PASSIA’s Research Studies Program, implemented since its foundation in 1987, has to date resulted in over 160 publications, researched and written by specifically contracted researchers, who over the years have been as diverse as the subjects covered. Authors of PASSIA publications have included Palestinian, Arab, Israeli and international academics, scholars and experts.

Under the auspices of this program and in its efforts to provide background information, in-depth studies and documentation on issues of concern as well as to promote a better understanding of the Palestinian cause, PASSIA maintains that all research and publishing is done within the context of academic freedom.

PASSIA publications aim to be specialized, scientific and objective, yet they often address controversial or neglected issues and allow the expression of a wide range of perspectives.

PASSIA is proud that its publications have become a valuable reference source for academics, diplomats, professionals, libraries and anyone with an interest in Palestinian issues and their relations to regional and international affairs.

As part of the 2004 Research Program, PASSIA published a reference guide to the historical and contemporary key terms of the Palestine Question, as well as three studies (on the Geneva Accord, on Palestinian Development and on Security Sector Reform), and three bulletins (one each on Palestinian refugees, on Israeli settlements and the Wall, and on the history and political geography of Jerusalem). In addition, PASSIA has commenced work on a book that formed part of a larger research project on Palestinian Personalities – A Biographic Dictionary. More information on these publications is provided below. (Information on publications printed under PASSIA projects other than the Research Program are listed in the respective chapters, see, for example, Jerusalem, Civil Society, and Religious Studies Unit).

### Research Studies

- **Dictionary of Palestinian Political Terms**
  
  Compiled by Deniz Altayli
  
  April 2004 - (English, 146 pages)
  
Dictionary of Palestinian Political Terms provides the reader in a simple yet comprehensive fashion with the terminology used by policy-makers, journalists, academics, commentators, and analysts, in discussing the unfolding events as well as the complexities and nuances of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. To serve this task, this volume contains over 500 brief, to the point entries, which provide - arranged in alphabetical order - definitions and explanations of key terms on all aspects of Palestinian politics, from political factions, movements and institutions to issues related to the Middle East peace process to key concepts, terms and documents that define Palestinian political life, events, and international relations.

The Myth of Palestinian Development
April 2004 (English, 223 pages)
ISBN: 9950-305-07-1

by Khalil Nakhleh

The Myth of Palestinian Development - Political Aid and Sustainable Deceit is an experiential analysis about the development of Palestine. It analyses the concepts of ‘development,’ ‘economic aid,’ ‘political aid,’ and ‘empowerment,’ as they pertain to the Palestinian situation for the last 17 years and examines - based on the personal experience of the author (at the Welfare Association and the European Commission) developmental interventions during the pre- and post-Oslo Accords eras, tackling issues such as the ambiguity of decisions and rationales for specific interventions, the contradiction between declared objectives and actual results, the poor streamlining in decision-making, the illogical and wasteful allocations of funds, the questionable capacity of potential partners to implement projects, the shallow and sloppy shorthand analysis of the situation on the ground, the frequent utilization of subjective criteria and personal preferences in determining the eligibility of an idea or a partner for potential funding, and, on the whole, the questionable technical capacity of ‘aid-technocrats.’ The study concludes with specific policy implications for Palestinian decision-makers, institutions and ordinary people, based on a reflection of what happened, or did not happen, and how to break the cycle of un-development and move forward.
**The Geneva Accord: Plan or Pretense?**  
*May 2004 (English, 148 pages)*  
ISBN: 9950-305-08-X  

by **Nick Kardahji**

An in depth study of the “ unofficial” Geneva Accord, launched by Palestinian and Israeli figures in Geneva in December 2003. The book analyses the Accord’s stipulations, context and implications, assessing its impact as well as prospects for implementation. The first two chapters describe the background to the plan, reasons why the relevant players became involved, and rival initiatives such as the “People’s Voice”. The third and fourth chapters analyze the Accord itself and compare it with the Oslo Agreements. Finally, chapters five and six discuss the implications of the Accord for the Israeli Left and for the Palestinians. The appendices include a summary of the Accord, interviews with key figures and a list of source material.

**Security Sector Reform in the Occupied Palestinian Territories**  
*November 2004 (English, 85 pages)*  
ISBN: 9950-305-10-1  

by **Roland Friedrich**

This study was written against the backdrop that since the outbreak of the second Intifada in 2000, numerous calls for a comprehensive reform of Palestinian institutions have been made from both inside and outside the Occupied Territories. A key factor is thereby the reform of the Palestinian security sector, in particular its police forces and intelligence services and their political oversight and control mechanisms, the performance of which has been widely criticized due to their inability to guarantee law and order.

The paper examines Palestinian security sector reform in the period from September 2000 until October 2004, marked by renewed Israeli occupation of the
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West Bank, the virtual devastation of the PA, and external pressure to overhaul the remaining Palestinian governing institutions. The paper looks at and analyses the actual contents and objectives of security sector reform in the Palestinian context, the political actors engaged in the reform debate and process, and their motivations, as well as the political and operational problems associated with the efforts to reshape the Palestinian security institutions. By undertaking such an inquiry, this paper also sheds some light on the more general obstacles that security sector reform faces in the context of state formation.

Special Bulletins

**Palestinian Refugees**

by PASSIA Team

May 2004 - (English, 16 pages)

This Special Bulletin presents the basic facts and figures relating to the Palestinian refugee question. It examines the historical origin of the refugee problem and the refugees’ status in international law. The situation of the refugees today, including their numbers, their distribution worldwide, and their living conditions in the different Arab host countries and elsewhere is outlined. Further described is the role of the refugee question in the peace process and the final status negotiations, as well as the positions of the parties involved. The final part looks at recent studies that argue for the feasibility of return.

The text is illustrated with photographs, maps, graphs and tables, and also includes a list of further research sources.
Settlements and the Wall – Preempting the Two-State Solution

by PASSIA Team
December 2004 (English, 16 pages)

This Special Bulletin presents the basic facts and figures relating to the issue of settlements – their number, their distribution, their population and their growth rates – as well as the Wall Israel is currently building in the West Bank. It looks at the historical background of settlements, their status in international law and UN resolutions, and their role in the peace process. Israeli options for a final status agreement as well as the Palestinian position are explored. Furthermore examined are the background, legal aspects, and implications of Israel’s Wall, its proposed unilater al disengagement and alternative road plan, as well as their impact on Palestinian lives. Eventually, the bulletin explores the various Israeli options for a Palestinian state.

The text is illustrated with eight maps and several graphs and tables, and also includes a list of further research sources on the topic.

The Jerusalem Question – History and Political Geography

See chapter on Jerusalem.
Special Research Project

Palestinian Personalities – A Biographic Dictionary
by PASSIA Team
(Publication forthcoming in 2005)

This project is to research and record and eventually publish an illustrated profile of personalities, both historical and contemporary, who have inspired and enriched the Palestinian nation, who have shaped Palestinian history and who have lived at the center of its unfolding events.

The book will include short biographies of some 800 individuals of all social strata and occupational groups – political elites, freedom fighters, thinkers, writers, educators, civil rights activists, and others – listed in alphabetical order. Each entry contains biographical information on a historical/contemporary Palestinian figure accompanied, where available, by a photograph. The text entries detail the lives and activities of persons and include the basic facts, such as birth and death dates and places, as well as information on education, employment history, positions held, achievements made, works published, etc.

Some of those listed maybe generally well known while others are less or not, but all have – from a Palestinian point of view - played a significant role during their particular time in influencing politics, the economy, religion, and culture, or are still involved in making Palestine what it is today. The biographies will, of necessity, vary in length and detail depending on available resources. The book will also have a name index to facilitate the search for specific persons. Also included will be a glossary of political terms and a list of abbreviations.

It is believed that this volume will contain a larger and more comprehensive compilation of life sketches of Palestinians than any previous publication.