



THE FEMINIST POLITICAL CHARTER;

A NEW GENERATION OF
FEMINIST LEADERS COMMITTED
TO EQUALITY

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A core group of young women and men received extensive training on peacebuilding, the current political situation in Palestine, the importance of women involvement in the political processes, the value of feminism as a way of eliminating patriarchal structures, gender discrimination and injustice, and promoting equal access to rights and justice by challenging male dominated norms. Throughout their training, the youth developed a rights based feminist political Charter that will be used 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 and practises and promote greater respect for and enjoyment of women's and youth's equal civic and political as well as social and economic rights

WHO WE ARE

We are a group of young Palestinian women and men from the different regions of the West Bank, including Jerusalem and Gaza Strip; coming with different specializations, and different cultural backgrounds. We also represent a number of Palestinian civil society organizations from all over Palestine. This Charter is a result of more than one year of work, training, brainstorming and meetings. It expresses our aspirations and dreams, in a document that is just and that calls for equality, social justice for all. The Charter includes recommendations and suggestions that calls for complete equality for women in all spheres; the political, social, and economic, as is in the Palestinian Declaration of Independence of 1988, as well as the international treaties that Palestine has signed, mainly CEDAW.



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WHAT WE CALL FOR

End the patriarchal society

the Palestinian youth live in a society that is dominated by a patriarchal culture, which denies chances for youth in general and women in particular, to be part of the political decision making processes. The youth experience the strength of the tribe, the deterioration in the democratic processes, the shrinking space of rights and freedoms, as well as the increasing levels of violence in general and gender based violence in particular.

Establish an independent Palestinian State;

a state that guarantees freedoms, gender equality, and social justice, freedom of expression, human rights, good governance and rule of law. A state that can guarantee equality for all the 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 its Palestinian laws to be in line with the international legitimacy.

Spread feminism

we will work for a feminist vision that is based on complete equality, social justice and real democracy; where women enjoys her citizenship as men in all areas, where equality is embedded across the legal systems, the laws and legal practices, including proactive measures as quota, which is now 30% in Palestine and we will work to increase it to 50% in the near future, which will guarantee the complete equality, build the culture of peace for women that secures safety and security for the Palestinian women; a culture that gives the secure space for women to participate in the decision making processes both on the national and local levels.

End all kinds of discrimination against women and girls

we will fight discrimination against women, since discrimination “violates the principles of equality of rights and respect for human dignity, is an obstacle to the participation of women on equal terms with men, in the political, social, economic and cultural life of their countries.”

Ensure women’s political empowerment and participation

Palestinian women face many challenges that prevent them to participate effectively in the political life; these challenges are represented in the discriminatory laws and institutions, habits and culture. We will work to ensure that women have fair access to the political sphere, has the safe space to be politically active; can be a voter, a candidate and an elected official. We will ask for periodic elections; elections that uphold women’s rights, including the right to vote and to run as a candidate.

Promote a Constitution for Palestine

a gender sensitive constitution that guarantees complete equality for women based on equal civil and political rights, on a non-discriminatory basis. Since 1999, the Palestinian Authority started working on a Constitution for the State of Palestine; however the four drafts did not call for a democratic state that is based on equality between men and women. We will work to promote women’s participation in free, open, democratic and periodic elections, where women can participate as candidates as well as voters.

This project is implemented by

The Palestinian Centre for Peace and Democracy is an independent, civil, nongovernmental and not for profit Palestinian organization established in 1992. It works in the field of political development and genuine peace based on the Palestinian Declaration of Independence and UN Resolutions to establish an independent Palestinian State with East Jerusalem as its capital, within the Palestinian territories occupied in 1967. The PCPD is dedicated to spread the concepts of social justice and equality between women and men; in addition to the political rights of women to empower her to reach the decision making processes. PCPD is keen to modify the Palestinian laws to be in line with the international conventions, mainly CEDAW and UN 1325.



Women's Affairs Center GAZA; is a women knowledge-based organization playing an innovative and catalytic role in empowering women, advocating women's rights and gender equality in the Palestinian sustainable development process. WAC is an independent and non-profit Palestinian NGO with the purpose of advocating women's rights and gender equality through capacity development, information and innovative research and advocacy programs. While implementing its strategy to fulfil its vision, WAC is guided by international human rights principles including empowerment and participation; equality and non-discrimination; and accountability to ensure justice and dignity for women.





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