

المركز الفلسطيني لقضايا السلام والديمقراطية
Palestinian Center for Peace and Democracy



Annual Report 2020

PCPD General Assembly:

PCPD was founded in 1992 by the following figures:

- Mr. Bashir Barghouti (passed away)
- Dr. Tayseer Arouri (passed away)
- Dr. Sameer Abdulla
- Dr. Tamer Essawi
- Mr. Hana Amira

In addition to that, the PCPD has a general assembly of **31 members**, who elect the Board of Directors. The staff is the executive body of the organisation; followed by a big number of young volunteers (PCPD Youth Supporters and interns) who together with the staff conduct various innovative interventions to advocate for the mission and vision of the organisation.

PCPD GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

1- Ms. Sona Arouri	12- Ms. Fadwa Khader	23- Ms. Hana Sahel
2- Mr. Abbas Milhem	13- Ms. Yasmeen Enaya	24- Ms. Ann Ankar
3- Dr. Talib Awad	14- Mr. Aref Jafal	25- Ms. Shahrazad Tmazi
4- Ms. Shola Abed Hadi	15- Ms. Sahhar Barakat	26- Ms. Hazar Ismael
5- Mr. Muhammad Saleem	16- Mr. Ameen Enabi	27- Ms. Nadia Harb
6- Mr. Hashem Barahma	17- Ms. Haneen Zeidan	28- Mr. Khaleel Sheeha
7- Mr. Thaer Hanaysha	18- Ms. Neda Abu Sibah	29- Mr. Emad Daoud
8- Mr. Ghassan Abdulla	19- Mr. Naeem Al-Ashhab	30- Ms. Sabreen Amouri
9- Mr. Waleed Maqbul	20- Ms. Intisar Salman	31- Ms. Nina Thabet
10- Mr. Issa Samandar	21- Mr. Munther Qareq	
11- Ms. Enas Maswada	22- Ms. Taghreed Kishek	

During April 2020, PCPD general assembly met and elected a new board of directors that consisted of 9 members. Out of the 9, there are 6 women. Two of these women took major positions at the board, where the treasurer and the deputy to the head are women.

PCPD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1- Dr. Taleb Awad – Head of Board	6- Ms. Shahrazad Tmazi – member
2- Ms. Tagreed Kisek – Deputy to the Chairwoman	7- Ms. Nida Abu Sibah – member
3- Ms. Fadwa Khader – Treasurer	8- Mr. Aref Jafal – member
4- Mr. Walid Maqbul – Secretary	9- Ms. Hana Sahal – member
5- Ms. Sahhar Barakat - member	

PCPD STAFF:

Full time staff

- 1- Ms. Hilda Issa – Executive Director
- 2- Mr. Naseef Muallem – Policy Advisor
- 3- Ms. Ekram Zbeidi – Program Coordinator
- 4- Ms. Randa Sharkas – Accountant
- 5- Mr. Mahmoud Al-Jamal – project coordinator
- 6- Ms. Rana Abu Sair – project coordinator

Part time staff

- 1- Ms. Anbara Shalalda – external trainer/ facilitator
- 2- Mr. Thaer Hanaysah – external trainer/facilitator
- 3- Ms. Maryam Dawoud – field coordinator (Jenin)
- 4- Ms. Haneen Zimari – project coordinator (Qalqilyia)
- 5- Ms. Nada Nimra – project coordinator (Salfeet)
- 6- Ms. Tala Qudsi - field coordinator (Tulkarm)
- 7- Ms. Wala Sanad – field coordinator (Bethlehem)
- 8- Mr. Zaid Ibraheem– field coordinator (Nablus)



A group of supporters during one of the field initiatives

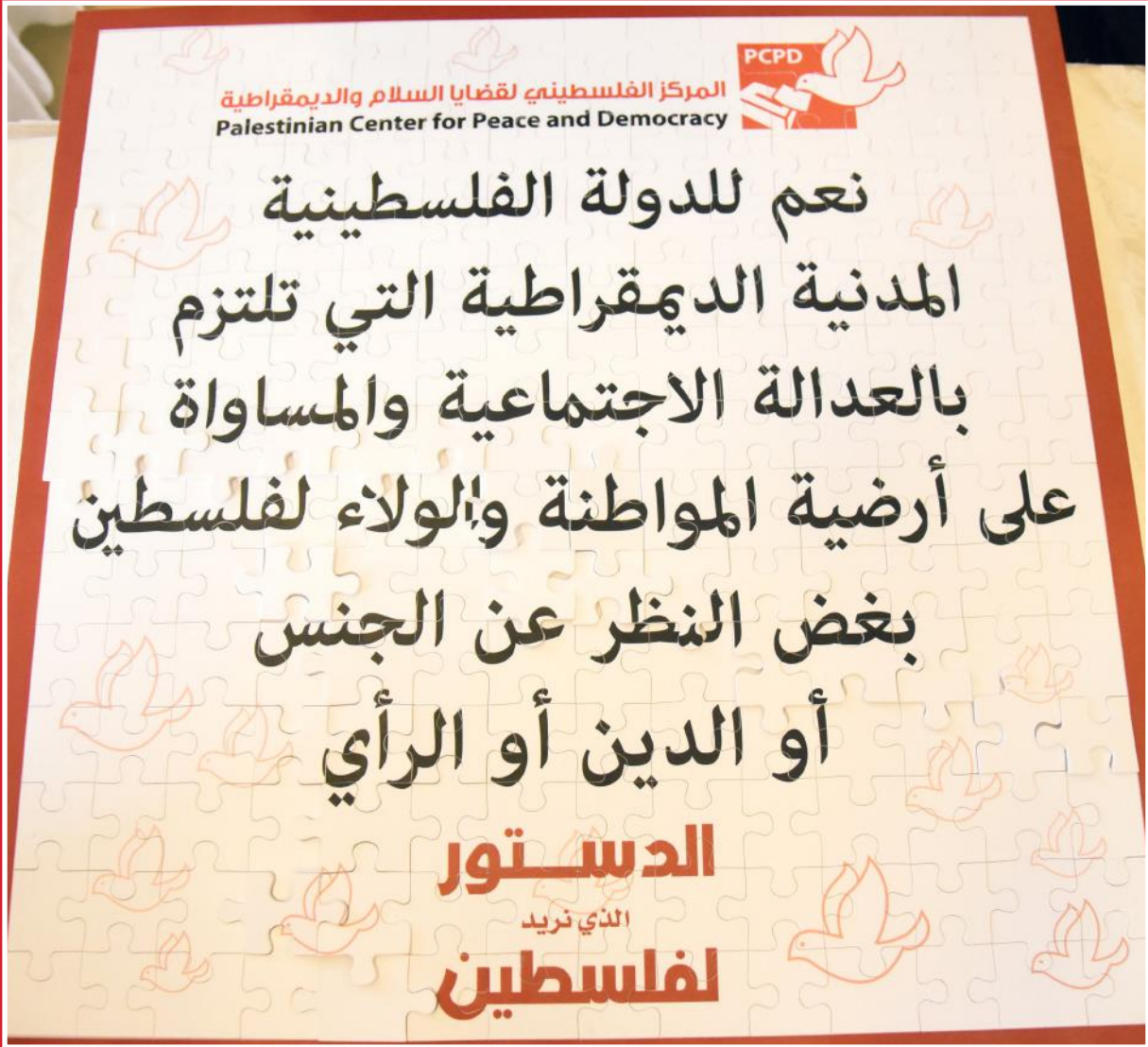
YOUTH INTERNS 51

The PCPD has a big number of youth who are from the different regions of the West Bank and who act as interns. They are youngsters; they are university graduates in media, social and political studies.

They are the following:

1. Mr. Anas Nazal
2. Ms. Asma Fashafsha
3. Mr. Ahmad Iraqi
4. Ms. Amal Al-Wahsh
5. Ms. Anwar Daraghma
6. Ms. Bayan Awad
7. Ms. Bisan Abu Farha
8. Ms. Fayha Khanfar
9. Mr. Hazem Zeidan
10. Ms. Hala Faquees
11. Ms. Hadeel Khanfar
12. Ms. Hiba Masri
13. Ms. Hadeel Salahat
14. Mr. Hisham Fakhoury
15. Mr. Hatem Shaheen
16. Ms. Hiba Natsha
17. Ms. Isra Da'as
18. Mr. Islam Natsha
19. Mr. Islam Naser
20. Ms. Isra Zbeidi
21. Mr. Jaleel Zoughbi
22. Ms. Lana Shaheen
23. Ms. Lina Qatami
24. Ms. Madleen Shaban
25. Mr. Muhammad Saridi
26. Ms. Muna Balawi

27. Ms. Maram Shalada
28. Ms. Manar Shalalda
29. Ms. Nur Hamad
30. Ms. Nur Tamimi
31. Ms. Nicole Zoughbi
32. Mr. Nadeem Njaem
33. Ms. Saja Al-Saeed
34. Ms. Siwar Odeha
35. Ms. Shahnaz Darweesh
36. Ms. Saba Miree
37. Ms. Sana Al-Omary
38. Ms. Sundus Abu Naser
39. Ms. Taqwa Balawi
40. Mr. Wisam Al-Shareef
41. Mr. Wael Amro
42. Ms. Wijdan Radayda
43. Ms. Rania Sasa'
44. Ms. Rana Zahda
45. Mr. Ramez Radi
46. Mr. Yousef Sweiti
47. Ms. Yusr Al-Kukhun
48. Mr. Uday Jaffal
49. Mr. Uday Amar
50. Ms. Ula Hussein
51. Mr. Muawiya Nassar



نعم للدولة الفلسطينية

Yes, to the Palestinian State that is committed to social justice and equality that is based on citizenship and loyalty to the Palestine despite sex, religion or opinion.

The Constitution we want to Palestine

POLITICAL ANALYSIS:

Talks about the Deal of the Century were taking place in Palestine for over the year 2020, where the US president Mr. Trump officially announced the political part of the Deal of the Century on the 28th of January 2020, which is asking for a new huge compromise from the Palestinians; allowing Israel to annex more than 30% of the West Bank, and pushing Palestinians increasingly into the margins. At a time when the Israelis are demolishing the Palestinian houses, they are expanding their settlements in the West Bank and giving the settlers all types of support and facilities in addition to weapons that are used to block the regional roads in the West Bank at night. The Palestinians see such Israeli actions on the ground as the first sphere of the implementation of the Deal of the Century.

The spread of COVID 19 has affected the Palestinians in a negative way, where many employees lost their jobs and their only source of income, leaving them under lockdown and with no money. The ones who preserved their jobs were also affected by getting half of their salaries, while the Palestinian government employees were giving half of their salaries since April until end of November 2020 because the Israelis were not committed into giving the tax transfers to the Palestinian Authority due to the suspension of the security coordination and collaboration.

By the end of December 2020, the Palestinian government faced a socio-political crisis when the Palestinian fundamentalists represented by Islamic fanatic political parties and the patriarchal clannish leaders have attacked a DJ group on the Nabi Mousa Maqam concert in Jericho, and they stopped the concert and threatened the attendees. This attack was followed by a vicious campaign of misinformation on social media and fundamentalists led by Al-Tahreer Islamic Party, which fueled violent reactions and personal attacks against the Palestinian artist Ms. Sama Abdelhadi, one of the leading Arab women in techno music amongst music audiences around the world. Sama was being made a scapegoat and held accountable for a crime that did not happen and one that she certainly didn't commit. This event, and the government reaction against the victim means the inability of the Palestinian Authority to control the street in the West Bank, and it shows the strength of the fundamental Islamic parties that forced the government to arrest the victim.

The main challenge Palestinians face since 2007 is the political separation between the West Bank and Gaza Strip. This separation has its negative impact on Palestinians who with their supporters around the world want unity, but in face, despite talks and agreements between the two parties, the reconciliation becomes cynical and unconvincing to the ordinary people.



ABOUT US:

The Palestinian Centre for Peace and Democracy PCPD is a civil society non-for-profit Palestinian, non-governmental organization that was established in 1992. PCPD works to achieve just peace based on the international legitimacy, where it promotes for a genuine peace based on UN Resolutions 242 and 338 leading to the establishment of an independent democratic Palestinian state on the borders of the occupied areas in 1967 with East Jerusalem as its capital.

PCPD forges a feminist perspective to achieve gender equality, social justice, freedoms, and to build a vibrant and tolerant Palestinian state that enjoys peace and security, a state that is accountable, committed to the rule of law and is open to the participation of all despite sex, religion, color or political thoughts.

PCPD is committed to the culture that promotes women's and youth's political empowerment. Participation and representation in all spheres of their lives, a culture that increases women's opportunities to have leadership roles, their voices heard, and where they have the safe space that enables them to participate in the political and public life as well as in the decision-making processes; a culture that is committed to gender equality, empowerment of women and girls, and to eliminate violence against women as well as sexual and gender based violence.



OUR VISION

Palestinian Society is committed to practicing true democracy in a free independent democratic state that adheres to good governance, gender equality, freedoms, social justice, and integrity values.

OUR MISSION

PCPD is working for a well-functioning, free and independent, democratic Palestinian state, and to build vibrant and tolerant society whose government is accountable and open to the participation of all with main focus on women and youth based on the principles of good governance, rule of law, a system that respects, protects and fulfills human rights in general and women rights in particular, a society that enjoys values of integrity and is capable to make the national government and the local governments accountable to empower the democratic practices; and a civil society that helps keep government power in check.

OUR VALUES

We share common values and principles which guide PCPDs work. Our core values are based on a holistic understanding of **peace** and **democracy** as not merely the absence of war or direct violence, but also the presence of positive conditions that support physical, social, cultural, economic and environmental well-being of Palestinian people.

- We are committed to fundamental human rights, dignity, and the rule of law and encouraging critical debate and respecting diverse opinions.
- We are committed to equality between men and women in accordance to the Palestinian Declaration of Independence and the International Conventions, mainly CEDAW.
- We believe in a society where all people are free to participate fully in civic, economic, and cultural life.
- We are committed to addressing inequalities that cut across multiple lines, including race, class, gender, and citizenship
- We are committed to real and just peace as outlined in the Palestinian Declaration of Independence and international resolutions.
- We are committed to transparency, sharing and making information available to all relevant parties, internally and externally.
- We are committed to holding those in power accountable for their actions and in increasing the power of women and youth groups.



PCPD THEORY OF CHANGE

PCPD believes that when young women and men have been trained and empowered, they will be(come) interested in developing their own political agenda and to use that agenda as a platform to engage in diverse political interventions and dialogues including community and media-based ones that will challenge discriminatory social and cultural norms, practises and promotes greater respect for and enjoyment of women's and men's equal civic, political, social and economic rights. If they are encouraged, supported and empowered, the targeted youth will be interested to get organised, capable of getting engaged in the political processes with different political actors, and are able to hold relevant local and national duty bearers accountable to youngsters' equal rights and their full participation in the public and political sphere. They can inspire the political parties to become more open and democratic in terms of their membership and practices and are willing to guarantee the inclusion of youngsters in their structures and decision-making.



PROGRAMS:

JUST PEACE AND SECURITY:

PCPD promotes a genuine peace based on UN Resolutions and the Palestinian Declaration of Independence PDI leading to the establishment of an independent democratic Palestinian state on the borders of 1967 beside the state of Israel; with a focus on human security, conflict resolution mechanisms based on international legitimacy, thus reviving positive peace through building the capacity of youth and local actors to promote tolerance and reduce prejudices. A society that enjoys peace and security, where conflicts are dealt with through non-violent approaches; human rights are respected and citizens feel safe and secure. The political participation of women in processes relating to peace and security is crucial for international peace and security. In Palestine, young women and men need to be part of the negotiation, peace and reconciliation processes; need to be active in the public sphere, in accordance to the PDI and the resolutions of the UN Security Council Resolutions, mainly 1325. To pursue this, we believe in the inclusion of women in political and peace processes.



Youth in one of their brainstorming sessions

Under this program, PCPD is implementing a project entitled: **“Strengthening Palestinian Non-Violent Approaches Promoting a Just and Lasting Peace”**, with an impact of having a number of 50 young women and men believe and are committed into Just Peace that is based on the establishment of a Palestinian state in the Occupied Palestinian Territories of 1967, through the implementation of the UN Resolutions 242 and 338. Throughout the year 2020, these youths were promoting and disseminating a vision based on non-violent actions amongst other youth and peers.



A group of youth meeting Mr. Akram Al-Rjoub (the governor of Jenin) opening with him a discussion on the political situation

DEMOCRACY, GOOD GOVERNANCE AND RULE OF LAW:

A well-functioning, independent, democratic Palestinian state based on the principles of good governance, the rule of law, a system that respects, protects and fulfills human rights and gender equality and promotes peace and security. PCPD strives to contribute to build a vibrant and tolerant society whose government is accountable and open to the participation of all people, based on principles of accountability, transparency and integrity; a state that is committed to periodical elections, freedoms of expression; equality for all citizens, in accordance to the Palestinian Declaration of Independence (PDI), the Palestinian Basic law, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, CEDAW, and other international conventions that the Palestinian Authority has signed upon; a state that develops the Palestinian laws to be in line with the international legitimacy. PCPD gave special attention to disseminate UNR 1325 through meeting women political leaders.

PCPD along with Pax entered into a regional project entitled: ***MUSAWAT; Freedom of Religion and Belief FoRB in Iraq, Lebanon and the Occupied Palestinian Territories Countering four pillars of discrimination.*** This project is in cooperation with Alef Act for Human Rights (a Lebanese NGO) and Peace and Freedom Organization (an Iraqi NGO); working together and committed to contribute to strengthen Social cohesion and equality in Iraq, Lebanon and the Occupied Palestinian Territories, by increased Freedom of Religion and Belief, a reinforced sense of shared citizenship and countered gender, religious and sectarian based discrimination.



One of the youth participants leading a session on the freedom of religion and belief

This cooperation between the parties provides a strategic added value, the opportunity for mutual learning, regional exchange and enhanced capacity. Throughout this project, the PCPD along with 50 youth were able to produce a booklet on FoRB in Palestine and the peaceful mechanism to encounter discrimination.



Youth in one of the training sessions



The PCPD is interested to contribute to build a flourishing democratic state with timely and fair elections to the local governments in which youth can participate without any limitations, and therefore have the opportunities to positively change their future. Thus it is important to build trust in the youth towards the Palestinian institutions; and to be ready to cooperate with the community based organizations to achieve positive change in light of social inclusivity, gender equality, good governance and accountability. The impact that the PCPD is working towards is to increase the participation of youth in decision-making and democratization processes, specially the municipal elections of 2021. Thus, a group of 50 youth were capacitated and later conducted 65 workshops and meetings reaching out to a number of 1315 youth.

This project (funded by IFA) is implemented jointly with PAX.



Youth planning to implement training workshops and meetings with CBOs to focus on the municipal elections of 2021

Under the Shine project, PCPD is keen to spread the principles of integrity between young students outside the school rooms. PCPD was able to reach to the most marginalized areas in the West Bank, including Salfet and Tubas regions.



During one of the initiatives of the Integrity clubs in Salfet under the title: White of Black



Leaders of Integrity clubs in training



Integrity club members during an Integrity Day in Al-Aqaba

In Palestine, no legislative elections have been organized since 2006. Since then, the fragmentation of the political and national identity has deepened, particularly through the disunity between Hamas in Gaza and Fatah in the West Bank. Political parties in Palestine do not evolve or flourish under the current political parties' De facto, and their accountability to the citizens is minimal. This is not only the result of the fact that there are no free and fair elections on a regular basis. The vast majority of decisions made by the Political Bureau for the Central Committees does ultimately not influence the real decision makers: The Government and the President.



PCPD youth distribute posters to citizens asking them to register to the elections, as a first step towards the right to elect when the elections do take place.

Further, the youth conducted three social media buses in Tulkarm, Jenin and Hebron, where they toured cities and villages to open dialogues with the citizens and enthruse them to register to the elections and be part of the upcoming electoral process. The discussions were interesting since the youth asked about the willingness of the citizens to be involved in the elections and the importance of holding elections in Palestine. The reaction from the citizens were interesting and promising.



The Social Media Bus

Youth hold and hang posters related to the need to elections during an initiative in the street



WOME PROGRAM

The PCPD is committed to the 2030 Agenda to achieve for Sustainable Development; in realizing the human rights of all and into achieving gender equality, as well as the empowerment of all women and girls. Thus we believe in **Goal 5**; Gender; female/male representation in global government will be equal. We believe that more women in politics make for stronger democracies; thus, we have to make equal opportunities for leadership and participation of women at all levels of decision making in political, economic and public life; to adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislations for the promotion of gender equality. **Goal 10**; reduce inequalities, is also a goal that is of interest, since it aims to empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all. In order to enhance women's full participation in the electoral process, we, at PCPD motivate women to participate in the elections; thus increasing their political influence and educating the voters on issues that are important to women and girls. **Goal 16**; Peace, Justice and strong institutions advocates to ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision making at all levels; since we believe that more women representation within the local governments is the first step towards reaching other decision making positions, thus having fair gender representation.

Under this program, PCPD is promoting and increasing women's political empowerment and participation, representation, leadership and influence in all spheres of their lives; increase women's opportunities to have their voice heard and participate in the political and public life as well as in the decision-making processes. Within this sphere, a group of young feminists produced a **Feminist Political Charter**; that calls for a safe space for young women and men.



Youth in the Feminist Youth Forum discussing the Charter during one of the field initiatives

The impact that the project wanted to achieve is: Empowered young women and men capable to disseminate the feminist vision amongst youngsters living in the different marginalized regions of the West Bank, enthusing and capacitating them to influence and reshape the public discourse and agenda about social, economic, cultural and public affairs and call for equal opportunities in the decision-making processes, as well as promote women's rights.



Youngsters spreading the feminist perspective

Nowadays, PCPD wants to revive the Palestinian Gender Sensitive Constitution, in order to spread gender equality between young women and men, address circumstances that may limit women's enjoyment of equal rights and opportunities, approach the Official Palestinian Committee and pressurize them to convene and work on a **Fair Constitution for Palestine** through the implementation of a variety of innovative initiatives, mainly sits ins, street activities meeting the public; preparing a Newsletter and Position Papers and publishing these in different media channels.

MARKING THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN'S DAY UNDER THE LOCKDOWN (THE 8TH MARCH)

PCPD marked the international Woman's Day under lockdown due to the spread of Covid 19 in the Palestinian territories. Since we were unable to do initiatives in the streets, PCPD used the facebook as a tool to spread spots and posts denouncing violence against women and enthusing for gender equality. Throughout the year, the PCPD with the youth were able to produce 30 spots and to disseminate them throughout the different media channels.

Marking the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence



During one of the initiatives spreading the concept of equality entitled: the girl equals the boy



During one of the initiatives spreading the concept of equality entitled: the girl equals the boy

Marking 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence, through an initiative entitled: **Let's Walk Against Violence**. The idea was to do a march in order to attract attention to the violence that is taking place against women. The second march was planned to attract a bigger number of youth and to do the walk in areas that are at risk of confiscation, mainly the Jordan Valley, and as a result, PCPD conducted this initiative on the 10th December in Bardala in the Jordan Valley, where throughout the initiative, the youth met women from there, listened to their experiences and shared their own views towards the future of the Jordan Valley in the Deal of the Century, and also the ladies in the village of Bardala have given a detailed idea about their suffering not only from the Israelis, but also from their husbands, fathers and brothers; a suffering that was doubled during Corona time since men spend more time in houses and women are violated by them.

One of the most important issues is violence against women represented mainly in honor killings, harassment and discrimination between boys and girls, women and men. What is called "honor killing" of women represent a topic especially taboo in the society. This can be explained in part by social and cultural norms, lack of knowledge on women's rights and international standards and a patriarchal social structure that tends to systematically disempower and discriminate against women.



Youth holding slogans during the campaign Let's Walk Against Violence



Youth holding slogans during the campaign Let's Walk Against Violence

Another related issue is the patriarchal society in Palestine that prefers women to be confined in the private sphere, and who put many obstacles in front of those who are activists. The clans are becoming more opposing to women rights and they are waging campaigns against CEDAW.

Challenges facing the PCPD during 2020

The first challenge is the lockdown due to the Covid19: During the second half of the year 2020, there was some times when the lockdown was eased and there were some times when the movement was allowed in the districts but not between the districts.

The second challenge is the Israeli occupation where sieges, killings, land confiscation in Jerusalem and in the Jordan Valley played a major role in empowering anti-peace camp in Palestine.

The third challenge is the existence of fundamental actors in the Palestinian society: These groups are against the establishment of a civil and democratic Palestinian state and are working to build a religious state; an Islamic state that is based on the Islamic doctrines. As a result, these people try to fight any progressive actions especially the freedom of religion; the freedom of expression and the people who are different from them. This is the reason that the PCPD youth were attacked by the fundamental figures in Hebron.

The fourth challenge is lack of rule of law in the Palestinian society which makes freedoms at stake. There is no freedom of expression for any new idea that is promoted by progressive people mainly the secular and the leftists and the Palestinian Authority gives all types of facilities to any Islamic religious movement to enjoy the free space.

PCPD was active on social media, where we have produced a number of 30 You tube spots and these were published on PCPD facebook and PCPD You tube channel.

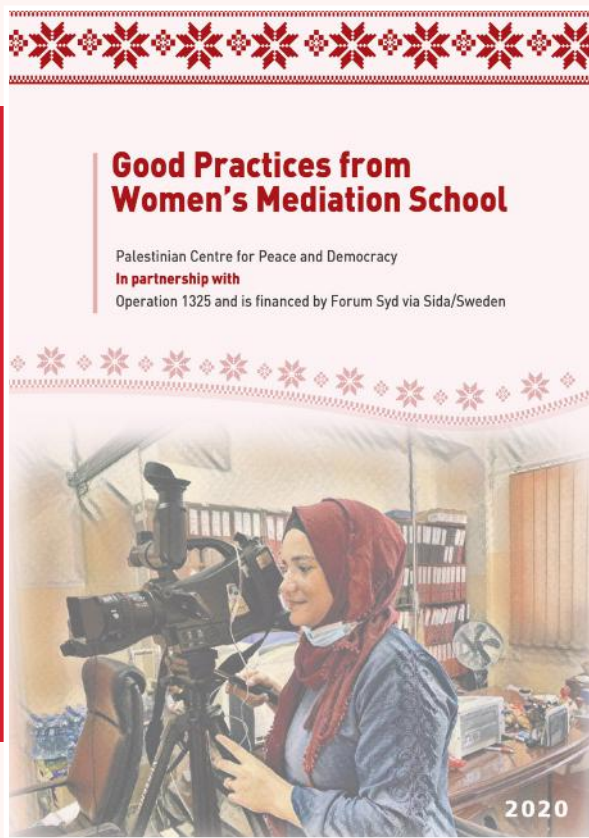
By the end of 2020, PCPD has 11904 followers, and some of our posts reached to 200,000 people and we have shares, reactions and comments by 250,000 persons.

PCPD along with its youth groups prepare these You tubes together and when they are finalized, we all work together to spread them over social media and share them with a big number of friends.



One of the posts on facebook reached to 3274 persons

**PCPD produced 6 publications during 2020;
and they are as follows:**



Young women mediators and board trainee for women, peace and security

A handbook on how to train and engage cross generations; drawing from experiences from Operation 1325 and the Palestinian Centre for Peace and Democracy



2020



الدليل الإرشادي عن نادي النزاهة هذا يعود الى

دليل عمل جلسات المجموعات البؤرية مشروع تدعيم الملتقى النسوي الشبابي



للمرغبين والراغبين في الانضمام الى الملتقى النسوي الشبابي،
الرجاء التواصل معنا عبر العناوين التالية:
الهاتف الأرضي: 02-2908668
او عبر البريد الإلكتروني: pcpd@palnet.com

PCPD family would like to express A BIG THANK YOU to the following funding organizations who have made the work of the Palestinian Centre for Peace and Democracy possible.

The donors



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Facebook: www.pcpd.ps

www.PCPD.ps

لا للعنف

ضد المرأة



نمشي ضد العنف



المركز الفلسطيني لقضايا السلام والديمقراطية
Palestinian Center for Peace and Democracy

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