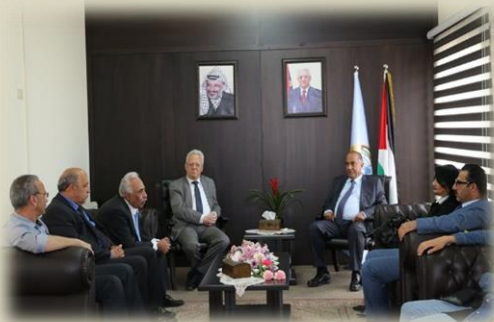




# NEWSLETTER

May 2019

## MUSAWA and Minister of Justice Identify Ways of Strengthening Cooperation



A delegation from MUSAWA met the Minister of Justice on 9/5/2019 to discuss and identify ways of strengthening the cooperation between the two parties in human rights-related cases. Dr. Shalaldeh affirmed the significance of cooperation between the government and CSOs, as it would serve the public interest of the Palestinian nation, and promote the justice sector's organizations in Palestine.

## MUSAWA Participated in the Second Meeting of the Community Consultations on Reforming the Justice System

MUSAWA participated in the second meeting of the Community Consultations on Reforming the Justice System, organized by SAWASYA II. The meeting was held on Saturday, 4/5/2019, in Tulkarem. Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi, MUSAWA's General Director, opened the meeting by giving a presentation on the status of the justice system, the available means for reforming and unifying it, and then opening the door for group discussions.



## MUSAWA Signs Cooperation Agreement with the Italian Cooperation for Development

MUSAWA- The Palestinian Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession signed a six month cooperation agreement with the Italian Cooperation for Development. The agreement is intended to identify the battered women's needs for legal help at the marginalized areas.

## MUSAWA Defends Adv. Mo'men Al-Natoor in Gaza

MUSAWA's interventions urged the Hamas government to release Adv. Mo'men Al-Natoor, a member of Lawyers for the Rule of Law (Friends of MUSAWA), who was arrested on 22/5/2019 after expressing his political opinion. MUSAWA called for ending this phenomenon and policy of repression.



## Legal Memos and Position Papers

2/5/2019 – [Legal Memo](#) sent to the Undersecretary of the state at the Ministry of Health/Gaza, entitled **“Harassment Against Doctor in Violation of His Rights and Human Dignity”**.

2/5/2019 – [Position Paper](#) entitled **“After the Agreement of the Two Competing Blocs of Judges' Club Elections, is There Any Reason to Communicate with the Ministry of Interior to Decide on the Legal Position of What the Judges Have Already Agreed Upon?”**.

5/5/2019 – [Legal Memo](#) sent to the president and members of the Palestinian Bar Association “, entitled **“MUSAWA's Observations on the Bar's Finals”**.

8/5/2019 – Reminder to the president and member of the High Judicial Council entitled **“Reminder on our memos 1-Imposing illegal fees, 2- Releasing a Fugitive in Contradiction with the law”**.

20/5/2019 – [Legal Memo](#) sent to the Ambassador of Palestine to the Arab Republic of Egypt, entitled **“Violating Blank Passports Holders' Rights to Citizenship & Travel”**.

20/5/2019 – [Position Paper](#) on the Privatization of Judicial Services and the Delegation of the Chamber of Commerce to Settle the Financial Disputes between Traders.

29/5/2019 – [Legal Memo](#) sent to the head of the Judicial Body of the Palestinian Security Forces, entitled **“The Military Prosecution's Derogates from the Provisions of the Law”**.

30/5/2019 – [Legal Memo](#) sent to the Attorney General in Gaza, entitled **“Impunity Affects the Citizens' Right to Access To Justice”**.

## Media Interviews

13/5/2019 – [Reportage](#) and [press interview](#) on the independence of the judiciary and its subordination to the State Audit Administrative Control Bureau. (Watan TV/ Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi, General Director).

16/5/2019 – [Radio Interview](#) on the legislative performance of the new government. (Alam Hebron/ Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi, General Director).

29/5/2019 – [Press Interview](#) on supervision over the judicial authority's performance. (Wattan TV/ Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi, General Director).

## MUSAWA Published 2018's Annual Report

MUSAWA has now published 2018 financial and administrative report to its audience through its website and Facebook page, to view it, please click [here](#).

## MUSAWA Congrats Trainee Lawyers for Passing the Bar Finals



MUSAWA Congrats Trainee Lawyers for  
Passing the Bar Finals

We Wish you success in your journey of embodying the law mission, and in defending human rights, dignity, the right to access to justice and equality before law without any discrimination on any basis.

## Field Visits to the pillars of Justice

### MUSAWA's Interventions

During May, MUSAWA received four complaints on 1) The military prosecution's refusal of copying the file of a criminal charge in contradiction with the law; 2) Financial Dispute; 3) Forgery and infringing a financial right; 4) Exploitation of power affects the citizens' right and impedes their access to justice.

MUSAWA has sent two legal memos concerning the first and fourth complaints and provided two legal consultations regarding the second and third ones.

In cooperation with the Lawyers for the Rule of Law Groups (friends of MUSAWA), MUSAWA carried-out a series of field visits to the pillars of justice in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, including the regular courts in Ramallah, Nablus, Hebron and Bethlehem, in addition to the Supreme Criminal court of Nablus and Ramallah. In Gaza, the team visited Gaza's Court of First Instance, justice palace, magistrate's court, Juvenile Court, Criminal Court. During those visits, 9 violations were documented, noting that these visits come as part of MUSAWA's work as a watchdog organization that monitors law-violations and promotes the rule of law.

### MUSAWA's Mobile Legal Clinic

Strengthening its oversight role on the performance of the justice sector and raising the awareness of marginalized groups about their rights and the available mechanisms to attain them, as well as building the capacities of young lawyers and law students, MUSAWA, along with its volunteering groups and partner CBOs conducted 4 workshops in Gaza Strip (Johr Al-Deek, Khaza'a, and Tall Al-Soltan Camp). The workshops addressed the following topics: courts in Palestine, the right to work according to the Palestinian constitution and international covenants, children rights according to the Palestinian constitution and international covenants. A total of 78 participants attended the workshops, including 58 ladies. On the margins of those workshops, several legal consultations were provided for the participants.





## MUSAWA and Press House Sign a Memorandum of Understanding

MUSAWA and the Press House of Palestine signed a memorandum of understanding on 30/5/2019 during a meeting between the two parties, in which MUSAWA was represented by Adv. Sharhabeel Al-Za'eem, MUSAWA's board member, and the Press House was represented by Mr. Bilal Jadallah, the CEO of the organization. The meeting, which was held in Gaza, was attended by Adv. Mo'men Hattab, MUSAWA's Legal Awareness & Training Officer in Gaza, and Ms. Khadija Matar, a member of the Palestinian human rights defenders' network, and financial assistant at MUSAWA's office in Gaza. The memorandum of understanding includes plans to strengthen the joint cooperation between the two organizations to serve their common goals, to develop the capacities of journalists, defend their rights whenever they get subjected to any violation while performing their mission, through promoting the right of expression and freedom of opinion, and strengthening the media's role in establishing the rule of law culture.



## MUSAWA and JRAA Sign a Memorandum of Understanding



MUSAWA and the Journalists' Rights Advocating Association signed a memorandum of understanding on 9/5/2019 during a meeting attended by Ms. Ishlah Hasaneyyah, MUSAWA's board member, Adv. Mo'men Hattab, MUSAWA's Legal Awareness & Training Officer in Gaza, and representatives of the JRAA, including Adv. Muna Owkal, JRAA board member, Adv. Mos'ab Al-

Dahdouh, deputy CEO, and Adv. Mohammad Salem Sheikaha, the executive director of the association. The two parties agreed to pool efforts to improve and build the skills and capacities of the journalists, defend their rights whenever they get subjected to any violation while performing their mission, through promoting the right of expression and freedom of opinion and raising the journalists' legal awareness by holding a number of training courses, workshops and activates to strengthen the media's role in establishing the rule of law culture. Both parties stressed the importance of promoting the principle of partnership among Palestinian organizations, to strengthen their roles and serve a larger number of journalists in specific, and all sectors of the Palestinian society in general.

## MUSAWA Signs a Protocol for Establishing a Legal Clinic at Gaza University



MUSAWA and the law faculty at Gaza University signed a protocol for establishing a legal clinic at the university. The agreement took place during a meeting attended by Adv. Sharhabeel AL-Za'eem, MUSAWA's board member, and Adv. Mo'men Hattab, MUSAWA's Legal Awareness & Training Officer in Gaza, and by representatives of the university, including Dr. Abduljaleel Sarsour, the president of the university, and dr. Saif Al-Deen Al-Bal'awi, the dean of the Law Faculty. The protocol was signed in

pursuance of a previous memorandum of understanding and aimed to update the legal information provided to the law students and to connect the legal information with the practical aspect of the legal life. The protocol provided for allocating an office inside the university to be used as an office for the mobile clinic, in which complaints can be filed, violations can be monitored and documented, and other activities can be performed. The protocol also provided for performing awareness raising workshops for the students, connecting them with practical training programs and moot courts, and planning the work of the legal clinic team that will be responsible of monitoring the violations committed in the marginalized areas, and reporting about them to the duty holders, in addition to performing future suggestions on activities that would serve the law students, in promotion of the principle of partnership that would enhance the students skills, thus strengthen their role in the legal life and establish the human rights-based rule of law principle.

## Other Activities

**Participating in a workshop on the shadow reports provided to The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination at the office of the High Commissioner.** The workshop was held on 29/5/2019, at the office of the High Commissioner. MUSAWA was represented by the Legal Monitoring Officer, Adv. Angham Mansour.

**Participating in a CSOs meeting to prepare for the third meeting of the Community Consultations on Reforming the Justice System that is planned to be held on 22/6/2019.** The meeting was held on 27/5/2019, with the participation of community representatives from Jerusalem, Ramallah, and Jericho. MUSAWA was represented by its General Director, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi.



Presenting a statement on MUSAWA's vision regarding the supervision over the judicial authority's performance during a hearing session organized by AMAN organization entitled "The authority of the State Audit and Administrative Control Bureau (SAACB) to oversight the Judicial Authority". The hearing session was held on 29/5/2019 and MUSAWA was represented by its General Director, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi. To hear the statement, please click [here](#).

Participating in a workshop held on 22/5/2019 at the invitation of Shams Center to discuss the police role in peaceful assemblies. MUSAWA was represented by the Legal Awareness & Training Officer, Adv. Shurooq Abu-Qare.'

Participating in a workshop organized by the Spanish Cooperation to identify their plans and cooperative strategies in Palestine during the coming period. The workshop took place on 29/5/2019 and it was attended by several CSOs, while MUSAWA was represented by the Executive director, Ahlam Tarayra, and the Public Relations & Fund Raising Officer, Diab Zayed.

MUSAWA's  
Partners  
2019



The Netherlands  
Representative Office to  
the Palestinian Authority