

RESEARCH STUDIES PROGRAM

PASSIA has undertaken its Research Studies Program ever since its foundation in 1987. To date, over 200 publications have been published under the auspices of this program, researched and written by PASSIA team members or 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.

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 are 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 2017 Research Program, PASSIA published four educational bulletins and updated the factsheet section of its website.

Palestinian Youth – with a Special Focus on Jerusalem

PASSIA Publication, English and Arabic, 12 pages each, April 2017



INTRODUCTION April 2017

Approximately 30% of Palestinians in the occupied Palestinian territories (oPt) are "youth", i.e., between the ages of 15 and 29. Their reality today is significantly different than for the generations before them. Firstly, they were born or grew up in the post-Oslo Accords era and are thus not fighting for Palestinian self-rule per se. Secondly, they have been socialized not only under the all-dominant Israeli occupation but also in an environment of separation and division between the West Bank and Gaza, and of a rivalry between the two main political actors, Fatah and Hamas. Thirdly, as societies worldwide are grappling with technological, economic, and cultural transformations, Palestinian youth are also affected by the impacts of globalization and the use of the internet.

While today's youth is better educated than any generation before it, the transition to the labor market is difficult, resulting in high unemployment rates. Youth are at the forefront of the struggle against occupation when it comes to death and injury, arrests and detentions, and face - as Palestinians at large - discrimination in almost every aspect of daily life from denial of basic human rights to attempts at eliminating their national identity. However, disillusioned by the decades of uprisings and negotiations that have, in their eyes at least, not produced anything but cynicism and a worsened situation on the ground, they rather stay away from traditional political participation, which keeps their representation and role in decision-making very low.

While the above is true for Palestine's youth at large, those living in occupied East Jerusalem face particular difficulties. Being considered residents but not citizens of the state of Israel they live with a persistent threat.

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This bulletin aims at providing a thorough overview over the status, statistics and living conditions of youth in contemporary Palestine. Owing to their special situation, a focus is thereby put on Palestinian youth in Jerusalem, which is geographically isolated from the rest of the West Bank and inextricably linked to the Israeli economy and polity, creating special conditions and challenges.



مقدمة

تتطلب ظروف الاحتلال الفلسطيني حوالي (30%) من السكان الفلسطينيين وبنسبة أعلى من بين النصف والذين هم من العمر ما بين الخامسة عشرة والسابعة والعشرين من العمر الفلسطينيين. وبينهم ما يقارب ثلثهم من سكان القدس. واقعهم اليوم يختلف بشكل كبير عن واقع الأجيال السابقة. فمن ناحية، ولدوا وتربوا في حقبة ما بعد اتفاق أوسلو، وبالتالي لم يقاتلوا من أجل الحكم الذاتي الفلسطيني. ثانياً، نشأوا في بيئة من الفصل والتميز بين الضفة الغربية وقطاع غزة، وبوجود منافسة بين القوى السياسية الرئيسية، فتح وحماس. ثالثاً، كالمجتمعات العالمية، يواجه الفلسطينيون تحولات اقتصادية، اقتصادية، وتكنولوجية، مما يؤثر على واقعهم اليومي. بالإضافة إلى ذلك، فإنهم يتأثرون بتأثيرات العولمة واستخدام الإنترنت.

على الرغم من أن الشباب الفلسطيني اليوم أكثر تعليماً من أي جيل سابق، فإن الانتقال إلى سوق العمل صعب، مما يؤدي إلى معدلات بطالة عالية. الشباب هم في طليعة النضال ضد الاحتلال عندما يتعلق الأمر بالوفاة والإصابة، ويواجهون التمييز في جميع جوانب الحياة اليومية. ومع ذلك، فإنهم يشعرون باليأس والخيبة من عقود من المظاهرات والمفاوضات التي لم تنتج سوى المزيد من القمع والتمييز. نتيجة لذلك، فإن المشاركة السياسية التقليدية أصبحت منخفضة، ويبتعد الشباب عن المشاركة السياسية التقليدية. بدلاً من ذلك، فإنهم يبتعدون عن المشاركة السياسية التقليدية، ويبتعدون عن المشاركة السياسية التقليدية، ويبتعدون عن المشاركة السياسية التقليدية.

بينما هذا صحيح للشباب الفلسطيني ككل، فإن أولئك الذين يعيشون في القدس الشرقية يواجهون صعوبات إضافية. باعتبارهم سكاناً وليس مواطنين في دولة إسرائيل، فإنهم يعيشون في حالة من التهديد المستمر.

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In particular, the bulletin presents and illustrates (with graphs, photos and tables) facts & figures pertaining to Palestinian youth and their status in society, their issues of identity, their education and employment situation, as well as forms of their political participation and activism and how these have changed over time. Also included is a selected bibliography of recent studies and papers dealing with Palestinian youth.

50 Years of Palestinian Political History 1967-2017

PASSIA Publication, English, 24 pages, May 2017

On the occasion of 50 years of Israeli occupation, this bulletin aimed at providing a brief but comprehensive overview of 50 years of Palestinian political history – from 1967 to 2017 - as seen from a Palestinian perspective.

In trying to provide an understanding of the Palestinian narrative, the bulletin delves into at the following political-historical periods: The Shock of Defeat (1967-1970); ‘Sumud’ - Steadfastness (1970-1982); From Military Confrontation to Political Dialogue (1982-1987); The First Intifada (1987-1990); Negotiations (Madrid, Washington & Moscow) (1991-1993); The Oslo Channel (1993); Interim Agreements (1994-1999); Camp David II & the Second Intifada (2000-2004); From Disengagement to Resumption of Direct Negotiations (2005-2010); The UN Bid & Other Tracks (2011-2017).



International Law - Israeli Violations and Third Party Responsibility

PASSIA Publication, English, 24 pages, July 2017



Violations of international law and the commission of war crimes by the state of Israel are frequently mentioned in the context of the ongoing occupation, currently in its 50th year, but often people are not fully aware of what this “international law” actually refers to or where and why it is being “violated”. This bulletin intends to shed some light on these questions by surveying the international law regulations currently violated by Israel, which include UN resolutions and articles from treaties and declarations. It introduces the different sources of international law and explains third states’ responsibility to enforce them. It further elaborates on the authority and legal power of different sources of international law and gives an overview of Israel’s duties following from it, be it as a state party to treaties, as a subject of UN resolutions, or otherwise.

The bulletin includes a comprehensive appendix listing the main Israeli violations of the different sources of international law and what obligations follow from that for Israel

as well as the international community.

