



معهد مواطن للديمقراطية وحقوق الإنسان
Muwatin Institute for Democracy and Human Rights

Muwatin 23rd Annual Conference
“Democracy in the Public Square”
Hall 243 – Institute of Law Annex Building – Birzeit University
6 and 7 October 2017

Participants

Abdullatif Abu Hijleh	President of Birzeit University, and Professor of Inorganic Chemistry.
Mamdouh Al-Aker	Chair of the Board of Trustees of The Palestinian Institute for the Study of Democracy – Muwatin. Served as High Commissioner of the Palestinian Independent Commission for Citizens Rights. A specialized medical doctor.
Yazid Anani	Director of Public Program at the A.M. Qattan Foundation in Ramallah. Served as a faculty member of the Department of Architecture and the Master Program in Urban Planning and Landscape at Birzeit University. Chaired the Academic Council of the International Art Academy Palestine 2010 - 2012. A member of Decolonizing Architecture, and Ramallah Syndrome. He has curated and co-curated projects such as <i>Urban Cafés</i> , <i>Palestinian Cities - Visual Contention</i> , <i>Outside the Archive</i> , <i>Zalet Lisan</i> , and the 2 nd - 5th editions of <i>Cities Exhibition</i> . Has lectured and published internationally on a range of issues relating to architecture, urban transformations, colonial spaces and art education.
Kwadwo Appiagyei-Atua	Senior lecturer, School of Law, University of Ghana, Legon, Accra, Ghana. Member of the Ghana Bar Association.
Hasan Ayoub	Chair of the Department of Political Science at Najah National University. Specializes in international relations and comparative politics. Holds a Ph.D. from Denver University. Writes on Palestinian issues, governance and political systems, and international affairs.
Reem Bahdi	Faculty member at Windsor Law (Canada). Member of the Royal Society of Canada (College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists), and co-director of the Windsor Birzeit Dignity Initiative.
Lars Grassmé Binderup	Associate professor and vice dean at the Humanities Faculty at University of Southern Denmark. Currently works on political philosophy and the philosophy of human rights.
Basem Ezbidi	Faculty member at the Department of Political Science and the MA Programme in Democracy and Human Rights at Birzeit University
George Giacaman	Faculty member in the MA Programme in Democracy and Human Rights, and the MA Programme in Contemporary Arab Studies at Birzeit University. Served as dean of the Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Graduate Studies. He is the general director of the Palestinian Institute for the Study of Democracy – Muwatin.
Tawfiq Haddad	Author of <i>Palestine Ltd. Neoliberalism and Nationalism in the Occupied Territory</i> (I.B. Tauris, 2016)
Jihad Harb	Director of the Research Division of the PLC. Works on issues of politics and governance. Member of the main team of the “ <i>Arab Democracy Index Report</i> ”, and the “ <i>Arab Security Index Report</i> ”. Writes the weekly op. ed. “ <i>Town Gossip</i> ”. Teaches at the Department of Political Science at Birzeit University. Served as a member of the supporting expert team for the national reconciliation track – security sector. Authored many publications on the Palestinian political system, good governance, parliamentary work, integrity system, and the security sector.

Mudar Kassis	Director of Muwatin Institute for Democracy and Human Rights, faculty member of the Department of Philosophy and Cultural Studies, director of the MA Programme in Democracy and Human Rights, and co-director of the Windsor Birzeit Dignity Initiative at Birzeit University.
Asem Khalil	Vice President for Community Outreach, and faculty member of the Department of Law at Birzeit University. Served as dean of the Faculty of Law and Public Administration, and director of the Ibrahim Abu Lugud Institute for International Studies.
Andrej Kurnik	Teaches at University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Social Sciences (Slovenia) and collaborates in the European Regional Master's Programme in Democracy and Human Rights in South East Europe in Sarajevo (Bosnia and Hercegovina). As an activist, he is involved in struggles for migrant rights.
Peter Lagerqvist	Writer and Ph.D Candidate in Sociocultural Anthropology at Columbia University in the City of New York. MPhil Modern Middle Eastern Studies, University of Oxford. His research asks how affective and sensual aspects of motion/movement articulate with notions of accidentality, agency and political possibility?
Lena Meari	Acting Director of the Institute of Women Studies, and faculty member in the Department of Social and Behavioural Science at Birzeit. Specializes in socio-cultural anthropology.
Manfred Novak	Secretary General of the European Interuniversity Centre / Global Campus, and Scientific Director of the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Human Rights. He served as the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Torture from 2004 to 2010. He is a former judge at the Human Rights Chamber for Bosnia and Herzegovina. He is one of the authors of the United Nations report on Guantánamo Bay Detention Camp. He is currently leading a UN commissioned study on the situation of children in detention.
Ramzi Rihan	Instructor of physics. Served as vice president for Community Outreach, and as dean of the Faculty of Science, and of Student Affairs at Birzeit University.
Maha Samman	Author of <i>Trans-Colonial Urban Space in Palestine: Politics and Development</i> . She is an architect, an urban planner, and holds a PhD in political geography from University of Exeter, UK. She was a recipient of the 2004 British Society for Middle Eastern Studies (BRISMES) Research Award and is currently an assistant professor at Al-Quds University and academic coordinator of the Jerusalem Research Program.
Belal Shobaki	Head of the Department of Political Science at Hebron University, and member of The Palestinian Policy Network <i>Al-Shabaka</i> .
Faris Shomali	Graduate student in the MA Programme in Israeli Studies, and musician. Wrote on Zionism and Israeli politics, in addition to opinion editorials and contributions to local websites. Volunteers since three years at the radio station <i>Doun Taraddud</i> , and in the site <i>Ittijah</i> .
Azmi Shuaibi	Advisor for Aman – The Palestinian Coalition for Integrity (Transparency International Palestine). PLC member 1996-2006.
Linda Tabar	Visiting Scholar of Middle East Studies at Brown University. She obtained her Ph.D. from the Department of Politics and International Studies at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. Situated in the field of Middle East politics, International Studies and Transnational Feminist studies, her research focuses on violence, dispossession, spatial politics, and feminist and decolonial movements and thought. She is currently working on a book entitled <i>Palestine, Memory, Conquest: Native Encounters and Imaginaries of Liberation</i> .
George Ulrich	Director of the Venice-based European Master's Degree in Human Rights and Democratisation (EMA) and Professor of Human Rights at the Riga Graduate School of Law, where he served as Rector from 2009-2016. Holds a Ph.D. in Philosophy from the University of Toronto, Canada, and a Cand. Mag. degree in Social Anthropology and History of Ideas from Aarhus University, Denmark.