

## JERUSALEM

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The Question of Jerusalem has been a primary focus of PASSIA's activities ever since its foundation in 1987, including hosting meetings, academic research, documentation, publication and cooperation with other institutions.

PASSIA projects intend to facilitate the exchange of information, to identify various needs and interests in the city and to encourage the development of possible future scenarios. These goals, in turn, have led to the discussion of a broad range of topics, including infrastructure, demographic and geopolitical issues, settlements and land use, 'absentee property', the Old City, religion and religious affiliation with the city, Israeli institutions, and future scenarios for the status of the city.

Over the years, Palestinian, Israeli, and foreign speakers from a variety of backgrounds - including scholars and academics, representatives from the three monotheistic religions, political figures, diplomats and visiting scholars or researchers - have been invited to give presentations, present research findings, and encourage debate on the issues at hand.

During 2017, PASSIA's ongoing work on Jerusalem included:

- (1) roundtable discussions and briefings (see below);
- (2) research and documentation on the deteriorating situation in East Jerusalem in general and at Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in particular;
- (3) publication of two bulletins, one entitled *Palestinian Youth with a special focus on Jerusalem* (see on Research of this Annual Report for details) and one entitled *Bab Ar-Rahmeh - A Venue for a Short Historical Review and Portraying the Current Situation 2017* (see below).

For events or meetings related to religious issues and Al-Aqsa Mosque please see the chapter on the Religious Studies Unit.

For more details and related materials on activities under the Religious Studies Unit please refer to PASSIA's website ([www.passia.org](http://www.passia.org)).

### **MEETINGS:**

#### **■ ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS:**

##### **8 January 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

##### **Topic: Jerusalem Issues**

Participant(s): Dr. Wasfi Kilani, Director, Hashemite Fund for the Restoration of Al-Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock, Amman; Sheikh Abdel Azim Salhab, Head, High Council of Waqf, Jerusalem; Sheikh Jamil Hamami, General Secretary, The Islamic Higher Committee; Mazen Sinokrot, Member, Waqf Council, Jerusalem; Mohammad Abbadi, Lawyer; Adnan Hussein, Governor of Jerusalem and Minister of Jerusalem Affairs; Hatem Abdel Qader, Fatah member, former Minister of Jerusalem Affairs, former PLC member for Jerusalem; Dr. Munir Nuseibah, Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Law, Director, Al-Quds Human Rights Clinic and Community Action Center, Al-Quds University; Sami Irshaid, Lawyer; Dr. Hani Abdeen, Member, Awqaf Council; Eng. Fouad Dakkak, Member, Awqaf Council; Fouad Hallak, PLO Negotiations Affairs Department, Ramallah.



**8 February 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: Empowering Youth and Strengthening Palestinian Identity in Jerusalem**

Participant(s): Daoud Ghoul, Manager, Health Work Committees; Naheel Bazbazat, Women & Youth Coordinator, Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA); Somoud Abu Khdeir, Volunteer; Lama Alami, Lawyer; Jess Notwell, Volunteer; Hind Hussein, PASSIA; Tasneem Qasem, Intern, PASSIA.



**21 February 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: The Current Situation in Palestine and Jerusalem**

Participant(s): Katia Schnellecke, Desk Officer for Palestine and Israel, Friedrich Ebert-Stiftung (FES), Berlin; Dr. Beyhan Senturk, Director, FES, Jerusalem; Omran Shroufi, Program Manager, FES, Jerusalem; Nicola Hofmann, Intern, FES, Jerusalem; Deniz Altayli, Program Director, PASSIA.



**23 March 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: UNSCO's Work in Jerusalem**

Participant(s): Robert Piper, Deputy Special Coordinator, Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process (UNSCO), Jerusalem; Shirin Pakfar, Chief, Coordination Unit, UNSCO, Jerusalem; Shifa Jayousi, UNSCO, Jerusalem; Deniz Altayli, Program Director, PASSIA.



**4 April 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: The Current Situation in Palestine and Jerusalem**

Participant(s): Global Platform Palestine/ActionAid Palestine - Danish Visiting Delegation: Jette Feltheim, Therapist, Social Work; Lone Israelsen; Lise Kofoed, Gardener; Bente Christiansen, Teacher; Lars Engberg, Economist; Mette Roerup, Teacher; Dorte Kelp, Teacher; Helle Fog, Nurse; Joline Khader, Admin & Finance Officer, Global Platform Palestine - ActionAid Palestine.



**30 April 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: The Question of Jerusalem: 50 Years of Occupation Must End!**

Participant(s): Izzat Abdul Hadi, Palestinian Ambassador to Australia; Mark Coulton, Member, Australian Parliament; Robyn Coulton, Farmer; Ross Hart, Member, Australian Parliament; Ken O'Dowd, Member, Australian Parliament; Maria Vamvakinou, Member, Australian Parliament; Penni Pappus, Assistant to MP Maria Vamvakinou; Lisa Singh, Senator; Stella Michael, Student; Jan Ybema, Intern, PASSIA.



**11 September 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: Education in Jerusalem**

Participant(s): Dr. Ishaq Qutob, President, Arab Student Aid International; Mohammad Qutob, Doctor of Chemistry; Prof. Maher Natsheh, Acting President, Al-Najah University, Nablus; Lamis Alami, Former Minister of Education; Dr. Hisham Dajani, Head, Arab Orphan's Committee.



**19 September 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: Jerusalem and the Palestinian-Israeli Impasse**

Participant(s): Arturo Scotto, Member of the Chamber of Deputies, Italy; Roberto Speranza, Member of the Chamber of Deputies, Italy; Daniela Reggiani, Technical Staff; Umberto De Giovannangeli, Technical Staff; Fabio Sokolowicz, Consul General; Federico Dimonopoli, Consul; Jamal Abu Omar, Interpreter.



**2 November 2017, American Colony Hotel, Jerusalem**

**Topic: The Palestinian-Israeli Conflict and the Question of Jerusalem**

Participant(s): 40 Senior Leaders of the Jewish Community of Toronto.



**7 November 2017, African Community Society, Old City, Jerusalem**

**Topic: Civil Society Consultations on the EU Programme to Support East Jerusalem**

Participant(s): Representatives of Palestinian civil society in East Jerusalem.

**22 November 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: Jerusalem and the Palestinian Narrative**

Participant(s): Ada Sophia Hahn, Intern, FES; Amira Edina Beyer, Intern, FES; Kirstie McMeekin, Intern, FES; Alexander Gerst, Intern, FES.



**19 December 2017, Legacy Hotel, Jerusalem**

**Topic: President Trump's Speech on Jerusalem - The Day after**

Speakers: Dr. Nasser Qudwa, Member of Fatah's Central Committee, Chairperson of the Yasser Arafat Foundation; Nathan Thrall, Senior Analyst, International Crisis Group; Dr. Khalil Shikaki, Director, Palestinian Center for Policy & Survey Research (PSR), Ramallah.

Participant(s): Paul Leclerc, Junior Political Advisor, Consulate General of France; José Luis González, Deputy Consul General, Consulate General of Spain; Catalin Tirlea, Head, Representative Office of Romania to the PA; Marie Cherchari, Head of Political Affairs, Consulate General of Belgium; Erik Björk, Consul, Political Affairs, Consulate General of Sweden; Julia Törsleff, Intern, Political Affairs/Human Rights, Consulate General of Sweden; Amb. Anna-Kaisa Heikkinen, Head, Representative Office of Finland to the PA, Ramallah; Amb. Hüsni Gürcan Türkoğlu, Consul General of the Republic of Turkey, Jerusalem; Alexander Savov, Head, Representative of Bulgaria, Ramallah; Leandro Vieira Silva, Deputy Representative, Representative Office of Brazil, Ramallah;



Hilde Haraldstad, Head, Representative of Norway to the PA; Dr. Andrea Nasi, Head, Representative of Austria to the PA; Artūras Gailiūnas, Head, Representative of Lithuania, Ramallah; Ian Anderson, Counsellor and Head of Political Section, Representative Office of Canada to the PA; Dr. Beyhan Senturk, Director, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES); Christoph Klement, Project Manager, FES; Eveline Muhareb, DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service); Bernadette Brooten, Professor, USA; Julie Trotter, Director of Research, French National Centre for Scientific Research; Rev. Victor Makari, Presbyterian Church (USA) Partnership Liaison; Terry Bullata, Swiss Development Cooperation; Bishop Dr. Munib A. Younan, Head, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan & the Holy Land (ELCJHL); Shifa Jayousi, Program Officer, UNSCO; Sheikh Abdel Azim Salhab, Head, High Council of Waqf, Jerusalem; Mazen Sinokrot, Chairman of AlQuds Holding, Jerusalem; Prof. Dr. Mustafa Abu Sway, Integral Chair for the Study of Imam Al-Ghazali's Work at the Holy Al-Aqsa Mosque and Al-Quds University; Dr. Tamer Sawalha; Ishaq Budeiri, Lawyer, Director, Arab Studies Society; Sawsan Safadi, PR Manager, PA Ministry of Education; Samer Nusseibeh, Engineer, Jerusalem; Dr. Munir Nuseibah, Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Law, Director, Al-Quds Human Rights Clinic and Community Action Center, Al-Quds University; Nora Kort, President, Community Development Consultant; Hind Khoury, Secretary-General, Kairos Palestine; Dr. Nafez Nubani, Medical Doctor, Jerusalem; Dr. Suleiman Ghosheh, Medical Doctor, Jerusalem; Mohammad Halayqa, Director, Yasser Arafat Museum (Beit Al-Thakira); Khalil Assali, Journalist, Akhbar El Balad; Mohammad Abu Khdeir, Journalist, Al-Quds Newspaper; Ibrahim Matar, Economist; Abdel Mon'em Salhab; Areej Deibes, Translator; Deniz Altayli, Program Director, PASSIA; Martijn Lauwens, Volunteer, PASSIA; Tasneem Qasem, PASSIA; Hind Husseini, PASSIA.



## ■ **BRIEFINGS:**

### **4 January 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: The Question of Jerusalem and the Possible US Embassy Move.**

**Participant(s): Ofer Zalzberg, Senior Analyst, Middle East and North Africa Program, International Crisis Group.**



### **9 February 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: Lessons Learnt from Past Israeli-Palestinian Negotiations and Different Visions for Jerusalem's Future**

**Participant(s): Jordan Perry, Senior Analyst, Middle East Peace Process & Jordan, Foreign Commonwealth Office, London, UK.**

### **20 February 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: Jerusalem - Issues at Stake**

**Participant(s): Heidi Marie Lindekleiv, Journalist, Vårt Land, Norway; Erlend Berge, Photographer, Vårt Land, Norway.**

**16 March 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: Islamic Document on Jerusalem**

Participant(s): Sheikh Abdel Azim Salhab, Head, High Council of Waqf, Jerusalem; Sheikh Jamil Hamami, General Secretary, The Islamic Higher Committee.



**10 April 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: Jerusalem and the UNESCO**

Participant(s): Ambassador Francisco Mauro de Holanda, Head, Representative Office of Brazil to the PA, Ramallah; Leandro Vieira Silva, First Secretary, Representative Office of Brazil to the PA, Ramallah.



**20 April 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: 50 Years of Israeli Military Occupation of the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem**

Participant(s): Piotr Smolar, Correspondent, Le Monde; Suheir Hashimeh, Le Monde.



**30 April 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: Preparing an Exhibition on the City of Jerusalem**

Participant(s): Delegation from the Stiftung Jüdisches Museum Berlin, Germany: Cilly Kugelmann, Former Director; Oliver Glatz, Freelance Curator.

**10 May 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: Jerusalem- June War 1967**

Participant(s): Inge Guenther, Bureau Chief, Frankfurter Rundschau / Berliner Zeitung.

**13 May 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: Palestinian Institutions in Jerusalem and Israeli Practices**

Participant(s): Daniel Seidemann, Israeli Attorney, Geo-Political Expert, Director, Terrestrial Jerusalem.

**7 September 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: The Jerusalem Question**

Participant(s): Christos Sofianopoulos, Consul General of Greece, Jerusalem.



**21 October 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: Jerusalem and the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict**

Participant(s): Fouad Hallak, Advisor, Negotiations Support Unit; Dareen Jubeh, Producer; Bing Xuan, Correspondent; Joe Sahar, Cameraman - China TV.



**23 November 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: Jerusalem Issues**

Participant(s): Ian Anderson, Counsellor & Head of Political Section, Representative Office of Canada; Delegation from the Foreign Ministry, Canada.



**6 December 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: Upcoming Speech of President Trump on Jerusalem**

Participant(s): Dan Rivers, Correspondent, ITN; Barnaby Green, Cameraman, ITN News.



**7 December 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: The Reaction of the Palestinian Street to Presidents Trump's Recognition of Jerusalem as the Capital of Israel**

Participant(s): On Live.

**12 December 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: Jerusalem**

Participant(s): Oliver McTernan, Director, Forward Thinking, UK; Deniz Altayli, Program Director, PASSIA.



**13 December 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: Israel after President Trump's Speech on Jerusalem**

Participant(s): Nathan Thrall, Senior Analyst, International Crisis Group; Martijn Lauwens, Volunteer, PASSIA; Deniz Altayli, Program Director, PASSIA.



■ **MEDIA:**

**9 January 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: Jerusalem and the US Embassy**

Participant(s): Dana Abu Shamsiya, Journalist, Palestine TV; Ameer Abed Rabbo, Cameraman, Palestine TV.



**16 January 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: The US Embassy and Jerusalem.**

Participant(s): Diala Jwehan, Journalist, Palestine TV; Ameer Abed Rabbo, Cameraman, Palestine TV



**23 January 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: The US Embassy and Jerusalem**

Participant(s): An Eye on Jerusalem Program, Jordan TV.

**15 May 2017, Jordan TV, Amman**

**Topic: Jerusalem**

Participant(s): An Eye on Jerusalem Program, Jordan TV.



**16 July 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: Mahdi Abdul Hadi Warns of the Dangers of Sectarian War in Jerusalem**

Participant(s): Monte Carlo Doualiya.

**19 October 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: Jerusalem: 14 July 2017 Events**

Participant(s): Turkish TV: Haneen Jaber, Producer; Shihab Kadamani, Producer.



**16 November 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: Jerusalem**

Participant(s): Nidal Kanaaneh, Sky News.

**6 December 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: Upcoming Speech of President Trump on Jerusalem**

Participant(s): French TV TF1: Helda Ereqat, Azel Fabrica, Christal Benoît, Azil Fabrice.



**6 December 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: Upcoming Speech of President Trump on Jerusalem**

Participant(s): Canal +: Kholoud-Lee Diab, Producer; Sébastien Pouquet, Correspondent, Valentin Jehain, Cameraman.

**7 December 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: President Trump's Speech on Jerusalem**

Participant(s): Piotr Smolar, Correspondent, Le Monde; Suheir Hashimeh, Le Monde.



**9 December 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: President Trump's Speech on Jerusalem**

Participant(s): Lea Frehse, Journalist, Die Zeit.



**11 December 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: The Moving of the American Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem**

Participant(s): Alan Fisher, Senior Correspondent, News Department, Aljazeera English.

**14 December 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: Civil Society Organizations' Reaction to President Trump's Speech on Jerusalem**

Participant(s): Daniel Estrin, International Correspondent, NPR.



**24 December 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: Jerusalem: Competing Claims over a Contested City**

Participant(s): Harry Fawcett, Al-Jazeera English.



**26 December 2017, PASSIA, Jerusalem**

**Topic: Israeli Policies after President Trump's Speech on Jerusalem**

**Participant(s):** Nidal Kanaaneh, Sky News.



## **RESEARCH, DOCUMENTATION & PUBLICATION**

**[Memo on the events at Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, July 2017](#)**

**Bulletin on Palestinian Youth with a special focus on Jerusalem** (in [English](#) and [Arabic](#))

**Bulletin on [Bab Ar-Rahmeh - A Venue for a Short Historical Review and Portraying the Current Situation 2017](#)** (in Arabic)