PASSIA
ANNUAL
REPORT
2023
# CONTENTS

## RESEARCH STUDIES PROGRAM

---

## JERUSALEM

---

Meetings & Conferences

---

Briefings

---

Research & Publication

---

## RELIGIOUS STUDIES UNIT

---

Meetings

---

Briefings

---

## DIALOGUE PROGRAM

---

Meetings

---

Briefings

---

## ADDRESSING THE CHALLENGE OF SCHOOL DROPOUTS IN EAST JERUSALEM

---

Meetings

---

Research & Publication

---

## FOSTERING YOUNG PALESTINIAN JERUSALEMITES ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP TOWARDS MEANINGFUL CIVIL AND POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

---

Meetings

---

Questionnaires

---

Training Programs

---

## PASSIA DESK DIARY

---

## APPENDICES

---

Board of Trustees

---

PASSIA Administration

---

Financial Support

---

List of Available Publications
Since its foundation in 1987, PASSIA has undertaken its Research Studies Program. To date, this program has resulted in over 200 publications researched and written by PASSIA team members or by specifically contracted researchers. Over the years, our authors have been as diverse as the subjects covered. They have included Palestinian, Arab, Israeli and international academics, scholars and experts.

In its efforts to provide background information, in-depth studies, and documentation on issues of concern as well as to promote a better understanding of the Palestinian cause, PASSIA maintains that all research and publishing are done within the context of academic freedom. PASSIA publications aim to be specialized, scientific and objective, yet they often address controversial or neglected issues and allow the expression of a wide range of perspectives.

PASSIA is proud that its publications have become a valuable reference source for academics, diplomats, professionals, libraries and anyone with an interest in Palestinian issues and their relations to regional and international affairs.

As part of its 2023 Research Program, PASSIA published a bulletin on *The Nakba – 75 Years On* and a *Needs Assessment on Youth Development and Empowerment in East Jerusalem*.

**The Nakba – 75 Years On**

*English and Arabic, 16 pages, June 2023*

This bulletin presents the Palestinian narrative of the history of the events preceding and surrounding the 1948 Nakba and shows that it was not merely a historical event, but is an ongoing process of Israel’s settler-colonialist strategy, disposessing indigenous Palestinians and segregating them under Israeli control to this day.
Needs Assessment on Youth Development and Empowerment in East Jerusalem

This report describes the process and outcome of a Needs Assessment on Youth Development and Empowerment in East Jerusalem, which PASSIA implemented in partnership with Taawon (Welfare Association). The goal was to conduct a comprehensive stocktaking of existing resources and opportunities for youth in East Jerusalem and to survey the opinions of youth themselves in order to provide a solid foundation for Taawon’s further strategizing, planning and programming in Jerusalem.

The needs assessment focused on identifying the needs of Palestinian youth in East Jerusalem across six sectors (education, employment, heritage/identity, culture/arts, community development, and sports/leisure) and proposing recommendations to address those needs. The needs assessment was conducted using a mixed-methods approach that included desk research, focus group discussions and questionnaires. It hopes to contribute to design and implement future interventions or solutions that are evidence-based and informed by the actual needs and challenges faced by the target group.
JERUSALEM

The Question of Jerusalem remained a focus of PASSIA’s activities during 2023. Activities included roundtable meetings, briefings, academic research, documentation, publication, and cooperation with other institutions.

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

MEETINGS & CONFERENCES

11 January 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem
**Topic:** Jerusalem Issues under the New Israeli Government
Participants: U.S. Office of Palestinian Affairs, Jerusalem: John W. Robbins, Political Officer; Rosaline Antar, Political Specialist; Sylvia Amer, Academic Programs Manager; Elie Teichman, Education & Exchanges Officer, Emily Green; PASSIA: Adnan Joulani, Consultant; Ines Amarnath, Intern; Lauren Draper, Intern; Rihan Taha, Intern.

18 January 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem
**Topic:** Jerusalem and the United Nations (UN) Presence
Participants: Richard Dictus, UN Regional Director, Development Cooperation Office for the Arab States, Shifa Jayousi, Project Coordinator, UNSCO; PASSIA: Adnan Joulani, Consultant; Deniz Altayli, Program Director; Ines Amarnath, Intern; Lauren Draper, Intern.

15 May 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem.
**Topic:** Education and other Palestinian Civil Society Concerns in Jerusalem
Participants: Office of the European Union Representative (West Bank and Gaza Strip, UNRWA): Martina Tenko, Political Officer; Minas Rajabi, Information Analyst & Press and Communication Officer; PASSIA: Deniz Altayli, Program Director; Adnan Joulani, Executive Director; Edgar Paysant, Intern.

31 May 2023, Legacy Hotel, Jerusalem.
**Topic:** The Crisis of Leadership in Jerusalem
**Organizer:** PASSIA & FES.
Participants: Over 70 Palestinians and representatives from international organizations and diplomatic missions.
08 June 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem.
**Topic:** The Crisis of Leadership in Jerusalem  
**Participants:** Dr. Helga Baumgarten, Professor, Birzeit University; Prof. Imad Khatib, Executive Vice-President for Jerusalem Campus, Al-Quds University; Yousef Dajani, Member, Council for Waqf & Islamic Affairs; Dr. Inad Al-Sorkhi, Researcher; Adnan Joulani, Executive Director, PASSIA.

04 July 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem.  
**Topic:** The Situation and Living Conditions of Palestinians in Jerusalem  
**Participants:** Students from the Vienna School of International Studies.

07 September 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem.  
**Topic:** The New Israeli Five-Year Plan for East Jerusalem  
**Participants:** John W. Robbins, Political Officer, U.S. Office of Palestinian Affairs, Jerusalem; Ghassan Abu Ahmad, OPA; Dr. Rami Nasrallah, Chairman, International Peace and Cooperation Center (IPCC); Tharaa Qirresh, Engineer; Adnan Joulani, Executive Director, PASSIA; Deniz Altayli, Program Director, PASSIA.

**BRIEFINGS**

3 January 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem.  
**Topic:** Current Political Developments in the Light of the New Israeli Government; Domestic Political Matters (Including Elections and Reforms), and the Implications for Jerusalem  
**Participants:** Oliver Owcza, Head, German Representative Office, Ramallah; Deniz Altayli, Program Director, PASSIA; Lauren Draper, Intern, PASSIA; Ines Amarnath, Intern, PASSIA.

16 February 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem.  
**Topic:** The Current Political Situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territories  
**Participants:** Lerato Ralejalla, Political Secretary, South African Representative Office, Ramallah; Adnan Joulani, Executive Director, PASSIA.
20 July 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem  
**Topic:** Jerusalem  
**Participants:** Phadime Choshane, Embassy Counsellor of the Republic of South Africa, Tel Aviv.

23 August 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem  
**Topic:** Current Situation in Jerusalem  
**Participants:** Quentin Lopinot, Deputy Head of Mission, Consulate General of France; Pierre-Arnaud Blanchard, Deputy Consul, Political Advisor, Consulate General of France; Dr. Bernard Sabella, Executive Secretary, Middle East Council of Churches, Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees; Adnan Joulani, Executive Director, PASSIA; Deniz Altayli, Program Director, PASSIA.

05 September 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem  
**Topic:** The Youth Movement in Palestine - The Case of Jerusalem  
**Participants:** Kensuke Yamamoto, Senior Assistant Professor, School of International Relations, Japan.

25 October 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem  
**Topic:** On Jerusalem Issues  
**Participants:** Ofer Zalzberg, Middle East Program Director, Herbert C. Kelman Institute; Adnan Joulani, Executive Director, PASSIA; Deniz Altayli, Program Director, PASSIA.

**RESEARCH & PUBLICATION**

PASSIA’s ongoing research on Jerusalem includes the **documentation of events** in or related to the city, which is regularly updated and published on PASSIA’s website. Besides factsheets and articles, this primarily includes a detailed chronology, listing Israeli rights violations such as home demolitions, land confiscations, assaults, and arrests, as well as political decisions, meetings, statements by local and international stakeholders, and related matters, thus making key information easily accessible for everyone interested in studying or tracing a specific past event that occurred in the city of Jerusalem.
(See also PASSIA’s Needs Assessment on Youth Development and Empowerment in East Jerusalem under the Research Studies chapter above).

**RELIGIOUS STUDIES UNIT**

PASSIA’s Religious Studies Unit was established in 1998 after realizing the increasing need for a better understanding of religious issues and the various religious communities. The Unit promotes inter-faith dialogue and activities, dealing chiefly with the causes and consequences of problems within and between the religious communities as well as the political repercussions of religious conflict, which naturally has a focus on Jerusalem’s holy sites and here in particular Al-Aqsa Mosque/Al-Haram Al-Sharif.

**MEETINGS & CONFERENCES**

28 January 2023, Jerusalem

**Topic:** Jerusalem and the Challenges Facing Al-Aqsa Mosque/Al-Haram Ash-Sharif

**Participants:** Dr. Wasfi Kilani, Hashemite Fund for the Restoration of Al-Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock, Member, Islamic Waqf Council; Sheikh Azzam Al-Khatib, Director of the Islamic Waqf Department, Member, Islamic Waqf Council; Eng. Alaa Salhab, Engineer and Businessman, Member, Islamic Waqf Council; Adnan Joulani, Consultant, PASSIA.
30 January 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem

**Topic:** Challenges to the Status Quo at Al-Aqsa Mosque/Al-Haram Al-Sharif under the New Israeli Government

**Participants:** Prof. Imad Khatib, Executive Vice President for Jerusalem Campus, Al-Quds University; Mustafa Abu Zahra, Chamber of Commerce, Jerusalem; Maher Daoudi, Senior Program Manager, Humanitarian Assistance, Consulate General of Sweden; Jamal Al-Aref, Consultant; Shifa Jayousi, Project Coordinator, UNSCO; Waad Qannam, Project Coordinator, PalVision; Nadeen Yousef, Advocacy Officer, Pal-Vision; Eng. Alaa Salhab, Engineer and Businessman, Member, Islamic Waqf Council; Adnan Joulani.

15 February 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem.

**Topic:** Muslim and Christian Communities in the Old City of Jerusalem

**Participants:** U.S. Office of Palestinian Affairs, Jerusalem: John W. Robbins, Political Officer; Rosaline Antar, Political Specialist; Kristen Fresonke, Political Officer, US Embassy, Amman; PASSIA: Deniz Altayli, Program Director; Adnan Joulani, Executive Director.

02 March 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem.

**Topic:** The Status Quo at Al-Aqsa Mosque/Al-Haram Al-Sharif

**Participants:** Office of the European Union Representative (West Bank & Gaza Strip, UNRWA): Martina Tenko, Deputy Head, Political Section; Samah Jaouny, Programme Manager, East Jerusalem Programme; Patrice Budry, Attaché, Programme Manager - East Jerusalem Programme; Deniz Altayli, Program Director, PASSIA.

02 March 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem.

**Topic:** Jerusalem and the Holy Places

**Participants:** Trond Bakkevig, Special Advisor, Norwegian Center for Conflict Resolution (NOREF); Ingrid Rosendorf Joys, General Secretary, the Council for Religious and Life Stance Communities (STL).

29 April 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem.

**Topic:** Al-Aqsa Mosque/Al-Haram Al-Sharif

**Participants:** Pastor Ryan Speakman, Minister, Author & Speaker, These Final Days (US); Mark Roach, Research Assistant, These Final Days; Benjamin Irons, Media Manager, These Final Days; Adnan Joulani, Executive Director, PASSIA; Lauren Draper, Intern, PASSIA.
13 June 2023, Al-Aqsa Mosque, Jerusalem.
**Topic:** EU and Jerusalem - Holy Places  
**Organizer:** Islamic Waqf Council.  
**Participants:** Margaritis Schinas, European Commission Vice-President for Promoting our European Way of Life, and Islamic Waqf Council members.

13 July 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem  
**Topic:** Jerusalem and the Holy Places  
**Participants:** Australian Delegation.

10 August 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem.  
**Topic:** The Question of Jerusalem and the Islamic and Christian Holy Places  
**Participants:** Prof. Burhanettin Duran, General Coordinator, SETA Foundation, Washington, D.C; Yücel Acer, Professor of International Law at the Faculty of Law, Yıldırım Beyazıt University, Ankara; Kılıç Buğra Kanat, Research Director, SETA Foundation; Mehmet Akif Kireçci, Dean of Faculty of Political Science and International Relations, Social Sciences University of Ankara, Member, Security and Foreign Policy Committee of the Turkish Presidency; Kadir Üstün, Executive Director, SETA Foundation; Aységül Taşkapu Duran; Cengiz Eroğlu, Director, Turkish Cultural Center; Semra Demirer, Deputy Consul General; Dr. Bernard Sabella, Vice Chairman of PASSIA, Executive Secretary, Middle East Council of Churches, Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees; Dr. Hani Abdeen, Member, Islamic Waqf Council, Jerusalem; Dr. Munir Nuseibah, Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Law, Director, Al-Quds Human Rights Clinic and Community Action Center, Al-Quds University; Adnan Joulani, Executive Director, PASSIA.

**BRIEFINGS**

25 February 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem.  
**Topic:** Al-Aqsa Mosque/ Al-Haram Ash-Sharif and the Holy Month of Ramadan  
**Participants:** Sheikh Azzam Al-Khatib, Director, Islamic Waqf Council, Jerusalem.
25 February 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem.
**Topic:** Investment and Development of the Waqf Islamic Property
**Participants:** Mazen Sinokrot, Businessman, Head, Al-Quds Holding, Former Member, of Islamic Waqf Council; Mahdi Sinokrot, Chief Operations Officer, Sinokrot Holding.

22 March 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem.
**Topic:** Jerusalem and the Holy Places
**Participants:** Shinji Hirose, Senior Analyst, Middle East and North Africa, International Analysis Department, Sumitomo Corporation Global Research Co. Ltd., Japan.

09 May 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem.
**Topic:** Jerusalem and the Holy Places
**Participants:** Trond Bakkevig, Special Advisor, Norwegian Center for Conflict Resolution (NOREF); Ingrid Rosendorf Joys, General Secretary, Council for Religious and Life Stance Communities (STL).

20 May 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem.
**Topic:** Al-Asa Mosque/Al-Haram Ash-Sharif
**Participants:** Sheikh Azzam Al-Khatib, Director, Islamic Waqf Council, Jerusalem.

27 July 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem.
**Topic:** The Situation of Muslim Religious and Cultural Heritage
**Participants:** Björn Kühne, Head of Regional Office, Office of the EUSR for the Middle East Peace Process; Adnan Joulani, Executive Director, PASSIA.

02 August 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem.
**Topic:** Jerusalem and the Holy Places
**Participants:** Amb. Ahmed Riza Demirer, Consul General of Turkey, Jerusalem; Semra Demirer, Deputy Consul General of Turkey; Cengiz Eroğlu, Director, Turkish Cultural Center, Jerusalem; Adnan Joulani, Executive Director, PASSIA.
12 August 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem.
**Topic:** Jerusalem and the Holy Places  
**Participants:** Oliver McTernan, Director, Forward-Thinking, UK; Adnan Joulani, Executive Director, PASSIA.

05 September 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem.  
**Topic:** Muslim Religious and Cultural Heritage  
**Participants:** Björn Kühne, Head of Regional Office, Office of the EUSR for the Middle East Peace Process, Jerusalem; Adnan Joulani, Executive Director, PASSIA; Deniz Altayli, Program Director, PASSIA.

21 October 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem  
**Topic:** Al-Aqsa Mosque During the Current Situations  
**Participants:** Sheikh Abdul Azim Salhab, Head, Council of Waqf & Islamic Affairs; Mazen Sinokrot, Businessman, Head, Al-Quds Holding, Former Member, Islamic Waqf Council; Mahdi Sinokrot, Chief Operations Officer, Sinokrot Holding.

28 November 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem  
**Topic:** Al-Aqsa Mosque  
**Participants:** Matthew Tostevin, Standards Editor, Newsweek, New York; Adnan Joulani, Executive Director, PASSIA.

07 December 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem  
**Topic:** Al-Aqsa Mosque  
**Participants:** Jason Morris, Political Consul, British Consulate-General Jerusalem; Adnan Joulani, Executive Director, PASSIA
Since PASSIA’s foundation in 1987, its Dialogue Program has striven to promote free expression within Palestinian society and to foster a better understanding of Palestinian affairs, be they in the domestic or international context. In providing a forum for dialogue and exchange, PASSIA has been serving as a catalyst for civic debate.

Central to these efforts has been the presentation and analysis of a plurality of Palestinian perspectives and approaches on a wide range of subjects broadly related to the Palestine Question – whether through roundtable meetings, briefings or media appearances. As part of the former, **Speakers** are invited (and sometimes a discussant as well) to lecture on a certain **Topic**, followed by a discussion with the audience present. These **roundtable meetings** aim to promote thought and debate among Palestinians and between Palestinians and their foreign counterparts. In order to accommodate a larger audience attending those meetings ‘public lectures’, most of them take place in hotel halls (in Jerusalem or Ramallah). **Speakers**, discussants and **Participants** usually include local and foreign figures from a variety of backgrounds and schools of thought: scholars, professionals, officials and intellectuals from Palestine, Israel and abroad; members of Palestinian NGOs, political factions and the media, as well as representatives of diplomatic missions.

**PASSIA briefings** are a venue for encounters, dialogue and discussions involving representatives and organizations from various backgrounds. Briefings typically focus on current Palestinian affairs and are designed to build bridges of communication and understanding between Palestinians from different streams of society and to develop constructive and focused academic contact between Palestinians and their counterparts. They include meetings in which resident diplomats, visiting foreign delegations or student groups from international universities discuss Palestinian affairs and exchange thoughts and opinions concerning the situation in the Palestinian Territories.

**Media** appearances are encounters with resident and visiting correspondents and journalists, mostly in the form of interviews.

PASSIA also receives invitations to meetings with diplomats and visiting foreign dignitaries at other venues helping to consolidate relationships and forge connections between Palestinians and their foreign counterparts.

All meetings were attended by Dr. Mahdi Abdul Hadi, Head of PASSIA. The summary or full text of some meetings, as well as related materials, can be found on PASSIA’s website (http://passia.org/meetings/54). For meetings on Jerusalem or on religious issues please see the corresponding chapters in this report.
**MEETINGS**

22 February 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem.

**Topic:** The Prevailing Situation in Palestine  
**Participants:** Judith Braun, Junior Guest Researcher, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES).  
Jerusalem: Interns, FES Office, Tel Aviv: Carolin Ordon; Paul Hansen.

03 April 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem  
**Topic:** Cooperation 2023  
**Participants:** Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES), Jerusalem: Hannes Alpen, Director; Islam Abdul Jabbar, Program Manager; Judith Braun, Junior Guest Researcher; PASSIA: Deniz Altayli, Program Director; Adnan Joulani, Executive Director; Lauren Draper, Intern.

04 April 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem  
**Topic:** Regional Developments and their Implications for the Palestinians  
**Participants:** Office of the European Union Representative (West Bank and Gaza Strip, UNRWA): Ramesh de Silva, Head of Political Section; Ingrid Bohlin, Political Officer; Minas Rajabi, Information Analyst/Press & Communication Officer; PASSIA: Deniz Altayli, Program Director; Adnan Joulani, Executive Director; Lauren Draper, Intern.

15 April 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem  
**Topic:** The European Stance Towards Recent Developments in Palestine and Israel  
**Speakers:** Dr. Muriel Asseburg, Senior Fellow, Africa and Middle East Research Division, Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP), Berlin, the German Institute for International and Security Affairs.  
**Participants:** Dr. Hani Abdeen, Professor at Al-Quds University, former PA Health Minister; Jamal Al-Aref, Consultant; Khaled Khatib, Director, Palestinian Heritage Museum, Hind Husseini Foundation (Dar Al-Tifl Al-Arabi), Jerusalem; Hannes Alpen, Director, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES), Jerusalem; Islam Abdul Jabbar, Program Manager, FES; Deniz Altayli, Program Director, PASSIA; Adnan Joulani, Executive Director, PASSIA; Lauren Draper, Intern, PASSIA.
19 April 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem
**Topic:** Palestinian Security Forces and the Current Situation
**Participants:** Brigadier-General S. Mark Parsons, USSC Deputy Coordinator, Operation/Comd Task Force Jerusalem, Operation Proteus; Osama Wazwaz, Senior DND Officer, Operation Proteus; Corporal Naomie Leblanc; Captain Christopher McIver; Jonathan Séguin, USSC DCOORD Staff Officer; Deniz Altayli, Program Director, PASSIA; Adnan Joulani, Executive Director, PASSIA; Lauren Draper, Intern, PASSIA.

03 July 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem.
**Topic:** The Two-State Solution: Is it Still Viable?
**Participants:** US Office of Palestinian Affairs, Jerusalem: George Noll, Chief; John W. Robbins, Political Officer; Rosaline Antar, Political Specialist; Chelsea Kinsman; Prof. Imad Khatib, Executive Vice-President for Jerusalem Campus, Al-Quds University; Dr. Hani Abdeen, Professor at Al-Quds University, former PA Health Minister; Khaled Khatib, Director, Palestinian Heritage Museum, Hind Husseini Foundation (Dar Al-Tifel Al-Arabi); Dr. Adel Ruished; Fatmeh Hammad, Consultant, UNFPA; Deniz Altayli, Program Director, PASSIA; Adnan Joulani, Executive Director, PASSIA; Nawwal Salaimeh, Intern, PASSIA; Jenna Kitts, Volunteer, PASSIA; Lauren Cusick, Volunteer, PASSIA.

30 August 2023, Legacy Hotel, Jerusalem.
**Topic:** Regional Developments and Their Implications for Palestine,
**Speakers:** Diana Buttu, Palestinian lawyer, writer and analyst.
18 October 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem.
**Topic:** The Current Situation and What Lies Ahead
**Participants:** Brigadier General Trevor Teller, Task Force Commander PROTEUS; Colonel Robert Bailey, Deputy Commander; Lieutenant Colonel Travis Haines, Training Officer; Major Glen Persaud, Operations Officer; Captain Nicolas Ouettee, General's Assistant; Osama Wazwaz, Advisor to the General; Adnan Joulani, Executive Director, PASSIA; Deniz Altayli, Program Director, PASSIA.

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**BRIEFINGS**

02 March 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem.
**Topic:** Recent Developments in the Region
**Participants:** Niko Fritscher, Political Secretary, German Representative Office, Ramallah; Christian Rosenberger, Political Secretary, German Embassy, Tel Aviv.

25 May 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem.
**Topic:** The State of the Two-State Solution
**Participants:** Diane Corner, British Consul General, Jerusalem; Annabel Mitchell-Gears, Political Consul, British Consulate General, Jerusalem; Deniz Altayli, Program Director; Adnan Joulani, Executive Director.

21 September 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem
**Topic:** Palestinian Security Forces
**Participants:** Captain Sara Little, Security Advisor, Operation PROTEUS, Canadian Forces; Adnan Joulani, Executive Director, PASSIA; Deniz Altayli, Program Director, PASSIA.

13 November, PASSIA, Jerusalem.
**Topic:** Israel's War on Gaza
**Participants:** Oliver McTernan, Director, Forward Thinking, London; Jordan Morgan, Director of Programs, London, Forward Thinking; Adnan Joulani, Executive Director, PASSIA; Deniz Altayli, Program Director, PASSIA.
ADDRESSING THE CHALLENGE OF SCHOOL DROPOUTS IN EAST JERUSALEM

In 2023, PASSIA embarked on a special project that aimed to examine the problematic issue of the high rate of Palestinian school dropouts in Jerusalem, to tackle the causes and the consequences of the issue, and to understand the different barriers and opportunities for young men and women as well as the contributing factors in the Palestinian education sector.

As part of the project, an in-depth desk and field research study on school dropouts was conducted and resulted in the publication of the study report and of a guiding booklet on possible career pathways for school dropouts in East Jerusalem.

MEETINGS

23 August 2023, Legacy Hotel, Jerusalem.
**Topic:** The Reality of School Dropouts in East Jerusalem
**Speaker:** Yahya Hijazi, Educational Consultant
**Organized by:** PASSIA in partnership with Al-Rajaa Organization

20 September 2023, Legacy Hotel, Jerusalem.
**Topic:** Options for Dropouts - Towards Improving Life and Career Prospects for Dropouts
**Facilitator:** Adnan Joulani, Executive Director, PASSIA
**Speaker:** Marlene Rabadi, Consultant
This study examines the challenge of dropouts in East Jerusalem and looks at ways and means on how to facilitate sustained (re)engagement in education or training for them as one of the most vulnerable groups in East Jerusalem society. The study has set itself the task of looking into existing options for dropouts and assessing whether these are sufficient, successful and readily available, and if not, suggesting alternative measures and programs to support young Palestinians who left compulsory education to obtain skills which are required to enter the occupational field that corresponds best to their potential.

**Addressing the Challenge of School Dropouts in East Jerusalem**

English and Arabic, 79 pages, July 2023

Youth who drop out lack access to relevant education and training opportunities and are therefore unable to further develop basic livelihood skills, which often makes them one of the most vulnerable segments of society. This is why this study addressed the challenge of dropouts in East Jerusalem and gathered information about existing options for early school leavers as well as identify potential remedies to getting them back into the loop – not least as a means to reduce poverty and social disintegration.
Possible Career Pathways for School Dropouts in East Jerusalem

English and Arabic, 20 pages, November 2023

Whatever the reason for dropping out of school this guide shows that it is not the end of the world but could be the beginning of a different journey. There are still things Palestinian school dropouts from East Jerusalem can do to prepare themselves for a good future, and this booklet intends to guide them through the options at hand.

It includes guidance on how to identify the career that fits one best in order to help make the most suitable educational and job-related choices and find out how to learn the skills needed to excel in whatever choice one makes.

It lists courses, programs and activities that address direct or indirect dropouts and are currently available in East Jerusalem.

FOSTERING YOUNG PALESTINIAN JERUSALEMITES ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP TOWARDS MEANINGFUL CIVIL AND POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

This project was developed against the background of the living conditions in East Jerusalem which create a context that leaves little perspectives for Palestinians in general and the youth in particular. In addition, while youth constitute a major share of the society and while there is a range of organizations in Jerusalem dedicated to youth work or targeting youth in one way or another, they hardly appear as civic actors and are barely represented in decision-making processes.

Thus, Palestinian youth and young adults living in East Jerusalem do not currently use their potential as active citizens and there still a major gap between desired and actual participation. Past initiatives that started promising in their attempts to achieving a more inclusive and participatory political role proved short-lived and faded away. Given the fact that today’s youth are the future, there is an urgent need to counter this trend.
Identifying the barriers and obstacles to participation is a prerequisite for a meaningful engagement of young people. The goal of the project was thus to explore the physical, social, cultural and political barriers to youth participation and engagement, particularly within the special context of Jerusalem, and look into the kind of interventions needed to overcome these.

In achieving this, the project:

- provided a forum where youth can share perspectives in constructive dialogue;
- facilitated discussion among youth on issues that affect their social, legal, economic and political status;
- increased the ability of youth to understand and claim their rights as well as advocate for social change in their local communities.

Activities under this project that took place in 2023 included structured dialogue with youth groups (focus group meetings) to elaborate on the principles of youth inclusion and empowerment and identify entry points for enhanced youth engagement.

In 2023, the project also focused on questionnaire-based interviews with key informants and youth to gain additional insights. The results - together with the findings from the 2022 SWOT analysis and the focus group discussions – will be published in a report in early 2024.

In addition, several training programs were conducted focusing on specific skills required for proper participation. At the conclusion of the project in 2024, there will be a youth-led conference on the topics explored in this project.

MEETINGS

28 January 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem

Topic: Youth Political Participation and Representation in Jerusalem

Facilitator: Adnan Joulani, Consultant, PASSIA
Participants: Zeina Ayyad, Employee; Tharaa Qirresh, Engineer; Hasnia Shouli, Student; Basel Abed; Nisreen Abu Zayyad, Employee; Anwar Awad Allah, Al-Zaytoona Society; Khadr Nijem, Tour Guide; Ratebeh Natsheh, Activist; Canadian Representative Office, Ramallah: Inas Odeh, Political and Public Affairs Officer; Rana Sandouka, CFLI Coordinator; PASSIA: Hind Husseini; Rihan Taha, Intern.
27 February 2023, PASSIA, Jerusalem.

**Topic:** Youth Political Participation and Representation in Jerusalem  
**Facilitator:** Inas Qadamani, Journalist  
**Participants:** Saro Nakashian, CEO, Palestine Education for Employment; Farah Abu Zant, Director of Social Work, Burj Al-Luqluq; Ayoub Joulani; Rana Amad, Manager, Palestine Desk, Friedrich Naumann Stiftung; Khaled Katib, Director, Palestinian Heritage Museum, Hind Husseini Foundation (Dar Al-Tifel Al-Arabi); Khaled Daoudi; Director of Research and Development; Talat Alawi, Owner, Al-Safeer Economic Newspaper; Adnan Joulani, Executive Director, PASSIA.

27 February 2023, PYALARA, Jab'a

**Topic:** Youth Political Participation and Representation in Jerusalem  
**Facilitator:** Inas Qadamani, Journalist  
**Participants:** Nour Muheisen, Student, Journalism; Arwa Salaymeh, Student, Journalism; Fida’ Mohammad, Student, Social Service; Saja Tawwam; Amani Tawwam, Fresh Graduate, Geography and Civil Studies; Ola Barakat; Ahlam Tawwam, Student, Special Education; Intesar Hmeid, Student, Social Work; Moyassar Hammohed, Student, Social Work; Lina Taha, Student, Social Work; Rasha Rimawi, Student, Social Work; Afaf Khalil, Student, Social Work; Adnan Joulani, Executive Director, PASSIA; Hind Husseini, PASSIA.

28 February 2023, Women's Center, Shu'fat Refugee Camp.

**Topic:** Youth Political Participation and Representation in Jerusalem  
**Facilitator:** Inas Qadamani, Journalist  
**Participants:** Sarah Sinokrot; Aytam Daraghmeh; Halimeh Hoshiya; Mariam Kroshan; Najieh Orrab; Ayda Abed Al-Nabi; Hanan Abu Nabi; Abeer Abu Sondos; Dua’ Abu Asab; A’qad Wahbeh; Dua Adan; Ayat Adan; Ruba Natheh; Hamedeh Natheh; Nijmeh Bakeer; Eman Hamdan; Asma’ Mohammad Ali; Adnan Joulani, Executive Director, PASSIA; Hind Husseini, PASSIA.
The project to answer the questions of if and how the capacity of young Palestinian Jerusalemites as civic actors can be developed, how they can be encouraged to become engaged with central issues of (their) concern, what skills are needed to equip them to make their voices heard, and what active steps must be taken to give them the space to be their own agents of change. In order to gain insights in these and related questions, PASSIA designed two specific questionnaires, one to be used in interviews with key informants and the other in interviews with the use themselves.

The key informants’ questionnaire was designed to learn from the experiences of those involved in community work involving youth and to get a better understanding of the reasons, obstacles and potentials for youth participation.

The other questionnaire targeted the youth directly and looked at forms of past and current participation of young people and explored what motivates or stops them from getting (further) involved, what are the issues they are interested in, and assessed the opportunities for participation.
TRAINING PROGRAMS

17 June 2023, JEST, Jerusalem

**Introduction to Policy and Influencing**

*Facilitator: Khalil Abu Khadija, Advocacy, Communications & HR Consultant*

**Course Outline:**

- Understanding Political Campaigning
- Key Elements of a Political Campaign
- Crafting a Compelling Campaign Message
- Targeting and Mobilizing Voters
- Building a Strong Campaign Team
- Utilizing Social Media for Campaign Success
- Interactive Session: Q&A and Sharing Experiences
- Grassroots Organizing and Community Engagement
- Fundraising Strategies for Political Campaigns
- Reflection and Closing Remarks

14 September–10 December 2023

**Debating Skills** (five sessions)

*Facilitator: Dr. Rania Al-Muhtadi, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Humanities, Al-Quds University; Certified Judge and Trainer, Qatar Debate Center.*
In 2023, PASSIA published the 36th edition of its annual Desk Diary, which is divided into three sections - the Calendar, the Directory, and the Agenda. The Diary provides a comprehensive “tool” for anyone working in or on Palestine or interested in the Palestine Question. The current edition was updated, amended and revised according to new information that had become available throughout the year. On over 300 pages, the 2024 PASSIA Desk Diary contains a directory of contact information for relevant organizations operating in the West Bank and Gaza (listing names, addresses, main activities), as well as a full day-to-day planner (calendar) for the year, and a comprehensive compilation of statistics, facts and figures related to Palestine and the Palestinians. PASSIA is very proud to say that its diary has become an invaluable source of information for many people, both locally and abroad.

Calendar

The first section of the Diary includes all the standard features of a calendar, such as a day by-day planner, calendars for the previous and following years, address and note space, and anniversaries and national holidays of foreign countries. On each calendar page, the 2024 edition contains informative textboxes related to the history and evolution of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) to mark the 60th anniversary of its founding.

Directory:

This part of the Diary contains the Directory listing Palestinian and international institutions operating in Palestine as well as selected Arab and Israeli organizations located in Israel. Entries include names of contact persons, phone and fax numbers, e-mail and mailing addresses, websites, and a few keywords describing an organization’s main field of work. At the end of the directory there is an alphabetical index to facilitate searches for certain entries. In the 2024 edition, entries included the following:
State of Palestine
Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO)
- PLO Executive Committee & Departments
- Palestinian National Council
- PLO Delegations Abroad Representation in International Bodies

Palestinian Authority (PA)
- President’s Office (Departments, Advisors)
- Ministries (PMO, Cabinet Office)
- Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC)
- Attorney General-General Prosecution
- High Judicial Council
- Supreme Judge Department
- The Upper Council of Sharia Jurisdiction
- PA Institutions, Councils & Commissions
- Police and Security
- Local Government Administration
- Governorates, Municipalities & Councils

Political Parties and Factions
- Fateh Bodies and Offices

Academic and Research Centers

Agriculture

Associations & Unions

Chambers of Commerce

Charitable Organizations

Culture
- Art & Galleries
- Cultural & Folklore Centers
- Film & Cinema
- Literature
- Museums
- Music & Dance
- Theater

Democracy & Community Development Centers

Diplomatic Missions
- Consulates
- Representative Offices to the PA
- Embassies

Education
- Universities
- Colleges
- Training & Vocational Centers
- Schools
- Early Childhood Education
- Educational Institutes
- Libraries

Environment & Water

Financial & Development Institutions
- Banks
- Investment, Financial Consulting & Credit Companies

Governmental Aid Missions

Health

Human Rights & Law
- Human Rights Centers
- Law Offices
- Lawyers

International & UN Organizations

Israeli Activist Groups

Media & Press
- Palestinian
- Internet Press
- Newspapers & Media Services
- Radio & TV Stations
- Arab TV
- International
- Israeli

NGOs
- Coordinating Groups
- Canadian NGOs
- European NGOs
- US NGOs
- Others & International NGOs

Palestinian Organizations in Israel

Religious Forums & Centers
- Islamic
- Christian
The Agenda

The Diary’s third and final section is the Agenda, which is a yearbook-style compendium of information. It contains a wealth of the latest facts and statistics about Palestine and the Palestinians, supported by tables, illustrative graphs, and suggestions for further research (reading material and website references). The Agenda is divided into the 14 main and several sub-chapters, dealing with the following aspects of Palestinian society and the Palestine Question:

1. Palestine at A Glance
2. Israeli Occupation
3. Geography
4. Population
5. Refugees
6. Land & Settlement
7. Water & Environment
8. Economy
  8.1. Background & Overview
  8.2. Agriculture
  8.3. Industry & Private Sector
  8.4. Labor Market & Employment
  8.5. Tourism
  8.6. Trade
  8.7. Finances
9. Education
10. Health
11. Infrastructure
  11.1. Housing & Construction
  11.2. Electricity & Energy
  11.3. Transportation & Roads
  11.4. Communication

26
12. Society & Living Conditions
   12.1. General Social Features
   12.2. Household & Living Conditions

13. Government
   13.1. Administration
   13.2. Elections
   13.3. Rule of Law
   13.4. Police & Security
   13.5. Negotiations
   13.6. State of Palestine

14. Jerusalem
   14.1. Historical Facts & Figures
   14.2. Legal Status
   14.3. Jerusalem in Negotiations
   14.4. Population
   14.5. Residency Rights
   14.6. Housing & House Demolitions
   14.7. Land & Settlement
   14.8. The Old City
   14.9. Education
   14.10. Employment & Poverty
   14.11. Israeli Municipal Policies

Timeline - Milestones in Palestinian History
Maps
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Dr. Mahdi Abdul Hadi - Chairman
Political scientist; historian; columnist; author; (co-)founder and member of various Palestinian, Arab and International institutions; founder and head of PASSIA

Dr. Adnan Musallam – Secretary
Associate Professor of History, Bethlehem University; founder and vice president of Al-Liqa’ Center for Religious and Heritage Studies in the Holy Land, Bethlehem

Dr. Sari Nusseibeh
Professor of Philosophy; political analyst; author; President of Al-Quds University, Jerusalem

Dr. Bernard Sabella
Professor of Sociology, Bethlehem University; demographer; columnist and author of various studies; Executive Secretary, Middle East Council of Churches, Jerusalem

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; member of the Waqf Council, Jerusalem
Khalil Abu Khadijeh
Advocacy, Communications & HR Consultant, Jerusalem

Diana Safieh
Founder/General Manageress of a private Palestinian travel company, Jerusalem; member of various Palestinian women organizations, Jerusalem

Yousef Salman – Treasurer
MBA, BS Accounting; St. John Fisher College

PASSIA ADMINISTRATION

PASSIA employs its staff on a contractual basis, full or part time. The 2022 PASSIA team, headed by Dr. Mahdi Abdul Hadi, handled the execution of all projects, with additional researchers and other staff commissioned full- or parttime for specific tasks related to these projects if and where needed. This included also a number of volunteers and interns, whose contribution has always been and still is highly appreciated by PASSIA.

Adnan Joulani - Executive Director
MA International Studies, University of Reading, England

Deniz Altayli - Program Director
MA Sociology (with Economics & Political Science), Heidelberg University, Germany

Imad Farrah - IT Consultant
BA Information Technology, Al-Quds University, Jerusalem

Hind Al-Husseini - Administration
BA English Language and Translation, Applied Science University, Jordan

Bijad Ahmad - Administration
BA Finance & Banking, Birzeit University, Birzeit

Haitham Khalifeh - Accountant
CMA (Certified Management Accountant), Institute of Management Accountants (IMA), USA

Wa'el Sa'adi - Auditor (C.P.A)
BA Accounting & Economics; MBA Business Administration; Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Mazen Qubti - Legal Advisor
Attorney, Jerusalem
Volunteers and Interns 2023:

- Lauren Cusick-Draper (American)
- Ines Amarnath (French)
- Rihan Taha (Palestinian)
- Edgar Paysant (French)
- Nawwal Salaimeh (Palestinian)
- Jenna Kitts (American)
- Ayman Bazbaz (Palestinian)

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Below is a list of sources of financial support PASSIA received for projects undertaken during 2023. PASSIA would like to take this opportunity to express its appreciation for the trust, cooperation and support of our donors, without which we could not do our work.

Research Studies Program

Bulletin on The Nakba – 75 Years on

Supported by the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES), Jerusalem

Religious Studies Unit

Partially supported by the Hashemite Fund for Building and Maintenance of the Blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque, Amman, and the Jerusalem Waqf.

Dialogue Program

Partially supported by the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES), Jerusalem.

Needs Assessment on Youth Development and Empowerment in East Jerusalem

Supported by Taawon (Welfare Association) - Consultancy Services

Addressing the Challenge of School Dropouts in East Jerusalem

Supported by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Fostering Young Palestinian Jerusalemites Active Citizenship Towards Meaningful Civil and Political Participation

Supported by the Canada Fund for Local Initiatives (CFLI), Ramallah

PASSIA Desk Diary

Supported by the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES), Jerusalem
LIST OF AVAILABLE PUBLICATIONS

Ever since its foundation, PASSIA has been extensively engaged in publishing and documenting. Currently, the following studies, monographs, research world and reports are available (for more information and/or to order, please visit our website at www.passia.org or email us at passia@passia.org):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NO</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>AUTHOR</th>
<th>Arabic/Engl.</th>
<th>DATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>The Conservation of Jerusalem</td>
<td>Khaled A. Khatib, Jerusalem</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>June 1993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Dutch Development Policy Towards the Middle East</td>
<td>Tom de Quaaseniet, Amsterdam</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>May 1994</td>
</tr>
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<td>No.</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Author(s)</td>
<td>Publisher</td>
<td>Date</td>
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<tr>
<td>-----</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23.</td>
<td>Peace Enemies - The Past and Present Conflict between Israel and Palestine</td>
<td>Ludwig Watzal, Bonn (transl. from German by Deniz Altayli)</td>
<td>E June 1999</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29.</td>
<td>Palestinian Judiciary and the Rule of Law in the Autonomous Areas – An Introduction</td>
<td>Victoria Wagner, University of Vienna, Austria</td>
<td>E Nov. 2000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36.</td>
<td>100 Years of Palestinian History - A 20th Century Chronology</td>
<td>PASSIA Publication, Jerusalem</td>
<td>E Dec. 2001; 2005</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37.</td>
<td>Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon - From Hosting to Discrimination</td>
<td>Hussein Chaaban, UK</td>
<td>A Feb. 2002</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42.</td>
<td>Palestine in Review - This Was 2000</td>
<td>PASSIA Publication, Jerusalem</td>
<td>E Sept. 2003</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44.</td>
<td>Palestine in Review - This Was 2001</td>
<td>PASSIA Publication, Jerusalem</td>
<td>E Dec. 2003</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45.</td>
<td>Moses in the Three Monotheistic Faiths</td>
<td>Rabbi David Rosen, Fr. Dr. Louis Hazboun, Dr. Mustafa Abu Sway</td>
<td>E Dec. 2003</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47.</td>
<td>Civil Society Empowerment: Governance Issues</td>
<td>PASSIA Publication, Jerusalem</td>
<td>E July 2004</td>
<td></td>
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<td>No.</td>
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<td>49</td>
<td>Security Sector Reform in the OPT</td>
<td>Roland Friedrich</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Nov. 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>Palestinian-Israeli Impasse - Exploring Alternative Solutions to the Palestine Israel Conflict</td>
<td>Various contributors</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Aug. 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>PASSIA Seminar 2004: Ireland &amp; Palestine: Divided Countries United by History</td>
<td>PASSIA Publication, Jerusalem</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>Islam in Contemporary Palestine</td>
<td>Various contributors</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Nov. 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td>Introduction into Islamic Culture</td>
<td>Various contributors</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Dec. 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>In Search for a Palestinian Identity-A Personal Odyssey</td>
<td>Khalil Nakhleh</td>
<td>E/A</td>
<td>Dec. 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>Palestine in Review - This Was 2002</td>
<td>PASSIA Publication, Jerusalem</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Dec. 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>Palestinian Security Sector Reform</td>
<td>Various contributors</td>
<td>E/A</td>
<td>Dec. 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57</td>
<td>Civic Education in Palestine - Citizenship, Human Rights, &amp; Community Development</td>
<td>Various contributors</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>April 2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59</td>
<td>Palestinian Security Sector Governance - Challenges and Prospects</td>
<td>PASSIA &amp; DCAF (Geneva Centre for Democratic Control of Armed Forces)</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Aug. 2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>Palestine in Review - This Was 2003</td>
<td>PASSIA Publication, Jerusalem</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Dec. 2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61</td>
<td>Palestine in Review - This Was 2004</td>
<td>PASSIA Publication, Jerusalem</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Dec. 2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62</td>
<td>Documents on Jerusalem (4 Vol., incl. CD)</td>
<td>Ed. by Dr. Mahdi Abdul Hadi</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Jan. 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63</td>
<td>Palestine in Review - This Was 2005</td>
<td>PASSIA Publication, Jerusalem</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>June 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64</td>
<td>Jesus in the Christian and Muslim Faiths</td>
<td>Fr. Rafiq Khoury/Dr. Mustafa Abu Sway</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Dec. 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65</td>
<td>Documents on Palestine (8 Vol., incl. CD)</td>
<td>Ed. by Dr. Mahdi Abdul Hadi</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Dec. 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69</td>
<td>Jerusalem</td>
<td>PASSIA Publication, Jerusalem</td>
<td>E/A</td>
<td>June 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70</td>
<td>Finland and Palestine</td>
<td>Various contributors, PASSIA</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Aug. 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>71</td>
<td>To Jerusalem- In the Steps of Eight Swedes &amp; a Finn</td>
<td>Mia Gröndahl</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Dec. 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73</td>
<td>Hamas - From Resistance to Government?</td>
<td>Paola Caridi</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Feb. 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74</td>
<td>European Union Foreign Policy in the OPT</td>
<td>Ruba Al-Fattal</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Mar. 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75</td>
<td>Nakba</td>
<td>PASSIA Bulletin, Jerusalem</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>May 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76</td>
<td>Jerusalem &amp; Palestine in the Arab Discourse</td>
<td>Bulletin by Dr. Mahdi Abdul Hadi</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Sept. 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77</td>
<td>Palestinian Resistance and Non-Violence</td>
<td>Andrew Rigby</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Nov. 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>78</td>
<td>Jerusalem of Art</td>
<td>PASSIA Publication, Jerusalem</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Feb. 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81</td>
<td>Negotiations</td>
<td>PASSIA Bulletin, Jerusalem</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>June 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>82</td>
<td>Virgin Mary in the Christian Heritage &amp; the Islamic Faith</td>
<td>Dr. Abdul Rahman Abbad, Naim Ateek, Rafiq Khouri, Dr. Mohammed Salim Ali</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Aug. 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83</td>
<td>The People of the Book</td>
<td>Various contributors, PASSIA</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Sept. 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Bulletin by Dr. Mahdi Abdul Hadi</td>
<td>A/E</td>
<td>Dec. 2011 April 2013</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90. Fragmenting Palestine</td>
<td>PASSIA Bulletin, Jerusalem</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>May 2013</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95. The Palestine Question in Maps – 1878-2014</td>
<td>Ed. by Dr. Mahdi Abdul Hadi</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Aug. 2014</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96. PLO vs. PA</td>
<td>PASSIA Bulletin, Jerusalem</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Sept. 2014</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>97. Custodianship in the Al-Aqsa Mosque</td>
<td>Bulletin by Dr. Mahdi Abdul Hadi</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Dec. 2014</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>98. Al-Aqsa Mosque Compound - Targeted</td>
<td>PASSIA Bulletin, Jerusalem</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>April 2015</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100. France and Jerusalem</td>
<td>Elodie Farge</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Oct. 2015</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101. The Palestinian Political Scene 2015</td>
<td>Bulletin by Dr. Mahdi Abdul Hadi</td>
<td>E/A</td>
<td>Dec. 2015</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>103. Palestinian Youth</td>
<td>PASSIA Bulletin, Jerusalem</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>April 2017</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>108. The Other Side of the Coin – A Native Palestinian Tells His Story</td>
<td>Mufid Abdul Hadi (translated from Swedish by A. Schabbauer)</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>April 1998 Mar. 2018</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>109. The Road to Palestinian Statehood</td>
<td>PASSIA Bulletin, Jerusalem</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>May 2017</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>110. 50 Years of Palestinian Political History</td>
<td>PASSIA Bulletin, Jerusalem</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>July 2017</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>111. Bab Ar-Rahmeh</td>
<td>PASSIA Bulletin, Jerusalem</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Dec. 2017</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>115. The Nakba: 70 Years On</td>
<td>PASSIA Bulletin, Jerusalem</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>May 2018</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>116. Understanding Gaza</td>
<td>PASSIA Bulletin, Jerusalem</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>July 2018</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>117. Al-Aqsa Mosque Compound</td>
<td>PASSIA Poster, Jerusalem</td>
<td>A/E</td>
<td>Dec. 2018</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>119. Ismail and Isaac in the Three Monotheistic Faiths</td>
<td>Dr. Yehzekel Landau, Fr. Rafiq Khoury, Dr. Mustafa Abu Sway</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>May 2019</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
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<td>Publication/Source</td>
<td>Language</td>
<td>Date</td>
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<td>-----</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<td>----------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>122</td>
<td>Dictionary of Palestinian Political Terms</td>
<td>PASSIA Publication, Jerusalem</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Dec. 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>124</td>
<td>Mapping of Palestinian Youth, Meeting, Leisure, Training and Other Youth-Related Centers in EJ</td>
<td>PASSIA Publication, Jerusalem</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Nov. 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>126</td>
<td>Al-Aqsa Mosque Compound</td>
<td>PASSIA Poster</td>
<td>A/E</td>
<td>June 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>127</td>
<td>Islamic Waqf &amp; Al-Aqsa Mosque Affairs,</td>
<td>PASSIA Infographic, Jerusalem</td>
<td>A/E</td>
<td>July 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>129</td>
<td>The Palestinian Security Sector</td>
<td>PASSIA Bulletin, Jerusalem</td>
<td>A/E</td>
<td>Nov. 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>130</td>
<td>The Islamic and Christian Waqf In Jerusalem – An Annotated Bibliography</td>
<td>PASSIA Publication, Jerusalem</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Mar. 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>131</td>
<td>Heritage Protection in East Jerusalem under International Law</td>
<td>PASSIA Bulletin, Jerusalem</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>June 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>133</td>
<td>The Islamic Waqf in Jerusalem: Status, Legal Challenges and Possibilities for Revival</td>
<td>Dr. Haitham Suleiman</td>
<td>A/E</td>
<td>Dec. 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>134</td>
<td>Muslim Heritage Sites in the Old City</td>
<td>PASSIA Poster</td>
<td>A/E</td>
<td>Dec. 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>135</td>
<td>Christian Heritage Sites in the Old City</td>
<td>PASSIA Poster</td>
<td>A/E</td>
<td>Dec. 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>136</td>
<td>The Nakba: 75 Years on</td>
<td>PASSIA Bulletin</td>
<td>A/E</td>
<td>June 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>137</td>
<td>Needs Assessment on Youth Development and Empowerment in East Jerusalem</td>
<td>PASSIA Publication, Jerusalem</td>
<td>A/E</td>
<td>July 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>138</td>
<td>Addressing the Challenge of School Dropouts in East Jerusalem</td>
<td>PASSIA Publication, Jerusalem</td>
<td>A/E</td>
<td>Nov. 2023</td>
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