9: Hope Springs Eternal: Education Despite Scholasticide](#)

[Women of Palestine Episode 10: "Our Destiny is Darkness": Vlog from Gaza](#)

[MIFTAH - Hope Springs Eternal: Education Despite Scholasticide](#)

[Instagram Erasing a Future: The War on Palestinian Mothers](#)

Additionally, MIFTAH developed and published different media productions based on documented cases (sexual violence as a weapon of genocide and reproductive genocide) providing data and messages related to the recent Israel genocidal war on Gaza and the escalation of the Israeli military action in the West Bank.

These materials are used by and shared among different partners and human rights organizations and global networks and journalists, they are presented through social media in infographics and short videos.

Some of the related media materials that were shared on social media platforms.

[Resilience in face of Educide](#)

[Voices from behind bars - YouTube](#)

[MIFTAH - Sexual violence as a weapon of genocide](#)

[Episode One: Fighting Cancer During Genocide](#)

[Episode Two: Hygiene Crisis & Spread of Disease](#)

[Episode Three: A Mother's Loss](#)

[Episode Four: "This is Not Our Life"](#)

Episode five: [Facebook](#)

Episode six: [Facebook](#)

[Erasing a Future: The War on Palestinian Mothers](#)

[The Gendered Impact of Israeli Policies in Hebron](#)

2.2 Result 2: Engagement in international advocacy dialogue is facilitated

2.2.1 Organizing Political Briefings with Diplomatic Missions:

MIFTAH organized a series of political briefing for ambassadors and consuls in Palestine to discuss the latest developments in the escalating situation, focusing on the crimes and genocide being perpetrated in occupied Palestine by the Israeli occupation, and the crucial role the international community must play. The following topics were covered:

- The repercussions of the genocide and occupation crimes from a gender perspective, particularly their impact on famine and food security. This session included participation from other relevant Palestinian institutions.
- The advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice and its implications on the responsibility of the international community.
- The escalation of Israeli occupation crimes amid the ongoing genocide in the Gaza Strip, particularly in its northern areas.
- Recent developments regarding the intensifying situation in the occupied Palestinian territory, including war crimes and acts of genocide by the Israeli occupation, and the urgent role of the international community.
- The repercussions of the genocide and Israeli occupation crimes from a gender perspective, focusing on their impact on famine and food security, in collaboration with other specialized Palestinian organizations.

MIFTAH held an event for diplomatic missions, international organizations, and the media to present findings related to sexual violence against female prisoners and detainees by Israeli soldiers. The event featured speakers from organizations conducting similar documentation efforts, as well as a former female prisoner who shared her personal testimony.

MIFTAH also conducted several bilateral meetings with embassies and diplomatic representation offices in Palestine to highlight the various crimes of the occupation and to advocate for increased international action.

2.2.2 MIFTAH organized several networking and advocacy trips to several European cities:

MIFTAH organized 6 international participations in international platforms; four of them advocacy trips to European capitals: the Baltics (Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania) and Poland, Brussels, Copenhagen and Oslo, another participation in the CSW 68th session in New York and a virtual participation in the HRC sessions in Geneva.

During February, MIFTAH organized an advocacy trip to Brussels, this was followed by another trip to the Baltics, Finland and Poland and Brussels in May and a third trip in October to Brussels and a fourth trip to Oslo and Copenhagen during November 2024. MIFTAH delegation, during these trips, conducted different meetings with EU parliamentarians, networks, officials from MoFA, diplomatic missions, political parties, representatives from INGOs and participated in an international conference on digital rights. The delegation also organized public events in some of these capitals targeting youth and university students to talk about the situation in Palestine and the conditions of female prisoners.

More specifically, **Brussels, Copenhagen, and Oslo**: Meetings were held with both **official entities**, including **ministries of foreign affairs and parliamentary representatives**, as well as with **non-governmental actors** through **public events and university forums**. These engagements focused on key issues such as the **urgent need to end the genocidal war**, the **importance of upholding international law and human rights**, and the **responsibility of civil**

society in advocating for justice. Several **realistic and actionable recommendations** were presented under the overarching theme of **international accountability**, emphasizing concrete steps that the international community can take to address ongoing violations in Palestine.

The trip to **Finland, the Baltic States, and Poland**: MIFTAH conducted a field advocacy mission to these countries, where meetings were held with official government entities, including **ministries of foreign affairs and parliamentary bodies**. The mission aimed to highlight the **double standards in European approaches** to Palestinian human rights and to emphasize the importance of upholding **international law**. The trip also included **public outreach activities** in universities and public spaces to raise awareness on human rights violations in Palestine, especially in countries with **limited Palestinian diaspora presence**. Notably, these public engagements proved to be **more impactful and far-reaching** than bilateral meetings with official representatives, whose positions often reflect their party affiliations.

Participation in the Brussels Conference: MIFTAH took part in a conference organized by the **Palestine Committee in the European Parliament**, alongside other Palestinian civil society representatives. The objective was to address the **genocidal war on Gaza** and deliver **key messages and policy recommendations** to the **European Union**. MIFTAH also held **meetings with representatives from EU member states** to discuss the situation in Palestine and the need for international accountability.

Participation in a Workshop and Conference in Brussels: MIFTAH participated in a workshop and conference organized by the European Institute of Peace, which explored the current and future role of the European Union in relation to Palestine. The event included collaborative sessions to develop policy recommendations, which were later shared with EU representatives in dedicated meetings.

Participation in the 68th Commission on the Status of Women (CSW68): MIFTAH took part in the **68th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women** held in **New York**, where it highlighted the situation of **Palestinian women under occupation** and the **compounded violations** they face amid ongoing conflict. The delegation participated in high-level discussions and **bilateral meetings with representatives of UN member states**, focusing on the **genocide in Gaza** and advocating for **accountability measures against Israel for its crimes**.

2.2.3 MIFTAH Participates in the 55th 56th and 57th Human Rights Council sessions

In 2024, MIFTAH delivered recorded oral interventions to the Human Rights Council during its 55th 56th and 57th sessions, held in March, June and September, respectively. These interventions focused on violations against Palestinians in the occupied territories, drawing on reports from the Special Rapporteurs on human rights. MIFTAH aimed to raise international awareness of the human rights situation in Palestine and urged the Human Rights Council and

other international bodies to take concrete steps to hold those responsible for these violations accountable and to ensure the protection of Palestinian rights.

The interventions covered the following key issues:

- **Ethnic Cleansing and Genocide:** The interventions primarily addressed the severe violations faced by Palestinians, particularly the policies of ethnic cleansing and genocide carried out by Israeli occupation forces in the occupied Palestinian territories. The disastrous effects of these policies on Palestinian communities, especially in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including Jerusalem, were emphasized.
- **Humanitarian Violations:** The humanitarian impact of these violations was also highlighted, including their effects on fundamental rights such as the right to life, health, and education, as well as their broader impact on the social and economic fabric of the occupied territories.

In the interactive dialogue with the UN Special Rapporteur on housing as part of [#HRC55](#), MIFTAH highlighted the mass forced displacement of Palestinians during the Israeli genocide in Gaza and its disproportionate impact on women. [#ceasefireNOW](#)

https://www.instagram.com/reel/C4LQX3-vz8V/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==

During the [#Item7](#) general debate as part of [#HRC55](#), MIFTAH stressed that silence and inaction amount to complicity in the [#GazaGenocide](#), highlighting that Palestinian women are being killed, displaced, tortured, raped as the world sits by idly.

https://www.instagram.com/reel/C5AwzVHpgH/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==

As part of MIFTAH's participation at UN [#HRC56](#), we highlighted to the UN Special Rapporteur Freedom of Opinion & Expression Irene Khan under Item 3 the censorship of Palestinian and allied voices and activism both online and offline amid the ongoing [#GazaGenocide](#), amounting to complicity by governments and companies.

https://www.instagram.com/reel/C8wEUn1OloF/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==

2.2.4 MIFTAH hosted several delegations, solidarity groups, and students who visited Palestine.

During these meetings, the crimes committed by the Israeli occupation and current political developments were discussed. These exchanges provided a realistic picture of the situation in Palestine, contributing to stronger international solidarity and a deeper understanding of the Palestinian cause.

2.2.5 Organizing webinars to discuss the situation of Palestinian women during the genocide:

MIFTAH organized a webinar to discuss the situation of **Palestinian female prisoners** during the war of extermination. The session featured a freed female prisoner who shared her personal experience, offering participants insight into the profound impact of torture and other violations endured by female prisoners in Israeli prisons.

Another webinar was held to **critique Western feminism**, particularly its shortcomings in addressing the situation in Gaza over the past months. The session featured feminist academics who discussed how to support Palestinian women's rights more effectively from a Palestinian liberation perspective. Topics included liberation, advocacy, and alternative approaches to more effective solidarity with the Palestinian struggle.

[Webinar Recording: "Silence of Western Feminists Amid a Genocide" \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

Specific Objective 3: Improved effective institutional and human capacity development at MIFTAH

MIFTAH during 2024, continued to work on developing its internal capacity and enhancing the principles of good governance and accountability within its work. MIFTAH depended on its internal capacities where possible but also relied on external expertise. To that end, MIFTAH has worked on the following issues:

- Ongoing capacity building activities for staff on administrative and financial procedures in addition to programmatic and technical capacities.
- Participation of MEAL and financial team in an inception workshop in Nairobi, Kenya on EU regulations and guidelines.
- Recruitment of new staff members (research officer, social media officer) according to the recruitment plan and annual budget 2024.
- Hosting interns within the financial department and the public discourse program.

4. **Risks and Challenges:**

- The Israeli Genocide in Gaza, coupled with escalating violence in main cities and refugee camps, alongside terrorist attacks by settlers on Palestinian villages in the West Bank, have affected project implementation during 2024 tremendously. MIFTAH was forced to cancel main activities in Gaza and the West Bank, downscale some activities and introduce new activities to respond to the changing situation on the ground. However, despite these challenges, MIFTAH managed to complete project implementation in close communication with donors.

- Continued inactivity of the PLC negatively influences any advancement in the democratic process and policy formulation. This inactivity causes delays in amending laws and implementing revised administrative structures which remains one of the many challenges facing civil society organizations working in promoting democracy and good governance.
- Conservative social norms and exclusion of young people. Men's reluctance to involve women in certain project interventions persists due to entrenched stereotypes and societal norms. This gender bias inhibits the full participation of women and undermines their potential contributions. Moreover, a culture of monopolism and ageism perpetuates the exclusion of young people from full participation in various endeavors. This systemic barrier deprives youth of opportunities to engage meaningfully and contribute their perspectives and talents.

5. PSEA Update:

Over the last couple of years MIFTAH has made significant progress in several key areas related to PSEA. Firstly, our policy document on PSEA includes a written undertaking wherein our partners affirm their acceptance of the standards of conduct. Additionally, our contracts and partnership agreements incorporate standard clauses mandating sub-contractors to adopt policies prohibiting SEA and to implement measures for prevention and response. Furthermore, we have established mechanisms and procedures for reporting SEA allegations that comply with core standards for safety, confidentiality, transparency, and accessibility. In the event of allegations, our organization has a process in place for investigation and is committed to taking appropriate corrective action as needed. We are proud to report that we have not received any past allegations of SEA, but remain vigilant in our efforts to prevent and address such incidents should they arise.

However, we recognize that there are areas for improvement. While we have mechanisms for reporting SEA allegations, we currently lack mandatory trainings for staff on PSEA and relevant procedures. Implementing such trainings would enhance awareness and understanding of PSEA principles among our staff.

It is worth noting that during 2024, no cases on SEA allegations were made or reported.

