

# PEACE for Youth 2022



“We are the future decision makers and we the people will one day stop paying for this conflict. It will end”

*PEACE for Youth message to readers*



# Letter to Readers



**Nidal Foqaha**



**Gadi Baltiansky**

Dear friends,

We have come to the end of a busy first year for our “Policy Engagement and Constructive Exposure (PEACE)” project for young Palestinian and Israeli leaders, and while we can look back with pride over the hundreds of young people who have started our peace training program, we are first and foremost focused on planning the year ahead. After bringing so many impressive future leaders together to speak honestly about the conflict – many of them meeting peers from the other side for the first time – our goal is to have these participants return to their own communities and circles of influence and apply their new knowledge, tools, and connections in outreach and advocacy.

Today, constructive dialogue is a rare occurrence, whether it’s between the leadership or the Israeli and Palestinian publics. We continue to work to bridge the vast divide, creating trust, understanding, and partnerships for a better future during even the most difficult months of the conflict. On the many days when the news shows violence and hatred, we are busy mediating challenging and inspiring conversations about narrative between young activists in Ramallah, Jerusalem, and Tel Aviv, brainstorming local reconciliation initiatives, and bringing senior decision-makers from both sides to meet with the next generation’s leaders.

Participants sometimes ask us how we maintain our belief in a better future. By the end of our training program, they themselves have become the answer: we are building cohorts of change-makers who understand that a two-state solution is necessary and possible, and are working with us for a future of peace, stability, and dignity for all sides.

Thank you for inspiring us, and for your continued partnership towards peace.

*Nidal Foqaha and Gadi Baltiansky*

# Table of content

---

## Letter to Readers

*Page 1*

### Cluster I

Cultivating a Young, Diverse Constituency in Support of Peace.

*Page 3 - 4*

### Cluster II

Raising awareness among key young professional stakeholders.

*Page 5 - 7*

### Cluster III

Advocacy, Outreach and Building Joint Initiatives.

*Page 8*

## Reconciliation Hub

*Page 9*

# Cluster I

## Cultivating a Young, Diverse Constituency in Support of Peace.

University students, recent graduates, leaders of student unions, social and political activists, and social media and media influencer's recruited from both sides. Young Palestinian and Israeli leaders have increased their knowledge and understanding of the reconciliation process in the context of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. They have also gained more confidence in ability to make change and alter the situation on the ground for the benefit of stability and peace.

## Activities

- 7 Local Training Courses
- 2 Bilateral one-day Dialogue Meetings



“I do not like to hear news usually, but in the activity, information was psychologically digestible, there is definitely raised awareness on the topics supported by actual studies and experts sharing the details of their experience”

*Ghadeer Reziq*



“The project is very interesting and I learned a lot, especially I learned that from the Palestinian side they feel they have no one to make peace with, and from our side it is the opposite feeling.”

*Chaya Galor*



# Cluster I

in photos



Participants discussing barriers to women and youth's participation as well as methods to overcome said challenges Ramallah 18-19.3.2022.



Participants gather after the Local training courses the covered communication & media skills, including training on public outreach and Advocacy Initiatives and Peace & Reconciliation, Bethlehem 21-22.1.2022.



Participants getting introduced to the project framing and the expectations for the course. Presenting the core issues of the conflict, Jerusalem 7.1.2022.



Participants gather for a dual narrative tour of East Jerusalem led by an Israeli and Palestinian tour guide, including meetings and discussions with East Jerusalemites, Jerusalem 4.3.2022.



Dr. Zaid Darkish, gave an overview of the Palestinian narrative and history, Bilateral Dialogue meeting, Yafa 26.8.2022.



Participants having a discussion on important for Israelis in order for them to understand the Palestinian narrative and the Arabic Middle East peace initiative. Yafa 26.8.2022.

# Cluster II

## Raising Awareness Among Key Young Professional Stakeholders.



Mid-level professionals from the Palestinian and Israeli sides, this includes parliamentary assistants, advisors to ministers, lower-level party officials, such as heads of party branches, members of central committees and leaders of the youth branches of political parties, and municipal leaders. Palestinian and Israeli mid-level professionals have noted that gaining a deeper knowledge on core principles of the DwP (Dealing with the Past) model, psychological barriers to resolution, lexicon, history of negotiations, and proposed solutions.

## Activities

- 8 Local Preparatory Workshops
- 2 Joint Palestinian-Israeli Two-Day Seminars

“The first meeting was fascinating. I did not expect to come to the meeting and come out with the impression I got – an in-depth discourse, from a variety of angles – historical, social, political and moral. Each lecture influenced me in its own way and made me stay with the thoughts for a few more good hours (and even now, the morning after). The dialogue created between the workshop participants was also fruitful and in-depth, and I did not expect to find connections and topics of conversation with the other participants but it happened and it made me very happy.” *Hadar Hamburger*

# Cluster II

## Local Preparatory Workshops

Mr. Nidal Foqaha speaks to a group of young Palestinians on the current political situation and the recent developments on the Palestinian, regional and international arenas, as well as the role of women in decision-making processes.



"It was wonderful and unexpected from both sides. The discussion was realistic and practical, and I discovered that the other side was thinking positively about solving the impact of the conflict on the two peoples" *Hadeel Azar*

## Joint Palestinian-Israeli Two-Day Seminars





# Cluster II

in photos



Participants having a discussion on the current political situation and the most important developments on the Palestinian, international and regional arenas and the role of women in decision-making, Jericho 26.8.2022.



Dr. Sarai Aharoni, a researcher in the field of gender and security, and a feminist peace activist on the different mechanisms of change work. Tel Aviv 14.9.2022.



participants sharing and correcting preconceptions about the other side and some sharing personal stories of their experience in the conflict., Haifa 18-19.8.2022



Ashraf Ajrami, Focusing on the history of negotiations, prospects for reconciliation, and the impact of differences in narratives, , Tel Aviv 6.4.2022.



Participants sharing and correcting preconceptions about the other side and some sharing personal stories of their experience in the conflict, Joint Palestinian-Israeli Two Days Seminars, Haifa 16-17.6.2022



Israella Oron, former deputy national security advisor for planning and infrastructure at the Israel National Defense council on the viability of the two state solution and the past peace talks. Local Preparatory Workshop (Women) Tel Aviv 14.9.2022.

# Cluster III

## Advocacy, Outreach and Building Joint Initiatives.

The roundtables have created the space for activated and influential young leaders to engage directly with senior policymakers and enhance their communication and advocacy skills. Our participatory approach to advocacy and outreach actions brought the participants close to each other, and created a very strong sense of ownership and purpose among them. This was obvious in their outstanding performance that has only proven to the participants that they are capable of influencing their circles and communities in peaceful and constructive ways. The joint component provides participants participating in the unilateral component with the room to meet with and address policy makers from the other side.



## Activities

- 8 Reconciliation Speak Out Forums
- 6 Youth Empowerment Policy Roundtables
- 1 Joint Youth Empowerment Policy Roundtables



# Reconciliation Hub

## Coming Soon!

### Reconciliation Hub Blog/Newsletter Platform

In the next stage of the project, we will build a new joint Online platform that serves as a forum for analyses and reflections about the conflict and reconciliation. Here, young Palestinians and Israelis can:

- Share their ideas
- Write blog posts
- Create video content

*Our goal:*

Increase communication and understanding, lower the barriers for connection, and create a safe space where young people can amplify messages of peace and reconciliation.

Before, during or after each activity, PPC and HLEP promote the activity through online media outlets, as well as through the websites (Arabic, Hebrew and English), Facebook pages (Arabic, Hebrew and English) and monthly newsletters (Hebrew and English). As a result of these efforts, in the fourth quarter, several PPC and HLEP activities were covered by local media in the Palestinian territories and Israel.



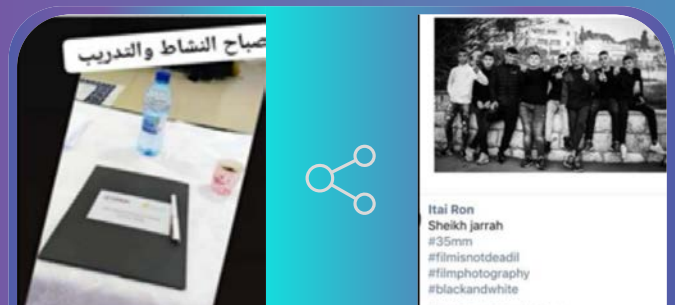
A young Palestinian Jerusalemite female, Niveen Sawi sharing her participation in the PEACE for Youth program, Ramallah.

Malak Abu Rayya sharing the Finale of her participation in the Local Preparatory Workshop- Hebron.



A young participant, graduate doctor Mohamed Lafi shared his experience with the first activity of the program on his facebook page, Ramallah.

"Good morning indeed" - Malak Abu Rayya sharing her participation in the PEACE for Youth program, Jericho.



Samah Erekat shares facebook story the second day of her attendance in the Local Training Course, Ramallah.

Itay Ron shares a post on his Facebook from the tour of young boys in Sheikh Jarrah



# How to find us

PPC:



H.L.E.P:

