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to the Palestinian Authority



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2022 OPEN DAY ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY

What Palestinian Women Want: A Women-Centred Vision for a Viable Independent State



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This report is published in loving memory of Muntaha Aqel, Senior Adviser at the Representative Office of Norway to Palestine, who will be forever remembered as an unyielding advocate for Palestinian women’s rights.

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:



On 17 and 18 November 2022, UN Women and the General Union of Palestinian Women (GUPW) organized the Open Day Dialogue in commemoration of the 22nd anniversary of UN Security Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (WPS). The Open Day Dialogue is an annual flagship event promoted by UN Women Palestine that welcomes national stakeholders, civil society organizations and coalitions, academics, independent researchers and international actors. National and international experts with decision-makers came together, with the objective of reflecting and deliberating on the implementation of the WPS agenda in Palestine and its connection with the Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) Agenda and the Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDP) nexus. The event was made possible through generous funding of the government of Norway.

The 2022 edition of the Open Day Dialogue provided a safe and participatory platform for wide sectors of Palestinian women, civil society

leaders, senior government members, UN officials, gender equality advocates and international community representatives as a whole to reflect on the implementation of UNSCR 1325 in Palestine. Participants had an opportunity to reflect upon and think creatively about different avenues to promote a women and youth-led vision to state building, peace and security as a whole.

Over 200 participants discussed the multidimensional aspects of and developments within the fight for women's protection, equality and participation, and worked to identify appropriate ways to catalyze a women-led vision to state building, peace and security.

Discussions had also focused on the gendered impacts of occupation and conflict on Palestinian women and girls, including in the aftermath of the frequent escalations in Gaza, and the arrests and forced evictions in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. Participants addressed the importance

of ensuring that the reconstruction and socio-economic recovery of Gaza integrate a gender perspective and place women at the centre of their efforts. They also highlighted the imperative of ensuring that humanitarian action is gender responsive and employ an intersectional lens to the assistance provided.

Among the core objectives of the event was

to increase the awareness of Member States representatives, UN officials and the wider Palestinian audience of existing women-led peace-building tracks and advocacy initiatives. The priorities and challenges of the Women Peace and Security (WPS) Agenda in Palestine were also highlighted, in addition to advocating for an effective implementation and financing of the second Palestinian National Action Plan (NAP).

2. THE 2022 EDITION OF THE HIGH-LEVEL OPEN DAY DIALOGUE:

The overall theme for the 2022 Open Day Dialogue edition was: Towards a Palestinian Women Centric Vision to a Viable and Independent State Building Project. It deliberately adopted a forward-looking approach to move from fragility and instability to an active translation of women’s needs, concerns and priorities for a viable and inclusive state building agenda, in line with the HDP approach. Due to its nature as a constructive framework, state building encapsulates both a positive vision and guiding principles. It is best understood as an instrument to achieve goals that are in tandem with WPS and

YPS objectives, including accountability, human security, proactive political participation, and socio-economic development. While recognizing different forms of “institutional blue-prints to generate legitimacy,”¹ it also involves focal points such as socio-economic recovery, socio-political stability, security sector reform, civil society strengthening, social cohesion reinstating, and good governance practices institutionalization.²

The table below provides a glance of some participants’ details:

Table 1:

Total number of in-person participants	Over 200 over two days	National and international participants
Total number of online participants	105 unique accesses online	National and international participants
Governmental and semi-governmental institutions	6	Ministry of Women’s Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ramallah & Al Bireh Governorate, Colonization & Wall Resistance Commission, Ministry of Social Solidarity, the Palestinian Maintenance Fund
International speakers	12	Chile, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Tunisia, UK, USA
UN agencies	6	OCHA, RCO, UNDP, UNFPA, UNRWA, WFP

1 Jorn Gravingholt, *The Convergence of Peacebuilding and State Building: Addressing a Common Purpose from Different Perspectives*, German Institute of Development and Sustainability, 2009.

2 Ibid.

3. THE HIGH-LEVEL OPEN DAY DIALOGUE SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES:



The 2022 Open Day was focused on these specific objectives:

- Open dialogue on needs and priorities of Palestinian women for a viable state building project.
- Take stock of challenges and elaborate a shared vision and future collaborations among women and youth.
- Increase awareness of UN officials, Member States representatives and the wider Palestinian audience on existing peacebuilding and

advocacy initiatives.

- Recognize the impact of the ongoing Israeli occupation on women and girls.
- Advocate for the inclusion of Palestinian women's voices in internal political and reconciliation processes.
- Highlight the priorities and challenges of the WPS Agenda in Palestine, reaffirming the importance of hearing and including Palestinian women's voices in international political processes.

4. PREPARATION AND APPROACH:

Taking stock of the 2021 Open Day Dialogue reflections, UN Women and the GUPW facilitated the Open Day Dialogue through an international consultant with a strong expertise in mediation and peacebuilding. Ahead of the event, the consultant conducted 20 consultations with key stakeholders in the fields of WPS and women's political participation, including government officials; donors; international community representatives; independent researchers; civil society and coalitions such as the national Coalition on 1325 and the Coalition on the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). The consultations were carried out to tailor an event as close as possible to the needs and priorities of the main implements of the WPS Agenda in Palestine. Stemming from the consultations, an overall theme emerged: towards a Palestinian Women Centric Vision to a Viable and Independent State Building Project, and consequently a concept note was developed (See annexes for a full list of consultations and concept note).

The preparatory phase of the Open Day Dialogue was immensely helpful on several levels: 1) it provided stakeholders with a participatory space to share their insights, experiences and suggestions; 2) it provided stakeholders and partners with a sense of meaningful engagement throughout the organization process, starting with the early stages of brainstorming; 3) it provided an opportunity to have a fresh outlook on the most recent and pressing developments related to WPS; 4) it introduced the Open Day Dialogue facilitator and opened a channel for brainstorming ideas and exchanging knowledge; 5) it provided the facilitator with a constructive opportunity to generate and vet new ideas thoroughly.

The Open Day Dialogue successfully adopted a meaningful participatory approach with moderated discussions, while seeking to enhance the maximum level of participation among speakers as well as participants. It aimed to give a voice to all attendees in the room. Through a variety of modalities,

the Open Day Dialogue brought together a rich pool of speakers and participants of different backgrounds and took into account the need to ingather a nuanced group that is diverse in terms of age, gender, and professional, geographical, and expertise backgrounds.

Over two days, the Open Day Dialogue was comprised of:

1. **Plenary sessions** which aimed at highlighting overarching thematic issues for discussion.
2. **Thematic fireside chats** which are intended to provide thematic background to the discussions in the interaction sessions.
3. **Interactive workshops** including simultaneous breakout sessions, during which participants were divided into groups with a rapporteur and a facilitator to discuss thematic issues concerning WPS and YPS. Based on discussions, each group chose a representative who presented 3-4 key recommendations and takeaways from the conducted discussions to the plenary session.
4. **Overall facilitation:** The High-Level Dialogue was moderated by a main facilitator who ensured the overall healthy flow of discussions, adhered to the agenda, managed the time, and met the overall expectations from the Open Day Dialogue.
5. **Key discussions:** Plenary discussions opened a space for discussions to emerge and perspectives to be shared. Factored in each plenary session, half an hour of discussion was opened to the public.
6. **Visual virtual spaces** as mediums to communicate and transmit messages from the Open Day were also used. Accordingly, some of the speakers participated via Zoom, such as those who were not able to participate in person in Ramallah.

5. KEY THEMES, AGENDA AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

Methodological note: to preserve the safe and participatory space of the Open Day, the key takeaways from the sessions will be presented without attribution.

Opening remarks

In the opening session, the President of the General Union of Palestinian Women and the Palestinian Women's Civil Coalition for the Implementation of UNSCR 1325, Ms. Intissar Al Wazir reiterated the importance of the event for human rights advocates, Palestinian women and stakeholders striving to strengthen the positionality of women in their fight to realize the WPS Agenda.

The Palestinian Minister of Women's Affairs and Chair of the Higher National Committee on UNSCR 1325, H.E. Dr. Amal Hamad stressed the important role those official intuitions play in achieving the WPS Agenda and reaffirmed the necessity to enhance collaborations between civil society and state actors. She addressed the need to advocate for the adoption of a complementary resolution that addresses the specificity of the Palestinian women and the threats to peace and security while living under the harsh conditions of occupation.

Dr. Layla Ghannam, the Governor of Ramallah and Al Bireh, reaffirmed the need for sharing knowledge and empowering women to become their own advocates for their human rights, reaffirming that women will continue to be relegated to the marginal steps of the development ladder unless there is a serious investment in the spread and quality of education.

Ms. Lynn Hastings, the United Nations Deputy Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Resident Coordinator in Palestine, recognized the compounded levels of subordination that contribute to the marginalization of women in the public spaces, including the conditions of occupation, the intra-Palestinian divide and the patriarchal social norms, while reaffirming the

continued support of the UN in improving the lives of women and young girls.

H.E. Ms. Torunn Viste, Representative of Norway in Palestine, recognized the impacts of the Israeli occupation on women and the indiscriminate targeting of women whether rural or empowered professionals, such as the killing of journalist Shireen Abu Akleh. She also stressed that "The occupation must end. It also remains essential to work from within and to change the structures that limit the opportunities for Palestinian women".

Unanimously, all speakers congratulated the women's movement in Palestine on its decades long fight for equality and justice and wished for a very fruitful two-day event.

5.1. Ending impunity and pursuing accountability: women, peace and security (WPS) under occupation

The panel examined the ways through which the international legal frameworks may provide a legal pathway through which the harm suffered by women victims could be addressed and redressed. Panellists provided an array of first-hand personal and professional accounts based on their fight for pursuing accountability and ending impunity, ranging from mobilizing for criminal adjudication and media activism to civil mobilization. The panel included the presence of Ms. Lina Abu Akleh, a human rights advocate and niece of the late journalist Shireen Abu Akleh, who shared open-heartedly the pain of loss, emotional distress, psychological stress and grieve that have been haunting her and her family members.

The panel fostered a strong sense of solidarity and empathy in the conference room. During the open discussion, participants expressed solidarity and were moved by the experiences shared by the panellists, while also sharing frustration for the lack of accountability.

Key takeaways:

- The key issue to ending impunity is not centred around evidence collection or documentation but is about the political will among the international community.
- The two-decade long blockade on Gaza with its continuous denial of civilians' access to fundamental rights and aggravation of the humanitarian crises have been widely condemned as flagrant violation of international law. Accountability is necessary to restore dignity to Palestinians.
- Human rights activists face tremendous pressure in their quest for accountability and ending impunity. For instance, Palestinians living in East Jerusalem are everyday threatened by the Israeli occupation to be expelled out of it.
- Resilience, solidarity and internal collaborations are a necessity for Palestinian women. Building bridges, inside Palestine and outside is key for Palestinian women's advocacy efforts. Palestinian women feel abandoned by the international community.
- The increasing number of attacks against Palestinian women such as Shireen Abu Akleh and Ghafran Warasna leave women in Palestine feeling at a perpetual state of insecurity.
- During the open discussion, participants shared intersectional experiences, such as the one from a young Jerusalemite mother of a detained Palestinian child in the Israeli prisons, which highlighted shared pain and understanding of living without the possibility of achieving accountability.

5.2. Building solidarity and mobilizing for change: What role do Palestinian women see for the regional and international actors in supporting them to move towards state building?

This panel commemorated the UN International Solidarity Day with the Palestinian People (29

November) and built on the recommendations of the 2021 Open Day on WPS in Palestine. It examined the role of regional and international actors in mobilizing international solidarity, accelerating action, and embarking on pathways to supporting women of all ages to move towards state building. It aimed to lay the groundwork for future articulations of a locally-owned approach to WPS, peacebuilding, political participation, and protection, ending impunity and accountability as prerequisites to state building.

One of the panellists of this session was the European Union (EU), which stressed its unyielding support for Palestinian women and girls through various means at its disposal, including promoting political engagement and right to equal education. It also reiterated a call for all Palestinians to unite. During the discussion, the audience had highlighted the importance of EU role in promoting accountability and ending the impunity of occupation.

This panel also witnessed the participation of an international professor of Palestinian origins, who argued that Palestinians lack knowledge at gathering international support and solidarity as they are not united internally, and thus unable to build a credible platform on which to build this support. The intervention sparked heated reactions from the audience; nevertheless, it provided a fresh perspective and analysis to the debate.

Key takeaways:

- Women's role in reconciliation and building bridges among divided political factions is key. To better promote the WPS agenda in Palestine, the totality of Palestinian women with their intersectional experiences, ranging from women in rural areas to the role of Palestinian women in diaspora, should be taken into account. To achieve this goal, the civic mobilization of younger generations, particularly young women, is indispensable.
- Palestinians are struggling today to effectively reach out for and mobilize solidarity and support

outside of Palestine. The reality on the ground and the current pessimistic political climate is contributing to compromising Palestinians' rights.

- Examples from Latin America attest to the fact that internal divides, mismanagement, and structural imbalances are doomed to contribute to the heightened levels of suffering among citizens and the tightening of their civil liberties.

5.3. Women in leadership and political participation: different tracks for women-led peacebuilding

The third plenary session discussed the role of political parties in supporting women's political participation in peacebuilding. Participants through their first-hand experiences examined the impact of the political split on democratic processes and women's political participation.

In particular, the panel discussed the experience of the Caucus Group, an initiative led by Masarat, implemented throughout 2022 and brings together a diverse group of over 45 women including young women from different age groups, socio-economic and professional backgrounds, and political and geographical affiliations. While the initial results of the Caucus are promising, its achievements in the long run are to be determined.

The panel saw the participation of members of the political party Fatah who highlighted the party's role in empowering women and girls to be part of the movement. Political mobilization and strengthening women's presence is part of Fatah's integral agenda; they work with the youth movement, Palestinians in diaspora, and university student councils.

While this intervention did not provoke immediate reactions, several participants would contest this narrative as lip service for the international community, without tangible actions to back up these words. The dichotomy between the perspective of Palestinian officials and that of some civil society organizations present during the open day was evident.

Key takeaways:

- The latest efforts for national reconciliation do not seem to offer promising results, probably due to the lack of serious political will. Women have been absent from the reconciliation scene; they could have played a more effective role as advocates for change.
- Past experiences in women's participation in the reconciliation efforts can help inform constructive guidance that would strengthen their much-needed participation in future efforts. Women movements including Coalition 1325 should work on adopting a women-led vision to political participation and make their representation across all parties essential.
- It is important to address the key factors that contribute to the exclusion of women in the decision-making centres of the political parties. More policy research and advocacy work should be directed to this.
- At a time of increased violence and polarization around the world, women in Palestine need more than ever to build allies and have a strong network of solidarity.
- Women today face internal and external challenges including the rise of anti-rights movements; therefore, their issues should be addressed through a women-led vision as per the theme of this year's Open Day Dialogue.

5.4. The translation of formal instruments into tangible developments: What works?

The session discussed possible approaches to translating the aspirations for just, meaningful, and dignified peace amongst Palestinian women into a reality. In addition to the Palestinian governmental vision of taking instruments of change, including the NAP on WPS, and using them as tools for tangible and sustainable development, panellists shared their opinions on the efficacy of and necessity for the budgeting and financing of WPS programming in Palestine, as well as the role of civil

society in leveraging the implementation of formal tools including the NAP on WPS as tools of state-building.

One of the panellists of this session was the Minister of Women's Affairs, who stated that the State works hard to translate all the aspects of the 1325 resolution into positive steps on the ground that can enhance women protections and participation in the peacebuilding processes. The ministry has initiated efforts to mobilize allies to put pressure on promulgating a complementary resolution to 1325 that deals specifically with Palestinian women. During the discussion, participants highlighted perceived imbalance between the perspective presented by government officials and that presented by civil society.

The head of the Italian Agency for Cooperation also participated in the panel, presenting its commitment to supporting the Palestinian people, especially women, youth and girls, through a crosscutting approach in addressing gender and promoting human rights.

The intervention from a Palestinian researcher regarding the role of women in Palestinian politics, including in peacebuilding initiatives, was important to register. The researcher lamented the lack of proper records regarding the role of women in the struggle for the Palestinian statehood, while oral testimonies and anecdotal evidence point to the contrary. The UN may record this intervention to promote a research paper on the historical role of Palestinian women in the quest for self-determination and how these lessons can be applied in the current political landscape.

Key takeaways:

- The global pillars of the WPS Agenda – Participation, Protection, Prevention, and Relief and Recovery should be localized to take into account the reality of Palestinian women, in particular in relation to the occupation. The work done in that sense through the Palestinian

National Action Plan on WPS should be taken in consideration..

- Women have a role to play in national reconciliation and ending the internal divide in Palestine.
- Utilize all international tools to end impunity and hold Israel accountable for its violations of women's rights should be a priority for Palestinian state actors
- Amplify the voices of those in need and address their priority through comprehensive effort and actionable steps.
- There is a need for a roadmap for the articulation of Palestinian women's path to implement and realize UNSCR 1325. Occupation remains the biggest obstacle for its implementation.
- There is a need to exactly meet the theme of the Open Day Dialogue by asking, for example, what women want and how to build their vision effectively.
- Research on female participation in the Palestinian politics since the 1990's revealed a great lack of involvement few women participated rarely in certain capacities, but never really played a major role, and the women's agenda, needs, priorities were never clearly or explicitly addressed.
- There was a major issue with the documentation: there is a lack of documented or written materials that narrate an important part of the Palestinian memory and history which must be rectified.
- Intergenerational dialogue is important, also intergenerational flow of information is highly needed. Mutual learning is required between generations.

5.5. The interlink between WPS Agenda and the YPS Agenda in the Palestinian context: enforcing mutuality and opening intergenerational dialogue

This panel provided a Palestinian context-specific examination of the interlinkage between the WPS Agenda and the YPS Agenda with the aim of enforcing mutuality and opening intergenerational dialogue.

This session was conceived to bring together Palestinian activists from different generations, including young professionals and expert civil society leaders, as well as representatives from the UN Women-sponsored youth forum AGORA.

Compared to the 2021 Open Day Dialogue, where the intergenerational divide was among the key factors of disagreements between the participants, the debate remained heartfelt and polite, while some of the tensions from the previous year were acknowledged but considered addressed.

A young Palestinian journalist had echoed the struggle in her work and duty to make Palestinian voices heard by the wider audience possible. Nevertheless, the journalist was concerned that some of the crackdowns to her work were internal, and not only coming from the Israeli occupation.

Key takeaways:

- The Palestinian society has a high percentage of youth, that is a power that needs to be capitalized on in all domains including in the feminist movement. Youth today are seen as agents to address the interlinkage between YPS & WPS. There is a need to walk the walk and put rhetoric into action. Youth sensitive programming, making resources available and making the youth matter are pre-requisites for development in this regard.
- There is a duty on Palestinians to make their stories heard. There are mediums and platforms to cast out voices but still there is work that needs to be done.

- The internal divide and the practices of the Palestinian leadership are increasing the challenges that are today faced by the youth, mainly human rights advocates.
- The margin of space for democracy and liberty is shrinking and there is an undeniable crackdown on any dissenting voices, including journalists and civil society.
- Address the marginalization, if not complete absence, of youth from decision-making processes.

5.6. Leaving no woman or girl behind: an intersectional analysis of Palestinian women's compounded vulnerabilities

The last panel of the Open Day Dialogue built on previous discussions. It connected the subthemes of the Open Day Dialogue with the overarching objective of exploring the viability of building a women-centred vision to WPS. The panel intended to find ways to move closer to articulating a state building project that addresses the needs and priorities of women including young women, and positions them in the driving seat to make decisions and be proactive, politically empowered and represented as equal citizens.

This session of the Open Day Dialogue offered an intersectional analysis of Palestinian women's compounded vulnerabilities. Panellists analyzed the interconnected and intersecting factors that further marginalize women including young women in Palestine. In particular, the military occupation not only threatens the lives of Palestinian women across the board, but also exposes them, whether urban, rural, refugee or Bedouin, to serious threats against their human rights while hindering their access to social, economic, civil, political, and cultural developments.

Intersectional work included sharing lessons learned from other people's fight for justice and equality, providing an updated account of experiences of Palestinian women in diaspora, mainly in refugee

camps in Lebanon, and highlighting the plight of women living in Gaza Strip under protracted conditions of blockade, all of which were robust contributions that all attendees in the room were moved by and related to. The contribution of the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, Ms. Francesca Albanese, was also highly valued. In her remarks, she appealed to the audience for a clear vision and a blueprint of the Palestinian women and girls future in the nation state. According to her intervention, blaming only the occupation is one part of the story, but to get the full picture, women and girls, human rights advocates and political parties need to produce some concrete proposals and good examples for the willingness to reconcile and work together on ending the divide. Participants appreciated her focus on advocacy for Palestinian women's rights.

Key takeaways:

- Intersectional frameworks and analytical approach have helped advance the cause of Palestinian-American women in recent years.
- The experience of African American women in the United States was for Palestinian women and movements to learn from. The ways through which intersectionality has helped them in framing injustice and assisted them in putting forward a roadmap is a rich source for Palestinians to learn from.
- Intersectional organizations helped expand the political space and opportunities for Palestinian women to participate in formal US politics. Rasheeda Tleib is a good example.
- As a refugee woman living in Lebanon and working with refugee women in the Palestinian camps, a member of the GUPW Secretariat shared her experience and gave testimony about the current situation of refugee women in Lebanon. She highlighted how the economic crisis and dramatic collapse in basic services affect the already vulnerable Palestinian women.

- Palestinian women in refugee camps in the diaspora have been greatly marginalized; they are excluded from any negotiations or decision-making processes. Even inside the camp, their priorities are never at any centre.
- Women civil society leaders in Gaza are repeatedly excluded from national planning processes.
- More space should be given to Palestinian women to play their role as community builders and active society members. They are not only victims; women are also capable of making a positive change as active participants.
- In light of the increasingly recurring attacks on Gaza, the ongoing blockade of the Gaza Strip and the shrinking safe socio-political spaces, Palestinians need to come together in unity for change.
- Without a unified vision and advocacy tools to ensure more diverse and meaningful participation of women in decision-making and negotiations, none of the work will ever be comprehensive, inclusive, or tangible.

5.7. Breakout sessions:

The main objective of the breakout sessions was to provide participants with a more informal space to brainstorm, discuss, and learn on the issues that matter most to them. In three highly engaging breakout sessions, participants had the opportunity to discuss three thematic aspects that are directly linked to the larger agenda of the Open Day. With the support of the Open Day Dialogue facilitator, group moderator, note taker and rapporteur, each group took an hour to come up with a tentative blueprint or a roadmap on key issues that are at the heart of WPS.

Upon completion of the assigned tasks, each group provided a ten-minute presentation of their analysis and recommendations. The first group focused on

the Palestinian feminist and women's movement as a whole, with special attention to the role of women in Palestinian political parties. Not only did this group worked on analyzing the experiences of women in the pursuit of meaningful participation to present a narrative that increases solidarity and international support, but also provided recommendations on ways to continue developing building blocks for furthering their work agenda and communicating women's issues.

The second group examined how the movement could unite its efforts towards achieving WPS goals and build a corresponding narrative that responds to the recent Salafist and radical attacks on women. They identified the demands of the women's movement in Palestine including restoring a semblance of internal peace, safeguarding women's rights, ensuring security, and enabling women to engage in political participation and mobilization for change.

The third group discussed the production and distribution of information as key means of harnessing the power knowledge brings into positive and widely effective change. The participants analyzed the possible ways through which the media has the power of catalyzing social change in Palestine. They discussed how online spaces in particular like social media can play a greater role in promoting women's rights and shed light on the importance of their participation in decision-making using the tools available to them through technology today.

Key takeaways:

- Consensus on prioritizing the adoption of a unified feminist discourse among female civil society actors that can communicate the needs and priorities of all Palestinian women, making sure that this discourse is coherent and appealing to all generations, inside and outside Palestine.
- Reconcile the current dichotomy between the discourse of the Palestinian "NGO sector" and the realities people live on the ground.
- There is also a dichotomy between the official governmental aspirational commitment to international standards and the lived reality of women and young girls in Palestine that must be addressed.
- Since 2014, there has been a retraction in the status of women in Palestine, marked by the radical attacks on the civil society and those advocating for the adoption of the Family Protection Bill. To date, laws governing family matters, penal code and personal status affairs are instrumentally subjugating women.
- Ending occupation, ending intra-Palestinian divide, reconciliation, enacting elections, legislative harmonization, social justice and WPS were shared themes and priorities among the three groups.

OVERALL RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Open Day Dialogue provided a great opportunity for all stakeholders to come together to brainstorm positively innovative possibilities for creating a shared vision to articulate a women led and centric approach to state building project that prioritizes the needs and the priorities of women and young girls. Building on this momentum, the below recommendations are highly desirable:

For the United Nations and the international community:

1. Foster intergenerational and feminist dialogues between the current leadership, women leaders, youth, the international community and other stakeholders.
2. Build actionable strategies for a woman-centric approach to end the intra-Palestinian divide and achieve a viable Palestinian independent state, utilizing the momentum from the Open Day Dialogue.
3. Assist the women movement, coalitions and civil society actors in enriching their discourse and messaging strategies to be more tailored and responsive to the Palestinian people at large, particularly in the wake of the current radical and Salafist attacks on women's advocates.
4. Map the role of women from the early 80s until Oslo Peace Accords and draw lessons that could inform and assist the women movement in building new initiatives to enhance women's political participation.
5. Map the role of women since the inception the Palestinian Authority until present days to help understand the ways through which women were participating in the state and institutional building of the Palestinian self-governing body.
6. Explore mediums to assist the Palestinian movement to build solidarity with other contexts that might relate to the Palestinian struggle.
7. Assist the women movement in building a vision and a strategy on the ways through which it can provide more space for youth voices and their involvement in Palestine.
8. Mobilize efforts to raise awareness in marginalized and hard to reach areas concerning the WPS Agenda.
9. Support women-led initiatives to strengthen young women's participation and representation in election processes, whether at the local, municipal, university councils or professional syndicates levels.
10. Carry out capacity building for women-led and women-rights CSOs in legalistic and procedural aspects of international accountability jurisdiction and mechanisms.

For the Government:

1. Ensure the proper financing, resourcing, implementation and monitoring of the NAP on WPS
2. Build on existing initiatives, especially those who are women-led and women-owned, such as women's caucus, to develop an actionable roadmap for ending intra-Palestinian divide.
3. Supporting political parties in adopting and implementing a 30 per cent quota for women's participation.
4. Build a narrative that increases solidarity and international support in line with the recommendations of the women's movement.
5. Foster intergenerational and feminist dialogues between the current leadership, women leaders, youth, the international community and other stakeholders.



For the Palestinian civil society:

1. Further develop and strengthen the narrative of Palestinian women as agents for change; amplify their voices to gather national and international solidarity.
2. Adopt an intersectional analytical framework that highlights all interlinking facets of Palestinian women and young girls' identity.
3. Foster intergenerational and feminist dialogues between the current leadership, women leaders, youth, the international community and other stakeholders.
4. Continue to advocate for equal participation and inclusion in all peacebuilding and decision-making processes.

UN WOMEN IS THE UN ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO GENDER EQUALITY AND THE EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN. A GLOBAL CHAMPION FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS, UN WOMEN WAS ESTABLISHED TO ACCELERATE PROGRESS ON MEETING THEIR NEEDS WORLDWIDE.

UN Women supports UN Member States as they set global standards for achieving gender equality, and works with governments and civil society to design laws, policies, programmes and services needed to ensure that the standards are effectively implemented and truly benefit women and girls worldwide. It works globally to make the vision of the Sustainable Development Goals a reality for women and girls and stands behind women's equal participation in all aspects of life, focusing on four strategic priorities: Women lead, participate in and benefit equally from governance systems; Women have income security, decent work and economic autonomy; All women and girls live a life free from all forms of violence; Women and girls contribute to and have greater influence in building sustainable peace and resilience, and benefit equally from the prevention of natural disasters and conflicts and humanitarian action. UN Women also coordinates and promotes the UN system's work in advancing gender equality.



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