



The Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy –MIFTAH

Conflict and Fragility

Project Brief

2019-2020

In line with the strategic objective of the Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy- MIFTAH, which seeks to strengthen national unity and international awareness of the Palestinian narrative, “MIFTAH” continues working on the realizations of Women Peace and Security Agenda, in line with UNSCR 1325 and the general comments 30, 32 and 35 of CEDAW and other relevant UN resolutions and human rights conventions with special focus on protection, participation and accountability. This is done through enhancing the internal dialogue and promoting the Palestinian narrative as a just and fair cause.

Project Objectives:

In cooperation with OXFAM through its Regional Program “Conflict and Fragility”, MIFTAH aims to strengthen the role of civic society organizations in advancing the Palestinian Women Peace and Security Agenda, building local, regional and international alliances to present women demands for protection at the international level, and activating the international mechanisms towards holding the Israeli occupation accountable for its violations of Palestinian women and girls rights.

Project Activities:

MIFTAH is working in three main areas as follows:

I. The Palestinian Authority collaborates with CSOs to develop effective policies and mechanisms for the inclusion and protection of women.

- ✚ Reviewing the Personal Status Law; policies and procedures in relevance to CEDAW article 16 and lead national dialogue on the draft law prepared by civil society organizations in 1998 to reach consensus on women demands (based on the priorities within the Women Agenda) in terms of proposing policies and procedures that ensure full equality for women.
- ✚ Supporting the Women Coalition for the Implementation of UNSCR 1325 in Palestine to draft an Advocacy Strategic Plan (2020-2023).
- ✚ Organizing an Awareness/ Advocacy campaign using media on the importance of passing of the Family Protection Bill in coordination with the NGO Coalition for Combating Violence against Women (Al Muntada).

II. Civil Society organizations in Gaza and the West Bank increasingly advocate for and support the active participation and role of Palestinian women in decision making at all levels of society, especially in advancing a gender sensitive peace and security agenda.

- ✚ Supporting the non-Governmental Women Coalition for the Implementation of CEDAW in preparing the Shadow Report in 2020 (two years following the 70th session review), with special focus on articles 7 and 8 of the convention.
- ✚ Supporting women and human rights CSOs in the West Bank and Gaza using MIFTAH's updated training manual on the utilization of the UNSCR 1325 and relevant human rights conventions including CEDAW general comments.

III. **Increased political will to monitor the PA and Israeli violations to women and human rights and advocates for meaningful inclusion, accountability and protection, of women in gender sensitive peace and security processes**

- Empowering the role of women CSOs and WIFAQ committee in WBGS to enhance widening the women CSOs space in lobbying and advocacy.
- Expanding the Women Shadow Committee (WIFAQ)'s scope of work based on the information they have on the reconciliation files to include more public involvement; social reconciliation, PLO and social freedoms
- Supporting women CSOs in Gaza to develop a women perception on the reconciliation- reconstruction file

IV. **Palestinian Civil Society organizations have increased their influence on national and international decision makers by linking and building local, regional, and international alliances for gender sensitive peace and security.**

- Carrying out international advocacy through addressing women peace and security agenda relevant to UNSCR 1325 and CEDAW forums
- Prepare a documentation report on the situation of Palestinian women in light of the COVID-19 outbreak and the Israeli violations that took place against these women during the emergency situation covering Hebron, Jerusalem and Jordan Valley to be presented in a round table discussion with representatives of EU countries and diplomatic missions.