Promoting the participation of women and youth at decision making levels within the Palestinian political system especially within the PLO.

Introduction:

MIFTAH seeks to advocate on enhancing policy formulation for ensuring higher representation of women and youth at various levels of decision making positions, within the Palestinian political system, especially the PLO. Based on the results of a study that MIFTAH has conducted during the pilot phase “the Hindrances to Youth & Women’s Advancement to Decision Making Positions within the PLO” on a number of PLO laws, regulations, legislations and policies, which showed that the reasons behind the low representation and weak participation of women inside the PLO structures and components is not attributed to any discrimination in the laws but can rather be linked to the practices and applications on the ground and the lack of positive discrimination in favor of women and youth.

There are gaps in the current political order which resulted in the absence of women and youth from leadership and decision making positions within the PLO structure and within all its sub-entities, such as; political factions, popular unions and the Palestinian National Council (PNC).

In order to deal with this challenge (youth and women underrepresentation in leadership positions) MIFTAH’s strategy seeks to support women and youth to advocate on enhancing policy formulation which guarantees higher representation of women and youth at different decision making levels within the Palestinian political system.
**Overall Goal:**

To formulate the public policies to ensure that women and youth leaders are represented at various decision making levels within the Palestinian political order, specifically PLO.

**The Specific Objective:**

Increase women and youth representation in the various sub-entities of the PLO such as: political factions, popular unions and the Palestinian National Council (PNC).