

MUSAWA – The Palestinian Centre for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession



Annual Report 2018

**Submitted to: the Netherlands Representative Office-
Ramallah**

A New Year in a Continuous March

Introduction

In 2018, there has been no change in MUSAWA's external environment, as the duty-bearers continued to pursue the same policies that embody the totalitarian security system, and the tendency of duty-bearers towards monopoly and hegemony at the various levels of government, disregarding the importance of collective action and genuine partnership with the rights-holders. The government's monopoly has been manifested in the increasing issuance of legislation in the form of presidential decrees which introduce new legislation, or amends/cancels already existing legislation, turning a blind eye to the provisions of Article (43) of the Basic Law. The pace of issuing legislation has increased so significantly that the government's weekly agenda does not go by without making reference to having intentions of initiating internal discussions on new legislation to be published as a decree-law. The same situation applies to the powerful actors in the Gaza Strip, mainly the members of the Legislative Council there.

In this context, it is noteworthy that the decree-laws are issued in violation of the principle of separation of powers, and they indicate the deepened interference of the executive authority in the judiciary, which is manifested in the fact that under these laws bodies are being created and granted powers without taking into account the constitutional principles, and the international agreements and conventions to which the State of Palestine has acceded. The executive authority added new amendments to the Decree-Law Amending the Constitutional Court Law, by which year and a half were added to its judges' service period becoming 7 years and four months instead of six years, as a way for avoiding appointing new judges with community participation, the thing that could contribute to improving its image in the eyes of the citizens. In addition, the partial amendments that were added to the Decree-Law on the High Criminal Court have fallen short of the civil society organizations' demands, which was also the case of the Cybercrime Decree-Law the Decree-Law on the Judicial Body of the Palestinian Security Forces, and the Early Retirement Decree-Law (Forced). However, the civil society organizations managed to prevent the enforcement of the Tenant-Landlord Draft Decree-Law, and the draft decree-law amending the Judicial Authority Law, which is being initiated by the executive authority without raising it for community discussion, as well as using the same exact tools which had been adopted previously by the successive governments in an attempt to overcome the crisis of the justice system. In addition, the government rescinded its decision on dissolving the Joint Security Committee, and maintained its granted powers to carry out unlawful detentions inconsistent with the verdicts rendered by the competent courts. The number of cases of detention/arrest upon the commands of governors and the Prime Minister has become greater. Not to mention the growing tendency of the executive authority and the security forces towards the excessive use of force and violence in dispersing peaceful assemblies and demonstrations, as well as in arresting and detaining social actors such as media persons, lawyers, and activists for expressing their views on a certain issue. The number of cases committed for trial and which deal with accusations related to the freedom of expression on social media platforms has built up as well, while turning a deaf ear to the wide-ranging calls for endorsing the Palestinian Human Rights Defenders Declaration (PHRDs) as a legal frame of reference.

In Gaza, the governing authorities continued its policy of discrimination and acquisition in the public offices appointments and the imposition of taxes in contravention of the law, which exacerbated the unemployment and begging crisis, in addition to continuing its policy of dispersing peaceful sit-ins and assemblies using violence and arresting social figures for their opinions, in addition to militarizing the police and expanding the powers of the military judiciary to include the prosecution of civilians.

All of this was accompanied by a justice system that remained divided, where neither part recognizes the other or even values their decisions and legislation, which led to the deepening of the existing gap between the two parties to the extent that it has become more of a social dichotomy rather than a political division. The judiciary, in turn, has seen a serious drop in the trust litigants have towards it, and it has witnessed some sort of “mating” with the executive authority, clearly demonstrated by its decisions, policies, and procedures. There is no better evidence of this than the results of the national report on the perceptions of the Palestinian Community on the performance of the justice system in Palestine, the Fifth Legal Monitor Report, which surveyed the views of 16 thousand citizens from both the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and was produced by MUSAWA in partnership with SAWASYA program, and with the support of the Netherlands Representative, as for the statistical part of the report, it was implemented by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics. As for the Legislative Council, it was dissolved by the decision of the High Constitutional Court in contradiction with its previous ruling and in the context of the exacerbated conflict between Fatah and Hamas, and the public, which is still unaware of the legislation that affect their interests, and which they know of only when published in the Palestinian official gazette.

On the other hand, 2018 witnessed social movements calling for accountability, demonstrated in the formation of several community coalitions and the organization of peaceful popular protests, including organizing mass demonstrations that induced the Authority to stop the enforcement of the Social Security Decree-law, and form a team of civil society organizations side to side with the Independent Commission for Human Rights, which assumed the task of organizing regional visits aiming to monitor and document the violations against economic, political and social civilian rights, noting that the team included the Independent Commission for Human Rights, MUSAWA and a number of civil society organizations concerned to human rights. This is in addition to the issuance of several position papers, legal memos, and joint policy papers in partnership with several Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) who tried to make use of every opportunity available to raise their voices and call for serious steps towards a pluralistic civil State, where the principle of separation of powers prevails, general elections are held, and a radical reform of the justice system is achieved. Here, reference must be made to the establishment of the Supreme Constitutional Court, the Decree-Law Amending the Constitutional Court Law, and the government transferring personnel from its departments to the Public Prosecution or the judiciary, as it managed to induce the Public Prosecution to cancel the competition for appointing prosecution assistants pursuant to the mentioned Transferring policy, in addition to inducing Mr. President to issue a decree on canceling the transferring of a deputy-minister working at a partisan institution to work in the judiciary and was granted administrative powers, which was manifested in his appointment as Adviser to the Head of the High Judicial Council/Chief Justice.

As an expression of the executive authority's fixation to the policy of exclusion and the distribution of powers among those who hold positions of responsibility in the justice system while disregarding the obligations and requirements of the genuine reform of the justice system, the National (Presidential) Committee for the Development of Justice Sector resulted in several recommendations, including a Draft Decree-Law Amending the Judicial Authority Law, which establishes the subordination of the judiciary to the executive authority. Despite the wide scope of community demand for a radical reform of the justice system, and the calls for its reunification on legal and professional grounds which conform with the international treaties and conventions, the executive authority has not yet addressed the demands of the CSOs calling for the formation of an independent community committee to assess the performance of all those who hold a title or function in the justice system. However, the widespread opposition to the decree-law and its recommendations induced the executive authority to put it aside, especially in the light of the intensification of the conflict over the powers offered by the decree-law amending the judicial authority act, which were embodied in the termination of the Attorney General, the revealing of judicial disputes that included appeals against the decisions of appointing a number of judges at the High Court of Justice, and the unveiling of a system issued by the former head of the High Court of Justice, Judge. Issa Abu Sharar, that provides for keeping the sessions of the council confidential, which triggered the social calls for cancelling it and paying the debts of the Office of Financial and Administrative Supervision to enable it of performing a financial investigation of the council's activities, even if that investigation was only for the past three years.

Given the difficult political realities of the Palestinian cause; the failure of ongoing attempts to complete the reconciliation; the serious social, economic, and health crises of the Gaza Strip; and the rates of unemployment and frustration experienced by the youth in the West Bank, the external environment seems to be more complex than ever, which requires a genuine change in the policies and tools adopted by MUSAWA and the CSOs to prevent the ongoing deterioration on the one hand and to contribute to the survival and security of the Palestinian people. This can be accomplished by providing effective solutions to enhance community-civil-governmental cooperation to break the deadlock; changing the discourse of "calling for, demanding, etc." into one that holds those who are responsible accountable; establishing various coalitions; adopting tools of popular pressure and promoting the human rights culture proposed in the relevant international treaties, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; raising legal awareness amongst community members and introducing them to their rights, in addition to offering them advice and working together towards the realization and legitimate protection of these rights; paying special attention to the Palestinian cities and camps (other than Ramallah), as well as to the marginalized groups of youth and women; the optimal use of the media; and expanding cooperation by building networks with grass-root organizations and broadening the circle of supporters of MUSAWA's initiative, which is the product of the Eight Palestine Justice Conference held in December 2017.

On the operational level, 2018 witnessed total adherence to the activities included in MUSAWA's general annual plan, which is committed to MUSAWA's mission, vision, and strategic plans. The following was achieved:

Outcome 1: Enhanced Equality before the Law and the Judiciary

MUSAWA's Role in influencing the Palestinian Legislation

MUSAWA's Initiative for the Unification, Reform, and Improvement of the Justice System

At the beginning of 2018, MUSAWA launched an initiative for the Unification, Reform, and Improvement of the Justice System, which came after studying and analyzing the findings of the Eighth Palestine Justice Conference, which was held in December 2017. MUSAWA disseminated this initiative through all available means, through the various media and social media platforms. Additionally, representatives of MUSAWA participated in twelve radio and television interviews, to promote the initiative and inform the public. In addition, MUSAWA officially handed over hard copies of the initiative to various institutions in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The said initiative is based on MUSAWA's pivotal role in protecting the Palestinian national project and efforts to end the division between the dominant political forces in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

In the same context, represented by its General Manager and members of the Board of Directors and the General Assembly in Gaza, MUSAWA conducted several meetings with representatives of formal justice bodies in Gaza to demonstrate MUSAWA's initiative. These included meetings with the Attorney General of Gaza, Dr. Dia' Al-Din Madhoun; the Head of the Higher Sharia Court Council/ Gaza, Dr. Hasan Al-Joujou; the Head of the High Judicial Council/ Gaza, Counsel Abd Al-Raouf Halabi; the Deputy Minister of Justice/ Gaza, Dr. Mohammad Al-Nahhal and a number of the Judges of the High Judicial Council. In addition, meetings were held with the Council of the Gaza Bar Association, the deans of the Faculties of Law at Gaza University and Al-Azhar University, Community Based Organizations (CBOs). Furthermore, MUSAWA convened with the trade union bodies of Bar Association; the Head of the Legal Department in the Legislative Council/ Gaza, representatives of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP); as well as other internal meetings for the members of the General Assembly of MUSAWA in Gaza and the members of the Palestinian Human Rights Defenders' Network (PHRDs) and the Lawyers for the Rule of Law Groups (friends of MUSAWA). These meetings aimed at promoting the initiative and mobilizing community support.

In the West Bank, MUSAWA also held several meetings for the same purpose, including a meeting with a number of judges from the Supreme Court and Magistrate Court to discuss the suitable mechanisms for the reform of the judiciary. Two other meetings were held with the Attorney General at the time, Dr. Ahmad Barrak, to address the requirements for the rehabilitation of the justice system, and the role of the Presidential Commission for Judicial Development and Reform in this regard, and to discuss MUSAWA's initiative for the Unification, Reform, and Improvement of the Justice System. In the same context, MUSAWA continued to work with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to formulate a unified position towards the incessant deterioration of the justice system and reach an agreement on practical steps for reform. CSOs agreed to form a fact-finding committee on the causes of ongoing deterioration in the judiciary, following a meeting

held to discuss updates on the profound crisis the Palestinian judiciary is currently in, and as part of a series of ongoing meetings that seek to stop the bleeding in the judiciary.

MUSAWA has received several positive responses to its initiative from individuals and institutions, including several official responses on the adoption and support of the initiative, such as from the High Judicial Council/ Gaza, Gaza University, Sharia Lawyers Association/Gaza and a number of CBOs in Gaza, in addition to verbal positive feedback from officials and judges in the West Bank. These positive responses and feedback on MUSAWA's initiative acknowledge that the previous attempts of reforming the justice system have not paid off and a real community participation must be on the agenda of any future attempts.

In this regard, MUSAWA has contributed to the formation of the Civic Coalition for the Reform and Protection of the Judiciary, a coalition of representatives of CSOs in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, mainly concerned in rebuilding and protecting the judiciary. MUSAWA was nominated and elected for the membership of the Coalition's Executive Board, which established a committee to approve the main framework of the coalition, and discuss its work plan. MUSAWA continued to take part in the coalition's meetings until it withdrew from it in June. The withdrawal decision was stemming from MUSAWA's rejection of the work methodology of individualism by some of the Coalition's members, given that they did not abide by the common standards of teamwork which naturally requires that a mutual agreement be reached in advance regarding all measures to be taken especially in the discourse of reforming the justice system and considering the fact that there is a fundamental difference in the views towards this issue.

As for utilizing social media platforms to reach a wider audience, MUSAWA has prepared a series of informative video flashes on the Initiative for the Unification, Reform, and Improvement of the Justice System, including five flashes, published via social media platforms – Facebook, and gained over 3500 views and numerous re-shares among legal practitioners and Facebook users.

Advocacy Campaign for MUSAWA's Initiative for the Unification, Reform, and Improvement of the Justice System

As part of MUSAWA's advocacy and lobbying activities, and of the efforts to call for the adoption of the initiative for the unification, reform and improvement of the Justice System, MUSAWA launched a lobbying and advocacy campaign during the second quarter of the year, in cooperation with the Palestinian Press House in Gaza.

The campaign included the hashtag (#مبادرة_مساواة) (MUSAWA's initiative), and aimed at tweeting and blogging through social media to unify and rebuild the judiciary and pressure decision-makers to adopt a national vision to assess all operators in the justice system.

The campaign was launched on April 18, 2018, and included the design of an electronic invitation and its dissemination via Facebook and Twitter. It also included the creation of a Facebook Event Page and inviting those concerned to participate in the campaign, including boosted posts, and designing campaign tweets, and publishing the tweets, designs and videos of the campaign on MUSAWA's social media pages on Facebook and Twitter.



The campaign also launched the hashtag (#توحيد_القضاء) (unification of the judiciary), which reached more than 3 million impressions, with more than 204,000 users, and the number of tweets exceeded 2000. In addition, MUSAWA's initiative hashtag (#مبادرة_مساواة) reached the Palestinian trend¹.

The tweets and posts used in the campaign summarized the steps included in MUSAWA's initiative as well as shed light on the problems within the justice system, which helped raising awareness about the current situation and the possible ways to improve it. It could be observed that the engagements on social media posts as well as during events and meetings afterwards usually have mentioned MUSAWA's initiative amongst the solutions put on the table for discussion. Additionally, according to the Independent Commission for Human Rights's (ICHR)

¹ Annex 3 contains a report from the Palestinian Press House, which contains more detailed information about the campaign's spread and impact.

report regarding the recommendations of the Presidential Committee for Developing the Justice Sector, some parts of MUSAWA's initiative were suggested among these recommendations, however not in the way the reform was intended in the initiative as an independent, comprehensive and inclusive process.



Monitoring and Reviewing Palestinian Laws and Legislation

MUSAWA participated in numerous consultation sessions and meetings that discuss Palestinian legislation and its compatibility with international conventions, mainly the decree-laws and draft decree-laws of 2018. Part of these meetings was organized by the Civic Coalition for Monitoring the Legislative Process. MUSAWA participated in six meetings devoted to discussing the Decree-law on the High Criminal Court and the steps to be taken to revoke the ratification of the decree-law and the formation of the court; and discussing the Draft Decree-law on Landlords and Tenants; the Draft Decree-law Amending Anti-Corruption Law; and the Draft Decree-law Amending the Associations Act - to issue a joint position paper; in addition to holding an emergency meeting on boycotting the High Criminal Court, and a meeting on the decision of the Supreme Court of Justice to cancel the decision of the Bar Association to boycott the High Criminal Court, and to discuss the development of tools for lobbying and advocacy in the work of the coalition.

In the same context, a meeting was held at MUSAWA with representatives of Hebron University about a Draft Decree-law on Higher Education, where they expressed their legal observations in this regard. MUSAWA also attended a meeting with a German expert on Sharia judiciary and the Personal Status Law, and their conformity with the international laws, and presented their role in the community dialogue concerning the Personal Status Draft Law, and the legislation they proposed on the matter at hand. In addition, MUSAWA participated in a CSOs meeting on the explanatory decision of the High Constitutional Court on the legal nature of the police and the military concern, which led to issuing a joint press release in its regard.

By the end of 2018, MUSAWA had reviewed eight Palestinian laws, decree-laws and draft decree-laws, and made observations and comments on them through position papers issued either individually or in partnership with other institutions. The below section details MUSAWA's interventions in regards to the laws, decree-laws and draft decree-laws MUSAWA reviewed during the year, noting that some of the position papers presented below were the result of the meetings mentioned above.

In addition to what MUSAWA issues on the Palestinian legislation, it also works on issuing other legal memos based on the complaints it receives from various community groups. Complaints are made available to the public through direct contact with the lawyers or through MUSAWA's website. Legal memos are usually posted on the MUSAWA's website and in its periodic gazette "Eye on Justice" to become a documented reference for those concerned. The gazette and legal memos will be discussed in more detail in a later part of the report

1. Decree-law on High Criminal Court

MUSAWA issued two position papers on the decree-law on High Criminal Court, both in partnership with CSOs. The first was titled [CSOs Demand Abolition of Decree-Law on High Criminal Court](#), and the second was titled [CSOs Back up Bar Association on Boycotting High Criminal Court](#). In addition, MUSAWA issued a third position paper on the Decree-Law No. (9) Of 2018 on the High Criminal Court, which came as a replacement of the Decree-law No. (24) of 2017 on the High Criminal Court, titled [Draft Decree-Law on the High Criminal Court, and Draft Decree-Law on Cybercrime](#).

The Decree-Law on the High Criminal Court was issued with amendments addressing the CSOs and MUSAWA's concerns, however not as required. Therefore, MUSAWA asserted its demand to abolish the degree law, while the application of the decree law on the ground made the Bar Association to appose it again and join MUSAWA in its position against the decree-law although the Bar accepted the amendments at first.

2. Draft Decree-law on Landlords and Tenants

MUSAWA issued a position paper on the Decree-law on Landlords and Tenants as a result of the meeting of the Civic Coalition for Monitoring the Legislative Process, titled [CSOs Call for Abolition and National Discussion of Landlords and Tenants Draft Decree-Law](#).

Later on, MUSAWA, in collaboration with a number of CSOs, issued a [second position paper demanding not to enforce the Landlord and Tenant's Decree-Law](#), during October 2018. The second position paper came to reiterate the demand that the new draft decree-law should not be adopted in its new as it contains the same risks and vulnerabilities of the first version, since the new version did not address them.

The draft decree-law was not approved by the president, hence was not issued as a decree-law in the official gazette.

3. Decree-Law Amending Anti-Corruption Law

MUSAWA also issued a position paper clarifying the shortcomings of the Draft Decree-law Amending Anti-Corruption Law, in terms of its failure to respond to all and most important requirements of the effective control of corruption and its failure to address the obstacles that prevent it, titled [Position Paper on Draft Decree-Law Amending Anti-Corruption Law](#).

MUSAWA's comments were taken into consideration in the issued decree-law, some as literary suggested by MUSAWA, but some points were not addressed as recommended.

4. Decree-law on Cybercrimes

MUSAWA issued a position paper on the Decree-Law No. (10) Of 2018 on Cybercrimes, which came matching in essence with the Decree-Law No. (16) Of 2017 on Cybercrimes, which has received widespread community and legal opposition. MUSAWA's observations on the Decree Law No. (10) of 2018 are the same as those presented regarding the Decree-Law No (16) of 2017. [Position paper on Draft Decree-Law on the High Criminal Court, and Draft Decree-Law on Cybercrimes](#).

Although some amendments were made according to CSOs and MUSAWA's comments, but the concerns regarding stricting freedom of expression remained valid, especially given that journalists and activists have been arrested for posts on Social Media according to articles of this decree-law.

5. Decree-Law Medical and Health Protection and Safety

MUSAWA issued a position paper clarifying [MUSAWA's Position on the Draft of Decree-Law Medical and Health Protection and Safety](#), and another on [MUSAWA's Remarks on the draft of the Amendment of the Decree-law Medical and Health Protection and Safety](#).

MUSAWA also participated in a following meeting held at the Palestinian Non-Governmental Organizations Network- PNGO to discuss the said draft decree-law. MUSAWA's comments were taken into consideration before drafting a second draft, and the comments raised on the second draft were also addressed in the issued decree-law.

MUSAWA's only comment on the issued decree-law is regarding the formation of committees that will handle the medical mistakes related cases.

6. General Pension Law

After viewing the decree-law No (29) of 2018 that provides for the amendment of the General Pension Law No (7) of 2005 and its amendments, MUSAWA issued a position paper titled [The advantages of the Amendment of the General Pension Law No. \(7\) For the Year 2005 is waiting for a proper implementation](#) which gave a positive position regarding the legislation in terms of being in line with Article 43 of the Basic Law and addressing the rights of people duly.

7. Draft Decree-law on amending the Associations Act

The Civic Coalition for Monitoring the Legislative Process issued a position paper titled [The decree-law draft on amending the Associations Act undermines the work of civil society organizations and threatens their sustainability](#); after holding a meeting to discuss the draft decree-law of 2018 on Amending the Associations Act of 2000 and its amendments, included in the Ministers' council agenda, though it was never available for a public discussion. MUSAWA also took part in a following meeting for CSOs and Donor countries in the European Union, to discuss the said draft decree-law.

After these discussions, the decree-law did not come to light.

8. Draft Decree Law Amending the Judicial Authority Law

After revealing the work on a Draft Decree-law Amending the Judicial Authority Law, which consists of 27 articles, none of them had mere reference to the judiciary and the prosecution member's Appraisal Committee; and attached with a memo entitled "The Recommendations of the National Committee for the Development of the Justice Sector"; and after CSOs and coalitions met to discuss the draft decree-law without resulting in issuing a unified position regarding the draft decree-law and the report of the National Committee for the Development of the Justice Sector; MUSAWA issued a position paper of its own titled [MUSAWA Demands Mr. President Not to Adapt the Recommendations of the Presidential Committee for Developing the Justice System and the Draft Decree Law Amending the Judicial Authority Law](#), in which it clarified their risks and vulnerabilities in fourteen items.

The decree-law was not issued and no other drafts was suggested in the wake of MUSAWA's comments.

Monitoring the Changes within the Justice System

MUSAWA plays an independent watchdog role on the justice system and its performance, through monitoring the duty-bearers' implementation of the law, and monitoring and documenting the changes within the justice system and the violations committed within it.

MUSAWA documents all of that in the legal memos and position papers it issues, whether individually or in partnership with other organizations. MUSAWA also participates in several meetings to discuss the changes in the justice system.

Following-up on Decisions, Legislation issued by official bodies and Agreements Signed by the State of Palestine

The Legal Monitoring Officers in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip follow-up on the official websites of the Council of Ministers, President Office, Office of Fatwa and Legislation, the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics and the Legislative Council and counterpart CSOs, as well as news agencies. The legal Monitoring Officers collect information and decisions issued or published on these websites, in addition to any other news on legislation, and draft them in periodic reports. They also communicate continuously with the relevant CSOs, and follow up on the Palestinian Official Gazette for the same purpose. As a result of this follow-up and continuous communication with various parties, MUSAWA continuously works on preparing legal memos regarding legislation that conflicts with international conventions, and sends them to the competent authorities as previously explained in this report.

Issuing Legal Memos on Legislation that Contradicts with International Treaties

MUSAWA prepares and issues legal memos, position papers, and statements regarding local legislation, based on its monitoring of issued legislation in comparison with international agreements signed by the State of Palestine. The section on [Monitoring and Reviewing Palestinian Laws and Legislation](#) has addressed what MUSAWA issues on legislation. These memos come as a reflection and a guarantee of the universal legal principle, which gives international conventions precedence over local legislation.

Monitoring Changes in the Justice System

MUSAWA participated in several meetings devoted to study different issues within the justice system, including a meeting for CSOs on the putting of Judge Izzat Al-Ramini under administrative investigation, and a meeting with the president of the Palestinian Judges Association on the Justice situation against the backdrop of that. MUSAWA also participated in meetings on the Judicial Crisis, which resulted in a decision to form a fact-finding committee to investigate the causes of the deterioration of the judiciary. The meeting was followed by another one for CSOs to discuss the formation of a civic fact-finding committee, from outside the official justice system, to investigate the deterioration of the judiciary, and to discuss the bases and criteria for the formation of this independent community committee and define its tasks, responsibilities and duration. MUSAWA also participated in a meeting of CSOs to discuss the vision of the Independent Commission for Human Rights for the development of the judiciary, presented by its representative to the Presidential Committee for the Development of the Justice Sector. In addition, MUSAWA participated in the High Level Meeting of the Justice Sector Working Group. In addition, MUSAWA participated in a number of workshops, meetings and conferences to discuss a number of issues, including the trial of civilians before the military judiciary; the role of CSOs in supporting reconciliation in the light of the proposals submitted to discuss transitional justice in

Palestine; the National Anti-Corruption plan and the evaluation of the implementation of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy; the reform and unification of the judicial system; obstacles to women's access to justice and mechanisms to overcome them; the importance of publishing international conventions in the Palestinian Official Gazette; and discussing the terms of reference for the establishment of a working group of police and CSOs on Accountability.

MUSAWA also participated in a press conference on the position of CSOs on the decision of the Constitutional Court to dissolve the Legislative Council. The civil society organizations issued a [position paper](#) on the said decision, which clarifies the unconstitutionality of the decision and its contradiction with the Palestinian Basic Law, in addition to the impacts on the Palestinian society. The position paper also stressed on a number of demands, the most important among them include the withdrawal of the decision to form the Supreme Constitutional Court, and a call for holding elections on a legal basis and national consensus.

MUSAWA's participation in the several meetings has helped putting the perspective of the civil society on the table for better community participation and towards genuine understanding of the concept of national consensus as a vital component of reform and good governance. Asserting the concept of public oversight on the justice system in the several meetings and events has led to more, yet not optimal, engagement of civil society on monitoring the justice system to maintain equality before the law through fair legislation and procedures. For example, an official committee was formed to review the decree-laws against the international to which Palestine has acceded, taking into consideration the CSOs inputs and comments.

Reports of the State of Palestine

MUSAWA participated in the dialogue sessions held to discuss the State of Palestine's reports, including a discussion session on the national consultations on the first periodic report of the State of Palestine under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (February), and a workshop on the first national report on the sustainable development agenda, particularly goals 11 and 16 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the national dialogue on Palestine's report about the implementation of the UN treaty on the rights of people with disability. MUSAWA contributed with its comments in writing for the report on SDG 16, some of which has been reflected in the state report on SDGs 2030. As a result, MUSAWA has become a member of the national team of SDG 16, nominated by the Ministry of Justice.

Monitoring Exams and Elections

As part of its oversight role on the pillars of justice, MUSAWA participated in monitoring the Bar Association's elections for its 2018/2021 session, and the written examination of trainee lawyers for the April 2018 session, as well as the written examination of law faculties graduates held by the Palestinian Bar Association and the written examination of the competition for the appointment of prosecution assistants, and finally the written examination of the trainee lawyers for the October 2018 session.

MUSAWA prepared reports on the results of monitoring the above mentioned exams and elections, and sent them to the competent authorities, as well as published them on its website. It has been observed that the Bar Association has taken MUSAWA's comments into consideration in the next monitored exam, while the Attorney General cancelled the recruitment of prosecution assistants in the wake of MUSAWA's monitoring report on the competition. Such an achievement asserts the necessity for more transparent recruitment process to maintain equal opportunity for all candidates.

Success Story: Due to MUSAWA's Interventions, the Attorney General Cancels the Recruitment of Prosecution Assistants

[Article 6 of resolution No \(4\) of 2006 on the procedures of hiring prosecution assistants](#) provides for "The candidates who pass the written exam should undergo an oral exam and a personal interview before the recruitment committee headed by the Attorney General and the membership of each the Head of the Inspectorate and Head of the Substantive Office." In addition, article 12 of the same resolution provides for "Any provision that contradicts or is in conflict with this decision shall cease to have effect."

The beginning of the problem

On September 16, 2018, MUSAWA - the Palestinian Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession received a letter from the Palestinian Public Prosecution including an invitation to participate as an observer member in the committee of hiring prosecution assistants and an invitation to participate in monitoring the written exam, which was held on September 22nd, 2018. In response to this letter, MUSAWA nominated a team of its staff members to monitor the written exam. Subsequently, a [memo](#) was sent to the Attorney General including MUSAWA's notes and recommendations concerning the mentioned exam.

Later on, the Public Prosecution held oral interviews for 50 candidates, without enabling MUSAWA to carry out its responsibilities as a monitoring member. In addition, MUSAWA has never had the chance to view the results of the written exam it monitored, even though the center has learned from its sources that none of the candidates passed it, bearing in mind that a candidate must pass the written exam in order to move to the oral interview. Media and social media have circulated divergent positions that were taken by the Public Prosecution and the Bar's Association – a committee member- regarding the oral competition.

MUSAWA's Interventions

In the light thereof, MUSAWA has issued a [position paper](#) on October 4, 2018, demanding the cancellation of the hiring procedures for a number of reasons, most prominently that none of the candidates have passed the written exam, and the illegality of applying the cumulative computation of the marks of the written and oral exams, as it contravenes the Public prosecution's recruitment system, and as oral interviews depend on impressions, despite the

written exam that depends on the scientific competence of the candidate, and as the public Prosecution's posts are like judiciary posts that can be disqualified by suspicion rather than conviction, anyone suspected should be excluded from occupying public posts with no need for judiciary confirming of the suspicious, and for the risk represented in applying the job rotation principle between the executive authority and its security bodies on one hand and the Public Prosecution on the other, which MUSAWA has previously announced its principled opposition to this principle for its conviction that the competences, powers, and mission of the Public Prosecution needs employees, who enjoy special culture that differs from that adopted in other governmental or security posts. The reasons for the refusal also included that the announcement of the competition to recruit prosecution assistants did not include some basic information, and MUSAWA was not updated regarding the details of the marking process and personal interview, what disabled it to perform its monitoring role.

The Attorney General issues a decision to abolish the exam results “and to consider them to be as not having been made”

On 8/1/2019, the Palestinian Bar's Association announced that the Attorney General issued a decision to abolish the exam results “and to consider them to be as not having been made”.

MUSAWA welcomes the decision on the abolition and points out that it was the proactive organization among other civil society organizations that demanded the cancellation of the hiring procedures and re-announcing a new recruitment competition to a specific timetable that includes all related information, and that the partners (The Public Prosecution and Bar's Association) need to form an Evaluation Committee consisting of an independent majority to assess the competition procedures, verify the commitment of mandate-holders to implement those procedures and account those who commit any violation duly.

Palestinian Human Rights Defenders Network (PHRD Network)

On the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, MUSAWA published its proposal for the Declaration of Palestinian Human Rights Defenders through a series of videos on its Facebook page. MUSAWA seeks that this declaration be adopted to provide legal protection for human rights defenders for a more powerful role in protecting the rights of the Palestinians. In the same context, MUSAWA addressed a new legal memo to the Palestinian Minister of Justice, demanding again the adoption of its proposal for the Declaration of Palestinian Human Rights Defenders for 2016, and issuing it in the form of a regulation or a system that provides legal support guaranteeing the rights of human rights defenders in their mission, and holds accountable those who impede the fulfillment of that mission or violates the basic constitutional rights of the PHRDs as a result of their defending of human rights.

To watch the videos, click [video 1](#), [video 2](#), [video 3](#), [video 4](#), and [video 5](#).

MUSAWA was unable to hold panel discussions between PHRD members and representatives of the government as planned due to lack of financial resources, but sought to hold meetings between the network members themselves, which will be discussed later in the report.

After re-demanding the adoption of the aforementioned PHRDs Declaration, MUSAWA was contacted by other CSOs to cooperate in current and future HRDs programs and unify the efforts, which is in process currently.

Raising Legal Awareness of the Marginalized Groups



Proceeding from its strategy, MUSAWA believes that marginalized groups represent the broader sector of holders to the right to enhance justice and the judiciary. Therefore, MUSAWA attaches special importance to working with these groups through a series of activities and events that serve the interests of these groups' individuals. The strategy of raising awareness through all available tools constitutes the basis for working with the marginalized groups and informing their members

of their legal rights guaranteed by the local legislation as well as the international conventions to which Palestine has acceded to. In addition to awareness-raising activities, MUSAWA provides legal advice to those who seek it and receives complaints about violations of the rights of the community. MUSAWA addresses these complaints using the mechanisms already discussed.

MUSAWA's work with the marginalized groups comes as part of its ongoing efforts to strengthen the human rights system in the Palestinian society and strengthen the rule of law, in addition to mobilizing local energies to defend the justice system in Palestine. In this context, MUSAWA has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) with 16 community based organizations (CBOs) in the West Bank and Gaza where raising legal awareness and capacity building activities took place, in order to promote the public oversight/ monitoring over the justice sector and maintaining the principle of equality before the law.



Specifically, MUSAWA carried out the following activities during 2018:

Television and Radio Interviews to Raise Legal Awareness

Up until the end of 2018, MUSAWA has had participated in a total of 85 media appearances to raise awareness in several legal issues. Most of these appearances were through Palestinian radio stations, where MUSAWA participated in 61 radio interviews; whereas it participated in 17 radio interviews and 7 press interviews². These interviews were initiated by the media agencies as they seek information from MUSAWA as a specialized watchdog organization.



In these appearances, MUSAWA was represented by the Director General, the Executive Director, BoD and GA members, Legal Monitoring Officers and Training and Awareness Raising Officers, in addition to members of Lawyers for the Rule of Law Groups (Friends of MUSAWA) and PHRDs network.

It is worth mentioning here that MUSAWA's interviews were through different Palestinian radio stations and TV channels, both local and satellite, which contributed to reaching the Palestinian people, including women, in all governorates.

Informative Videos on Social Media

MUSAWA prepared and published [several videos](#) through social media to raise legal awareness among the Palestinian community and marginalized groups, including four series that discussed: MUSAWA's initiative for the Reform and Unification of the Justice System; the reasons behind the rejection of the decree-law on High Criminal Court; MUSAWA's position on the decree-law amending Anti-corruption law; and MUSAWA's position on the decree-law on Landlords and Tenants. In addition to these series, MUSAWA also prepared and published a number of explanatory videos, which discussed other issues such as MUSAWA's demand for the abolition of the death penalty in Palestine; MUSAWA's position on the decree-law on Early Retirement of Public Employees for 2017; mothers' right to issue passports to their minor children and open bank accounts for them; the High Judicial Council's violation of the law of the judiciary; and another video about the tragedy of citizens in Nahr al-Bared in Khan Younis, known as Batn al-Samen.

The videos aimed to provide a legal content in a simple language where the person does not need to have a legal background to understand. It has been noticeable that the engagement of audience on the videos was higher than that for posts of memos on their whole legal text. In fact, the engagement has given an indicator that continuing in providing a simplified content through

² Annex (4) includes a table of all television, radio and press interviews in which MUSAWA participated during the year.

videos and infographics is the way to get more people involved, on social media, in the monitoring discourse.

Judges' Awareness and Performance are more in Conformity with Article 7

Communications with the High Judicial Council and the Attorney General through legal memos

Out of the 53 original and reminder legal memos issued by MUSAWA in 2018, 37 were sent to the Attorney-General Ahmed Barrak; or to the Attorney General in Gaza, Dia El-Din El Madhoun; or to the President and members of the High Judicial Council in the Gaza Strip or the West Bank; or to the Judicial Inspection Authority. Some of these memos were addressed to one of the mentioned authorities as well as other parties, such as representatives of the Ministries of Health, Justice, Education, or Social Affairs, and the Bar Association and the Legislative Council in Gaza, and others.

MUSAWA also sent its monitoring report on the written exam of the competition for hiring Prosecution Assistants to the former Attorney General, Dr. Ahmad Barrak, which resulted, as aforementioned, in the announcement of the former Attorney General to abolish the results of the competition and consider it as having never been made.

MUSAWA received 32 responses (out of 45 memos) on the legal memos it sent, by 71.1%, and three responses (out of 8) on the reminder memos, by 37.5%. Some of the responses were positive, some negative, and the rest were clarifying responses to the incident. Although the responses did not meet the required level in some cases, MUSAWA continues to send legal memos, which are based primarily on the oversight role on the justice sector and the protection of individual and collective rights.

Communicating with the justice institutions, whether in person or through legal memos, can be seen as a significant tool to achieve equality before the law for all citizens through implementing judicial rulings as well as refraining from violations against the law, such as releasing those administratively detained without charge or trial.

Coordination with Law Faculties at the Palestinian Universities

Meetings and Workshops to Ensure that Human Rights Issues are Included in the Courses

MUSAWA held several meetings with law faculties at the Palestinian universities throughout the year, to ensure that Human Rights Issues are included in the educational courses. Those included meetings with law faculty Deans at Gaza University, Al-Azhar university and Al-Isra' University in the Gaza Strip, in addition to other meetings that discuss several issues, such as meetings held with representatives of law faculties in a number of universities in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, which aimed at looking for ideas and suggestions to develop joint activities between MUSAWA and these universities, in order to enhance and realize the principle of the rule of law and its embodiment on the ground.

These meetings resulted in signing memorandums of understanding with the Arab American University in Jenin, Modern University College in Ramallah, Al-Isra' University in Gaza, and University of Palestine in Gaza.

In addition, and through discussing the courses at the universities, MUSAWA provided the law faculty at Gaza University with its booklet, entitled **"The Ethics of the Legal Profession"**, which was adopted as a teaching course at the faculty. Also, MUSAWA provided the law faculty at Al-Azhar University with its publication "[Constitutional Organization in Palestine](#)", to study the possibility of including it among their courses. Work with law faculties has shown that building the capacities of teachers and students is needed in terms of international treaties and harmonizing the local legislation with these treaties accordingly, in order to build future professionals with sufficient understanding of the principles of equality before the law and the judiciary and access to justice as well as fair trial guarantees. This has been considered as a priority in developing MUSAWA's strategic plan 2020-2024.

Outcome 2: Enhanced Right to a Fair Trial

With regard to enhancing the right to a fair trial, MUSAWA relies on comparing the results of the Legal Monitor Reports as a basis, to measure the change in the Palestinian public's perceptions in this regard. MUSAWA mainly depends on measuring one variable: the perception of the public on receiving a fair trial in case they were accused of a criminal offence.

The results of the Fourth Legal Monitor report (2015) that 38% of the Palestinian General Public in the West Bank (WB) believe they would receive a fair trial in case they were accused of committing a criminal offence, while 48% oppose that. On the other hand, 34% of the litigant public in the WB believe they would receive a fair trial in the event they were accused of committing a criminal offence, while 45% of them oppose that. In contrast, in the Gaza Strip, the results of the Fourth Legal Monitor Report reveal that 52% of the Palestinian General Public believe they would receive a fair trial in case they were accused of committing a criminal offence, while 36% oppose that. On the other hand, 32% of the litigant public in the Gaza Strip believe they would receive a fair trial in the event they were accused of committing a criminal offence, while 44% of them oppose that.

The results of the Fifth Legal Monitor report (2018), which was carried out in partnership with Sawasya Program and the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), show that 42% of the Palestinian General Public in the WB believe they would receive a fair trial in case they were accused of committing a criminal offence, given that women answered with 40% compared to 44% for men, while 28% oppose that. On the other hand, 46% of the litigant public in the WB believe they would receive a fair trial in the event they were accused of committing a criminal offence (44% for women, 47% for men), while 34.5% of them oppose that. In contrast, in the Gaza Strip, the results of the Fifth Legal Monitor Report reveal that 36% of the Palestinian General Public believe they would receive a fair trial in case they were accused of committing a criminal offence, given that women answered with 37% compared to 36% for men, while 41% oppose that. On the other hand, 33% of the litigant public in the Gaza Strip believe they would receive a fair trial in the event they were accused of committing a criminal offence (30% for women, 34% for men), while 49.8% of them oppose that.

Group	West Bank					
	٢٠١٥			٢٠١٨		
	Agree	Oppose	No Opinion	Agree	Oppose	No Opinion
General Public	38%	48%	14%	42%	28%	30%
Litigant Public	34%	45%	21%	46.1%	34.5%	19.4%
Group	Gaza Strip					
	٢٠١٥			٢٠١٨		
	Agree	Oppose	No Opinion	Agree	Oppose	No Opinion
General Public	52%	36%	12%	36%	41%	23%

Litigant Public	32%	44%	24%	32.9%	49.8%	17.3%
------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-------	-------	-------

In the regard of maintaining the principle of fair trial guarantees, MUSAWA is working to achieve the following:

Monitoring and Documentation of Human Rights Violations

Monthly visits to courthouses and pillars of justice

MUSAWA, represented by its staff and volunteers from Lawyers for the Rule of Law Groups (Friends of MUSAWA), conducted field visits to the pillars of justice to monitor their performance and document violations. The visits included: Magistrate Courts of Ramallah, Jericho, North Gaza, Al-Wusta, Rafah and Khan Younis; and the Sharia Court in Jericho; and the Ramallah regular and military courts, Supreme Court of Justice and the Corruption Crimes Court; and Gaza and Khan Younis Courts Complex; and each of the Juvenile Court, the Public Prosecution, Inspection Department at the Sharia Judiciary, Military judiciary and Sharia Court, in Gaza.

During these visits, some violations of the law and human rights were documented and dealt with. The details were archived in MUSAWA's publications and this will be further explained later in the report.

MUSAWA's presence in courts and justice institutions at large has proven to be an effective method to protect the right to a fair trial as judges showed cooperation in explaining decisions and reporting interference from the security forces or the government.

Meetings and Discussions

MUSAWA held a meeting that included representatives of the coordinating committees of the Palestinian Human Rights Defenders Network, which discussed the Network's Action Plan for 2019 and the requirements for developing its performance; considering it an umbrella organization to defend the rights of human rights defenders and its ongoing efforts to



provide legislative authority which forms the legal tool necessary to achieve its mission and activate its role. The participants also reviewed the network's message, its identity, objectives and activities, the mechanisms of devising and disseminating that message, and distinguishing the network from the defense of human rights.

Training Programs on Receiving Complaints and the Monitoring and Documentation of Violations

In the area of building capacities in the monitoring and documentation of human rights violations, and seeking to maximize impact and benefit, MUSAWA has worked on two levels: first by building the capacities of members of Lawyers for the Rule of Law Groups (Friends of MUSAWA) in monitoring and documenting violations of human rights guaranteed in international conventions;

and the second by building the capacities of CBOs staff and volunteers in receiving complaints and monitoring and documentation of violations.



MUSAWA organized a number of meetings for the members of Lawyers for the Rule of Law Groups (Friends of MUSAWA), covering the North, South and Centre of the WB, in addition to others in the Gaza Strip. The meetings discussed the role of the groups and their importance in activating MUSAWA's role as an independent monitoring body on the performance of the official justice system. The meetings also discussed issues that concern the Palestinian legal professionals, and addressed the mechanisms for receiving complaints and monitoring and documentation of violations. Among the topics discussed in these meetings were also the decree-law on Social Security, presented by the Secretary General

of the General Federation of Palestinian Trade Unions, Mr. Abdel Rahim Arouri; the relationship between the lawyer and the judge: Between theory and practice, presented by MUSAWA's GA member, Ghassan Massad; fair trial guarantees (Natural judge principle) and the procedures for investigation and trial before the judiciary and military prosecution, which was held in Gaza and included a special meeting with Judge Rushdi Abu Sidou, Judge of the Permanent Military Court, and Major Fadi Radwan, Head of Military Prosecution in Gaza. Finally, MUSAWA organized a meeting for members of Lawyers for the Rule of Law Groups (Friends of MUSAWA) in Ramallah and Gaza, via video conference, where advocate Nazem Aweida talked about the sound foundations of written and oral pleadings, from Gaza.

On the level of CBOs, MUSAWA held an extended community workshop in Gaza, titled: "[Sexual Assaults on Children: Let's Take Responsibility](#)". During the workshop, seven papers were presented, tackling the reasons behind sexual assault incidents on children and the related consequences, and the actions to be taken at the national level, reaching at a society free of sexual abuse and any violation of children's rights in Palestine. The papers were presented by a variety of specialists from the duty-holders as well as Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and community figures. The conference ended with the announcement of the establishment of a civic coalition, the Coalition for the Protection of Human Dignity, comprising of a number of eminent persons and representatives of the institutions participating in the conference. The coalition's job is to monitor any violation of children's rights in Palestine, document it and follow-up on addressing it, in order to reach a safe and healthy environment for our children, free from child abuse, as well as to monitor the performance of the official administrative and executive bodies, to ensure the practical commitment to take the necessary legal, cultural, social health requirements and actions.

As part of MUSAWA's pursuit to build strategic partnerships with NGOs to work on monitoring and documenting violations, especially those violating the right to fair trial, MUSAWA signed memorandums of understanding with five CBOs in the West Bank (the Palestinian Child Club, Shoruq Organization, Yafa Cultural Center, Not to forget organization and Environmental and Development Information Centre). In addition, MUSAWA signed eleven MoUs with CBOs in the Gaza Strip (Youth Development Association – in both the governorates of North Gaza and Al-Wusta, Childhood and Palestinian Family Services, the Palestinian Najada Association, Haialsalam Association, Kun Ensan – Be Human Group, al-Walid Charitable Society, Dr. Haider Abdul Shafi Centre for Culture and Development, Brilliant Tomorrow for Home Sons Society, Bena' Society for Development and Empowerment, and al-Bawasel Association for Social Development).

MUSAWA has carried out a number of training programs for the CBOs in the Gaza Strip on the mechanisms of receiving complaints and the monitoring and documentation of violations, aiming at developing the capacities of their staff and volunteers in violations' monitoring and documentation, through their relationships with their local communities.

Some of the participants in MUSAWA's trainings directed others people to file complaints to MUSAWA, and some also asked for legal advice from MUSAWA, which responded to their needs and provided them with appropriate legal advice. In addition, one of the volunteers at Dr. Haidar Abdul Shafi Centre for Culture and Development, who participated in the training on the mechanisms of receiving complaints and the monitoring and documentation of violations, monitored the issue of torture of children inside mosques in the Gaza Strip. Accordingly, through the Coalition for the Protection of the Human Dignity of Children, MUSAWA prepared a position paper, entitled "[Perpetrators of Torturing Children in Gaza must not Escape Punishment](#)," in response to that incident, demanding the speedy adoption of the necessary legal action and the announcement of the investigation and trial results, as well as clarifying the administrative actions taken to prevent the recurrence of the incident in the future.

In addition, MUSAWA participated in several workshops and meetings that discuss human rights violations at the invitation of various organizations, such as its participation in a workshop entitled "Arrests upon Governor's orders"; two workshops on torture and anti-violence at the invitation of the Treatment and Rehabilitation Center for Victims of torture; the meetings of the minimum wage campaign; a legal meeting on death penalty in Palestine in light of the accession to the Optional Protocol on the abolition of the death penalty at the invitation of the Institute of Law at Birzeit University, in partnership with the Konrad Adenauer Foundation; a meeting organized by the European Police to see the vision of CSOs on the reality of human rights and the justice system; and other meetings. In the same context, MUSAWA is a member at a group for organizations that has a complaint system for human rights violations, led by the ICHR.

Providing Support to MUSAWA's Monitoring Groups

Training Programs

During 2018, MUSAWA implemented five training programs (excluding those related to moot courts, which will be referred to later on), with a total number of 10 training courses. Six of the training courses were implemented in the West Bank and four in the Gaza Strip. A total of 342 participants participated in the training programs provided by MUSAWA, 132 of them were women, including 86 participants in the moot court programs, 38 of them were female students.

These trainings come as part of the organization's strategy to activate the role of lawyers in the field of monitoring the justice system, which is not included in their studies at the university, and to strengthen their capacity to protect the rights of litigants and ensure fair trial for all.



The following section describes the training programs carried out by MUSAWA during the year, while the moot court programs will be dealt with at a later part of this report.

1. Training program in administrative law, constitutional law, and how to be a union leader

Between February 10th and March 3rd, two training courses were held at MUSAWA's headquarters in Ramallah entitled "Administrative Law, Constitutional Law, and How to be a Union Leader". The two training courses were attended by 29 lawyers (13 females, 16 males), and targeted members of Lawyers for the Rule of Law Groups (Friends of MUSAWA), and a number of trainee and newly licensed lawyers.

2. Training Program on Intellectual Property

MUSAWA carried out three training courses under this program; two were in the West Bank and one in the Gaza Strip. The two trainings held in the West Bank were attended by 42 lawyers (24 females, 18 males), while the training course held in the Gaza Strip was attended by 17 lawyers (8 females, 9 males), all of whom were trainee and newly licensed lawyers.

3. Training Course about Litigation Procedures before the Sharia Courts

MASAWA conducted one training course on litigation procedures before Sharia courts, over the period of four training days (August 9th – 14th) at its headquarters in Ramallah. The course was attended by 43 lawyers (23 females, 20 males).

4. Training Program on the Mechanisms for Receiving Complaints and Monitoring and Documentation of Violations

MUSAWA organized three training courses on the Mechanisms for Receiving Complaints and Monitoring and Documentation of Violations at Gaza University, al-Israa University and al-Azhar University in the Gaza Strip during August, September and October. These courses targeted students of law and media faculties at the universities, and were attended by a total of 92 students, including 41 females.

It should be noted here that a similar training program targeting the CBOs in the Gaza Strip was held, in order to cooperate with them in monitoring and documenting violations, especially through these organizations' close relationship with their local communities.

5. Training Program on the Decree-Law on High Criminal Court and the Decree-Law on Cybercrimes

In its headquarters in Ramallah, MUSAWA held a training program on the two decree-laws on the High Criminal Court and Cybercrimes, over four training days during August and September. The training targeted members of the Lawyers for the Rule of Law Groups (Friends of MUSAWA) and a number of trainee and newly licensed lawyers. The training was attended by 33 lawyers (20 females, 13 males).

The following table details the training courses held by MUSAWA during the year, and the groups benefitting from them:

Training Course	Location	Males	Females	Participating Groups
Administrative Law, Constitutional Law, and How to be a Union Leader (X2)	West Bank	١٣	١٦	Lawyers for the Rule of Law Groups (Friends of MUSAWA), and a number of Trainee and newly licensed lawyers.
Intellectual Property Rights(x2)	West Bank	١٨	٢٤	Trainee and newly licensed lawyers
Intellectual Property Rights	Gaza Strip	٩	٨	Trainee and newly licensed lawyers
Litigation Procedures before Sharia Courts	West Bank	٢٠	٢٣	Trainee and newly licensed lawyers

Mechanisms for Receiving Complaints and Monitoring and Documentation of Violations (x3)	Gaza Strip	٥١	٤١	Law students at Gaza University, al-Israa University and al-Azhar University
Decree-Law on High Criminal Court and the Decree-Law on Cybercrimes	West Bank	١٣	٢٠	Lawyers for the Rule of Law Groups (Friends of MUSAWA), and a number of Trainee and newly licensed lawyers.

Facts on the training programs and courses carried out during 2018:

- MUSAWA aims to select the subjects of the trainings it offers to be different and distinct from what other organizations offer, thus develop the participants' abilities and raise their awareness in new areas; taking into account the training needs that the lawyers refer to as subjects of interest to them. As a result, 85.5% of the participants in the above-mentioned training courses responded with “Yes” to the question: "Is this the first time you have attended a training course on this topic?" (The replies to each training course were taken separately).
- MUSAWA also seeks, when organizing training courses and selecting materials and trainers and everything related to them, to have them all lead the highest possible attainment of the objectives that the participants seek to achieve through joining the trainings. The rate of achieving the desired objectives of the training courses combined was equal to 80.6%; and in one of the courses it reached 91.5%. It should be noted here that the average level of satisfaction with the training courses carried out by MUSAWA reached 86%.
- MUSAWA is interested in knowing how willing the participants are to take part in similar activities later, considering this as one of the means to measure the satisfaction of the participants on the performance of the organization. The average of those who provided a positive reply to this question in the training courses combined reached 96.8%.
- Finally, in selecting trainers, MUSAWA seeks to select highly qualified trainers who are well versed in the subject they will present. Some of the trainings were presented by more than one trainer, and some trainers provided more than one training. Overall, the average assessment of the different criteria on the performance of trainers in the trainings combined reached 85.8%.

	First time	Extent of attainment of desired objectives	average level of satisfaction	Participate in similar activities
Administrative Law, Constitutional Law, and How to be a Union Leader (X2)	58.3%	70.25%	81.25%	95.8%
Intellectual Property Rights(x2)	94.4%	78.8%	81.9%	100%
Intellectual Property Rights (Gaza)	100%	68%	77.3%	86.6%

Litigation Procedures before Sharia Courts	81.8%	91.25%	90.3%	100%
Mechanisms for Receiving Complaints and Monitoring and Documentation of Violations (x3)	93.9%	85.7%	91.2%	98.7%
Decree-Law on High Criminal Court and the Decree-Law on Cybercrimes	85.7%	89.52%	94.29%	100%
	85.5%	80.6%	86%	96.8%

Competitions for Lawyers for the Rule of Law Groups (Friends of MUSAWA) and PHRDs Network

In another context, MUSAWA organized two incentive competitions for members of Lawyers for the Rule of Law Groups (Friends of MUSAWA) and PHRDs Network, under the title "Best Pleading" and "Best Short Video", in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, Respectively. These competitions come within the framework of MUSAWA's program aimed at organizing competitions of creativity and excellence, and at developing the tools used to support its groups and build their capacity.

MUSAWA held an oral proceeding competition before the evaluation committee. Upon completion of pleading presentations, the committee deliberated secretly and announced the winning of the contestant, Adv. Rawan Radi. MUSAWA also held, with an external jury, a meeting to evaluate the videos submitted to the Best Short Video competition, where the first rank was shared by Adv. Mohammad Al-Dahdouh's team, and the team of Adv. Kawthar Seder and Adv. Mo'men Al-Natour.

The competition aimed to contribute to improve the capacities of contestants as human rights defenders. The short videos in Gaza tackled issues of violations against human rights that need to be widely addressed and treated.

MUSAWA's Periodic Publications

Eye on Justice Gazette

During 2018, MUSAWA published two issues of the Eye on Justice Gazette, a periodical publication issued by MUSAWA, and is a unique one not only on the Palestinian national and official levels, but also in the Arab countries. The periodical is issued twice a year, and is presented in several book exhibitions organized in the Arab countries, especially in the Gulf countries, as well as in many local, regional and international libraries and universities.

Through the Eye on Justice Gazette, MUSAWA seeks to monitor, document, follow up and address the violations of the rule of law and human rights by the justice system officials,



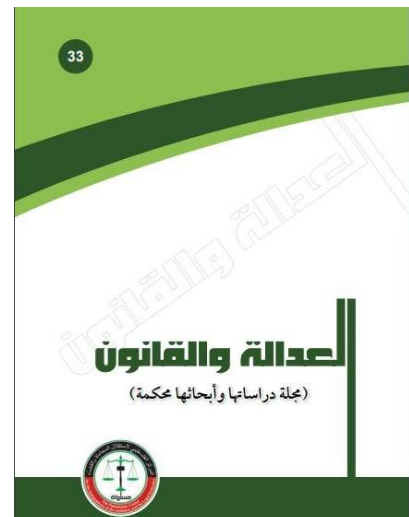
in order to achieve the maximum level of accountability and good application of the law by those responsible on the performance of the pillars of the official justice. The information contained in the gazette is documented through MUSAWA's network of relations with lawyers, judges, prosecutors and other staff members of the pillars of justice, in addition to members of the Lawyers for the Rule of Law groups (Friends of MUSAWA) and the PHRDs network, distributed over all Palestinian governorates. This information is related to violations of international laws and standards within the justice sector itself, and is published in order to shed light on the violations committed, and to demand taking the necessary measures to cancel their effects, hold the perpetrators accountable and take legal action to ensure that they are not repeated. The gazette also contains position and policy papers and legal memos issued by MUSAWA as part of its oversight role, and others issued by community coalitions that include MUSAWA, as well as articles that reflect the views of their authors, who are legal persons and civil society activists, as they are available to the opinions of all of those interested without any discrimination.

Eye on Justice first issue of 2018 (Issue no. 22) was published in July, comprising of 128 large-sized pages, while issue no. 23 was issued in December, comprising of 84 large-sized pages.

Eye on Justice Gazette is an archive of around 12 years of daily documentation of Palestinian justice sector's history, and a reference of planning for reforming the justice system looking through the history.

Justice and Law Journal

MUSAWA exclusively publishes the Justice and Law Journal, which is a journal that contains academically assessed legal studies and researches, aimed at identifying the weaknesses of the existing Palestinian legislation or administrative policies in order to induce decision-makers to enact legislative amendments and rectify administrative imbalances. The magazine also contains comments on the final rulings issued by the Palestinian courts. Justice and Law Journal is the only specialized magazine of its kind issued for this purpose at the internal official and civil levels, as well as on the Arab countries level. The journal is featured in bookstores and book fairs, and has been chosen as a training course at the Judicial Institute of Jordan. It is considered a reference for judges, lawyers, law professors, and masters and doctoral students. The magazine is usually published at least twice a year, and has been published twice in 2018, Issue no. 32 and issue no. 33.



The first was issue no. 32, which is comprised of 152 mid-size pages. The issue contains eleven commentaries on five verdicts: (1) a verdict rendered by the Supreme Constitutional Court on identifying the legal value of international treaties in the Palestinian legislation; (2) a verdict rendered by the Court of Cessation in a civil case that has to do with the criterion of calculating

the amount of compensation for wrongful dismissal as stipulated in the Labor Law; and (3) three verdicts by the High Court of Justice: a- the strike of the union of professors and staff of Palestinian universities, b- the strike of the Bar Association to protest against the Decree-Law on the High Criminal Court, c- the prevention of Legislative Council (PLC) members to enter the PLC building by police officers. All commentaries were provided by judges, law professors, lawyers, and specialized academics from Egypt, Jordan, and Palestine.

As for the issue no. 33, it is comprised of 246 mid-size pages. The issue contains two pieces of research in its first part, the first one entitled “The judicial bottleneck in Palestine”, prepared by Adv. Yusra Hassouneh from Ramallah, and the second one entitled “The alternatives to civil dispute resolution (arbitration and mediation)” prepared by the legal scholar, Ibrahim Almadani, from Gaza. In its second part, the issue contains a number of commentaries on verdicts rendered by the Supreme Constitutional Court, the Supreme Court of Justice and the Supreme Court: (1) The Constitutional Interpretive decision No 5/2017 on “The mechanisms of incorporating international conventions into the internal legal system and their legal standing in it”, and a commentary on it prepared by Dr. Mohammad Saleem Ghazzawi, from Jordan, and the Legal Counsel, Dr. Abdulaziz Saliman, the Vice-President of the Egyptian Constitutional Court. (2) The Interpretive decision No 2/2017 on “The jurisdiction of the Court of Cassation in the area of examining and adjudicating appeals on the personal status issues of non-Muslims”, and a commentary on it prepared by Dr. Mohammad al-Najjar, from Egypt, and Dr. Yousuf Abubaker, from Jordan. (3) The verdict No 306/2016 rendered by the Supreme Court of Justice on “The time-limits for appealing against administrative resolutions, and the difference between ordinary and null Resolutions”, and a commentary on it prepared by Dr. Mahmoud Rashdan, from Jordan, and Dr. Fathi Fekri, from Egypt. (4) The verdict No 8/2017 rendered by the Supreme Court on “The Supreme Court’s jurisdiction in the area of examining and adjudicating the legality of rules and regulations”, and a commentary on it prepared by Dr. Rif’at Eif Sayyed, from Egypt, and Dr. Saeed Alhatamleh, from Jordan. In its third part, the issue contains two articles, the first one entitled “The state of law” prepared by Dr. Nafis Modanat, from Jordan, and the second one entitled “The disposition of public funds” prepared by Dr. Jihad Alharazeen, from Gaza.

Justice and Law Journal has imprinted as not only a monitoring tools on judicial final rulings but as a planning tool recording around 17 years of judicial decisions. It also marks a significant tool for monitoring the Palestinian legislation since these decisions are made according to those laws.

Discussing MUSAWA’s Publications and Monitored Violations

MUSAWA held a discussion session to discuss MUSAWA’s latest periodic publications and what they document of violations against the law and human rights, as well as the commentaries on the judicial rulings, and other issues. The session was held in MUSAWA’s offices in the West Bank and Gaza via video conference, and it was streamed live on MUSAWA’s page on Facebook. The session was attended by 41 participants, including 12 women, of lawyers, legal specialists and MUSAWA’s audience and readers of its publications in Gaza and Ramallah.

MUSAWA has also been in contact with the official authorities regarding the violations documented and the complaints received, through issuing legal memos, position papers and statements, which were discussed earlier in this report.

The Fifth Legal Monitor Report

MUSAWA measures and records the attitudes of legal and public stakeholders towards the justice system in its biennial report; the Legal Monitor. The Fifth Legal Monitor Report was due in 2017; however, it was decided to postpone its issuance until 2018. The decision was taken after contact between MUSAWA, Sawasya Program and the Netherlands Representative Office, where it was decided that MUSAWA and Sawasya work on the report cooperatively to combine the efforts.

In April 2018, MUSAWA signed a cooperation agreement with the Palestine Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) for the Legal Monitor survey. MUSAWA had previously signed a cooperation agreement with SAWASYA for the same purpose.

In July 2018, MUSAWA participated in a workshop held at the headquarters of the PCBS to discuss the participants' opinions regarding the questionnaires to survey the community perceptions on the performance of the justice system, for the purposes of preparing the Legal Monitor.



During December 2018, MUSAWA announced the results of the Fifth Legal Monitor report: The national comprehensive report surveying the perceptions of the Palestinian community towards the performance of the justice system. The results were announced during a press conference conducted by video conference in both Ramallah and Gaza, with the participation of over 260 official and civil figures, and in cooperation with SAWASYA - Promoting the Rule of Law in the State of

Palestine, and with support from the Netherlands Representative office in Palestine. The report represents the first comprehensive survey based on the widest database established with contribution of 16,000 citizens of nine community groups that are related and interested in the justice institutions and their performance.

The report, which consists of 200 pages of large-sized pages, as well as its [executive summary](#) and resulting recommendations, were presented by MUSAWA to all officials in the justice system; calling on duty bearers and decision makers to expedite the adoption of legislative, executive and administrative policies, decisions and procedures to ensure the implementation of the recommendations in an honest, practical and informed manner.

MUSAWA was hosted in a number of radio and television interviews to discuss the results of the Fifth Legal Monitor Report, where it was represented by the chairman of the BoD, Dr. Taleb



Awad; Director General, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi; Executive Director, Ahlam Tarayra; Legal Monitoring Officer in Gaza, Adv. Rula Moussa. The interviews were held over Alam al-Khalil radio, Radio Al Balad (Jenin), Raya FM, Ajyal Radio, and Ro'ya TV, Kufiyya satellite channel, as well as two interviews via each of 24 FM and Ramallah FM.

In addition, during the year 2019, MUSAWA will hold public debates and roundtable discussions with duty-holders and decision-makers to discuss views arising from the Fifth Legal Monitor report.

Furthermore, MUSAWA published a [position paper](#) including the recommendations of the Fifth Legal Monitor report, which included the following recommendations:

1. There is a need for an explicit and practical political will towards unifying the justice system in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, as one unified, impartial, active, and independent judicial authority.
2. Commencing to take all necessary measures guaranteeing the unification and reform of the justice system, with independent community participation.
3. Applying the performance evaluation policy to everyone working in the justice system, as an effective tool to combat corruption and ensure the development of performance.
4. Promoting the culture of the rule of law and respecting it as a credible alternative to the resolution of conflicts apart of anarchy and chaos.
5. Enforcing the principle of separation of powers to counteract the phenomenon of interference in the work of the justice systems' institutions, and to account its perpetrators.
6. Adopting alternative conditions and mechanisms for appointment and promotion in the justice system, away from all forms of mediation and nepotism.
7. Lifting the immunity of the ones accused of corruption, and referring them to fair trials as a necessity for effective combating of corruption in the justice system institution.
8. Strengthening the institutional structure and rules of professional and transparent work, and respecting the competencies and powers within the institutions of the justice system and in their relations with each other and their relationship to the executive authority, in a way that enhances their professional independence and preserves the independence of the employees and their submission to conscience and law only.
9. On the academic level, identifying the weakness in scientific research' phenomenon in law faculties in the Palestinian universities, and the weak role they play in monitoring and developing legislation.

Recommendations for right-holders:

1. The civil society organizations should identify the justice system's reality as revealed in the Fifth Legal Monitor report, and set out their priorities and visions of the actions that need to be taken against the barriers of justice in Palestine, and avoid solutions that could deepen the crises instead of resolving it.
2. Unifying the visions and efforts of the CSOs regarding the mechanism for unifying, reforming and developing the justice system.
3. Activating the CSO's role in the embodiment of the culture of the rule of law, and enabling the citizens, especially the marginalized groups, to obtain their legal and constitutional rights, and introducing them to the legal means to protect their rights.
4. We recommend the Palestinian Bar Association, Ministry of Education and Higher Education and Universities' administration to take the practical actions needed to assess the levels of law students and graduates, who seek becoming legal professionals.
5. We recommend the Bar Association's council to activate the role of disciplinary councils and promote their professionalism in addressing any manifestation or practice that contradicts with the professional code of conduct, negatively affects the citizens' trust in the association and blocks its mission of ensuring the access to justice. Disciplinary councils can address the mentioned problems by combating corruption, bribes, and nepotism, in addition to paying close attention to build the capacities of trainee lawyers, including reconsidering the training system and the relationship between trainee lawyers with practicing lawyers, and with the bodies of the official legal system and the agents.
6. All competent bodies should promote reading and comparative research among those who work in the legal profession and conduct motivational events and activities.

These recommendations will be considered as a baseline for the next Legal Monitor in 2020.

Complaints System, its Development and Promotion

MUSAWA's complaints system is the mechanism for direct contact with right holders and follow-up on their cases to ensure that rights are not infringed. During 2018, MUSAWA received a total of 82 complaints, all documented through the electronic archiving system for complaints. MUSAWA responds to these complaints through drafting legal memos and sending them to the competent authorities, or through providing legal consultations to the complainants, or referring them to the competent authorities. Complaints are sometimes withdrawn by the complainant before any action is taken.

The following table shows the parties against whom MUSAWA received complaints during 2018, in the WB and the Gaza Strip:

Party complained against	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Judges, Public Prosecution and Police	٢٢	١٦
Lawyers	٧	٦
Official Institutions³	١٠	٩
Governors	٥	—
Municipal Councils	١	—
Preventive Security Service	١	—
Military Intelligence	١	—
Others	١	٣
Total	٤٨	٣٤

Based on the complaints it received, MUSAWA sent 35 original legal memos during 2018, addressed to different bodies according to jurisdiction. MUSAWA received 27 responses to these memos, by 77.1%.

In addition to the several positive responses that MUSAWA received based on the legal memos it sent, there was a number of distinct success stories which MUSAWA prepared reports on them. These include the success of the complainant Safa' Al-Harazin, kidney-failure patient, in getting the Ministry of Health approve the request to allow her husband to donate his kidney regardless of the period of their marriage contract, and to remove the obstacles and illegal conditions set-out in their regulations. MUSAWA also succeeded, based on oral complaints it received, in stopping the issuance of a decision threatening the fate of UNRWA Students in Gaza. In addition, MUSAWA succeeded in performing its oversight role in executing judicial rulings, through following-up on the case of the complainant Mr. Issam al-Barghouthi, with Ramallah Municipal Council, which finally decided a complete adherence to implement the ruling of the High Court of Justice in favor of Mr. al-Barghouthi. Moreover, with the issuance of a ruling in favor of the complainant, (currently Judge) Huda Odwan, to serve as a judge in the Magistrate Court; MUSAWA has succeeded in its efforts to defeat discrimination against women in holding public office. It should be noted that the last success story was based on a complaint received during 2017. Additionally, the Palestinian Anti-Corruption Commission (PACC) responded to MUSAWA's vision on the importance of announcing a system that regulates the way of dealing with the gifts presented to public officials. The PACC, in cooperation with the Ministry of Transport, announced sending a proposal to the Cabinet on the gifts presented to public officials. Finally, in a first of its kind incident, Grievance and Human Rights department at the Palestinian Police responded to a

³ Three of the complaints received against official institutions were against the institutions of the Justice and Security sectors.

memo sent by MUSAWA on violating sanctity of homes and a humiliating arrest, and referred the issue to the commissions of inquiry and disciplinary councils.

During 2019, MUSAWA recorded two success stories, based on its interventions in 2018, which included the announcement of the former Attorney General, Dr. Ahmad Barrak, to abolish the results of the competition for appointing Prosecution assistants; after MUSAWA called for the abolishment for a number of reasons. In addition, MUSAWA received a response from the Attorney General in Gaza, stating the Public Prosecution will form a government committee to address the phenomenon of child begging gangs in Gaza; after MUSAWA send a memo to the Public Prosecution demanding finding a solution to the issue. The former success story is available in more detail below.

Success Story: Following MUSAWA's Memo, the Public Prosecution Forms a Government Committee for Addressing the Phenomenon of Child Begging Gangs in Gaza

According to article 43 of [the Palestinian Child Law No \(7\) of 2004](#), "It is prohibited to exploit children for begging, and it is likewise prohibited to employ them under illegal conditions, or to assign them to render jobs that interfere with their schooling, or affects their physical and psychological health", and article 44 of the same law which prohibits exposing the child to seven cases including "5. Sexual or economic exploitation, organized crime, and begging".

The Beginning of the problem

On 18/11/2018, MUSAWA received a complaint from an advocate from Gaza, in which she stated that she was verbally insulted by a group of children beggars and their families in the area of Ramzon Alsaraya, where she was working on documenting the organized begging phenomenon in the area.

The complainant added that the insult occurred before the eyes of the police officers, who were present in the area. However, they watched the abuse in complete silence, without interfering to ensure the physical protection of the complainant or to facilitate her authorized task. Noting that the lawyer obtained an oral authorization from the police officers, who in their turn inspected her mobile for security purposes.

MUSAWA's Interventions

In its turn, MUSAWA sent a [legal memo](#) to the Attorney General in Gaza, Adviser, Diaa Al-Madhoun, in which it pointed out the physical and verbal assaults the complainant has been through, which occurred before the eyes of the police officers, who granted her the authorization to take photos, and as mentioned before, they watched the abuse in complete silence.

The legal memo indicated the deficiency in the police performance concerning the seizure of begging groups or providing physical protection, who was attacked before their sights. MUSAWA also indicated the seriousness of the growing phenomenon of begging, which serves as a fertile

breeding ground for crime and violates the humane dignity of children, which represents a social, cultural, and psychological threat that negatively affects the children present and future.

Through the legal memo, MUSAWA has called the decision makers, the representatives of parliamentary blocs, and the political parties to make a serious reaction against this phenomenon, and to take all needed administrative and penal actions to eradicate and limit the phenomenon, and to account the ones responsible of it, as well as organizing academic and media Awareness-raising campaigns to identify the phenomenon's threats and negative effects on children in specific and the whole community in general, in addition to addressing the socio-economic root causes of the begging phenomenon. MUSAWA has also demanded to take the needed legal action to hold the police officers, who neglected the beggars while abusing the complainant, accountable, and to start the investigation on the begging contractors, and refer them to the judiciary to account them duly.

The Public Prosecution Forms a Government Committee for Addressing the Phenomenon of Child Begging Gangs in Gaza

On 15/1/2019, MUSAWA received a letter from the Attorney General in Gaza, Adviser, Diaa Aldeen Al-Madhoun, affirming that the Public Prosecution is committed to respecting human rights, and appreciating MUSAWA's collaboration in this area to uphold the justice and the rule of law. In addition, the Attorney General in Gaza affirmed that a number of actions are to be taken to face the child-begging phenomenon. These actions include ordering the Traffic Police administration to inform all police members that they must interfere in any incident that represents a violation of the Law in case it happens before their eyes and call the competent bodies to take the needed legal action duly, in addition to agreeing on forming a governmental committee composed of the Public Prosecution, the Ministry of Social Development, the General Intelligence and the Ministry of Culture, to address the begging phenomenon and take the legal action against law violators, and to follow up the other remedial actions concerning this phenomenon.

Whereby MUSAWA welcomes the commitment of the public prosecution in Gaza to address the child-begging phenomenon, the center also indicates the importance of respecting children's rights and protecting them from any violations that should prejudice their humane dignity during the process of dealing the phenomenon, and to make sure that none of their rights gets violated, and to make their interest the priority of all the actions to be taken in this regard. Finally, MUSAWA demands to publish the results of the work of the committee mentioned in the letter sent by the General Attorney in Gaza and to keep us updated with the actions taken by the General Attorney in Gaza and the competent bodies in this regard.

Outcome 3: Enhanced Access to Justice

According to what was published by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) in 2018 (the general census of 2017), women judges constituted 18.3% of the total judges in Palestine then. The percentage of women judges in the West Bank reached 19.9%, which was higher than that in the Gaza Strip, which amounted to 10.6%. As for the Public Prosecution in Palestine, the percentage of women holding Prosecutor positions reached 18.4%, compared to 81.6% for men. There was not any woman holding a prosecutor position in the Gaza Strip. It is noted that the number of female prosecutors in the West Bank increased between 2014 and 2018, rising from 16 to 28 prosecutor, by 15.9% to 24.7%, respectively. Finally, 26.5% of practicing lawyers in Palestine were women. The gap in the percentage of female lawyers between the WB and the Gaza Strip increases: where it reached 27.6% in the WB and 23.4% in the Gaza Strip.

Comparing these figures to those of previous years, it is noted that the number of women from the total number of judges, prosecutors and lawyers in Palestine is gradually increasing. These are some key indicators on which MUSAWA relies on measuring the progress in promoting the mainstreaming of gender and gender equality within the justice institutions.. In this regard, it is worth pointing out to one of MUSAWA's success stories, in which it worked to defeat discrimination against women in holding public office, and in defense of (currently Judge) Huda Adwan for her right to serve as a Magistrate Judge in Gaza, as an example of MUSAWA's efforts in this field. [For more details.](#)

The below table shows the percentages of women from the total number of Judges and Lawyers in the years 2014 and 2015 (before the initiation of MUSAWA's current program); and the year 2017 (the last general census of PCBS, published in 2018); disaggregated by the WB and the Gaza Strip. It also shows the percentage of women from the total number of prosecutors in the year 2014 (PCBS) and the year 2018 (direct contact with the Public Prosecution in the WB and the Gaza Strip).

	٢٠١٤			٢٠١٥	٢٠١٧		
	West Bank	Gaza Strip	Palestine	Palestine	West Bank	Gaza Strip	Palestine
Judges (females)	18.2%	6.8%	16.7%	17.2%	19.9%	10.6%	18.3% ⁴
Lawyers (females)	21.2%	18.2%	20.4% ⁵	22.5%	27.6%	23.4%	26.5%
	٢٠١٤				٢٠١٨		

⁴ Data on judges and lawyers for 2017: PCBS, 2018, Men and Women in Palestine: Issues and Statistics, 2018. Ramallah – Palestine, <http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Downloads/book2397.pdf>

⁵ Data on lawyers in Palestine for 2014: http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/_Rainbow/Documents/laver%204.htm

	West Bank	Gaza Strip	Palestine	West Bank	Gaza Strip	Palestine
Prosecutors (females)	15.9%	0.0%	12.9% ⁶	24.7%	0.0%	18.4%

It should be noted here that the reason for choosing to use the data prosecutors alone, and not the data on the different Public Prosecution members, was based on the available data for previous years.

As for the percentage of lawsuits filed by women to the total number of filed lawsuits; comparing the percentages of lawsuits filed by women between 2016 and 2018, for example, we find a decrease of 2.53%. These percentages must take into account a number of factors affecting them in addition to that of women's access to justice; for example, the presence or absence of a need to file a particular lawsuit and the total number of filed lawsuits. Looking more closely to the percentages in the below table, we find that the types of lawsuits with the greatest change are those of land settlement issues, where the percentage of lawsuits filed by women decreased from 36.66% in 2016 to 24.5% in 2018, i.e; 10.16%, as well as execution lawsuits, which decreased from 8.39% in 2016 to 3.21% in 2018, i.e; 5.18%. It is these two types of issues that have changed markedly, mainly causing the overall decline of 2.53%. The decrease could be explained when compared to the Fifth Legal Monitor Report where issues such as delay in litigation process, overload, cost etc would have more impact on women especially if they are not financially independent or if they are from marginalized and poor areas.

	2016			2017			2018		
	Total number of filed lawsuits	lawsuits filed by women	Percentage of lawsuits filed by women	Total number of filed lawsuits	lawsuits filed by women	Percentage of lawsuits filed by women	Total number of filed lawsuits	lawsuits filed by women	Percentage of lawsuits filed by women
Execution (Appeal)	4455	293	6.58%	5221	320	6.13%	5962	394	6.61%
Crimes (Appeal)	731	21	2.87%	742	22	2.96%	730	20	2.74%
Misdemeanors (Appeal)	3578	133	3.72%	3315	140	4.22%	3373	152	4.51%
Rights (Appeal)	4435	546	12.31%	4692	595	12.68%	4885	555	11.36%
Juveniles	3021	224	7.41%	1545	127	8.22%	1192	118	9.90%
Settlement	1832	635	34.66%	2035	439	21.57%	4167	1021	24.50%

⁶ Data on prosecutors in Palestine for 2014: http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/_Rainbow/Documents/layer%204.htm

Execution	59975	5032	8.39%	68021	2700	3.97%	75800	2432	3.21%
Crimes	983	69	7.02%	1330	106	7.97%	2662	203	7.63%
Misdemeanors	34881	3667	10.51%	37827	3800	10.05%	41236	4264	10.34%
Rights	22100	2921	13.22%	22954	2840	12.37%	24278	2982	12.28%
Administrative lawsuits	318	47	14.78%	260	39	15.00%	425	69	16.24%
High court lawsuits	14	4	28.57%	9	1	11.11%	8	2	25.00%
Penal pleas	545	29	5.32%	687	15	2.18%	713	28	3.93%
Rights pleas	1600	204	12.75%	1849	254	13.74%	1954	237	12.13%
Total	138468	13825	9.98%	150487	11398	7.57%	167385	12477	7.45%

Respecting the promotion of the right to access to justice, MUSAWA relies on comparing the results of the Legal Monitor reports to measure the change in the perceptions of the Palestinian public in this regard, and depends mainly on two variables: the appropriateness of litigation costs the public's level of awareness of the procedures for filing lawsuits at the Justice and security sectors' institutions.

In regards to the public's level of awareness of the procedures for filing lawsuits at the Justice and security sectors' institutions, the findings of the Fourth Legal Monitor report (2015) indicate that 42% of the public in the West Bank are aware of the procedures to be followed before going to courts, while 40% are not aware of these procedures. In contrast, 47% of the litigant public in the West Bank are aware of the procedures to be followed before going to courts, and 31% are not. In the Gaza Strip, the results indicate that 48% of the public are aware of the procedures to be followed before going to courts, while 38% are not. And, 55% of the litigant public in the Gaza Strip are aware of the procedures to be followed before going to courts, while 33% are not⁷.

As for the Fifth Legal Monitor report (2018), the available options for those surveyed were different than those of the previous report. The options included (No knowledge at all, little knowledge, good knowledge). The results indicate that 33.8% of the public in the WB are aware of the procedure for filing a lawsuit, whether they had little or good knowledge, compared to 66.3% who have no knowledge of these procedures at all. The percentages correspond to those of the litigant public by 49.5% and 50.4%, respectively. In the Gaza Strip, the findings of the Fifth Legal Monitor report indicate that 32.2% of the public have wither little or good knowledge of

⁷ The percentages not mentioned here indicate those who answered "No opinion" when surveyed.

the procedures to be followed, while 68% are not aware of these procedures at all. The percentages correspond to those of the litigant public by 45.4% and 54.5%, respectively⁸.

Group	West Bank					
	٢٠١٥			٢٠١٨		
	Has knowledge	No knowledge	No opinion	Good knowledge	Little knowledge	No knowledge at all
General Public	%٤٢	%٤٠	%١٨	%٧,٧	%٢٦,١	%٦٦,٣
Litigant Public	%٤٧	%٣١	%٢٢	%١٤,٤	%٣٥,١	%٥٠,٤
Group	Gaza Strip					
	2015			2018		
	Has knowledge	No knowledge	No opinion	Good knowledge	Little knowledge	No knowledge at all
General Public	%٤٨	%٣٨	%١٤	%٦,٦	%٢٥,٦	%٦٨
Litigant Public	%٥٥	%٣٣	%١٢	%١٤,٥	%٣٠,٩	%٥٤,٥

In order to maintain and strengthen the right to access to justice, MUSAWA has worked on the following:

Enhancing Legal Skills and Knowledge of Young Lawyers and Legal persons

Awareness raising workshops for Lawyers and legal persons

In addition to the workshops MUSAWA offers to the marginalized groups to raise their legal awareness, and which will be referred at a later part of this report; MUSAWA also conducts training sessions for lawyers and legal persons (apart from full training programs) to increase their legal knowledge and ensure their clients' access to justice. In the course of 2018, MUSAWA held six awareness raising activities for legal persons, which addressed: the Palestinian Insurance Law and its practical aspects; the Penal Code; how to prepare, formulate and organize legal contracts; arbitration as an alternative to dispute resolution; the military judiciary; and a two-day workshop on the legitimate rights of inheritors. These workshops were attended by a total of 109 participants (51 females, 58 males), including trainee and newly licensed lawyers, Sharia lawyers

⁸ It is worth noting that the percentages of the level of awareness of the general and litigant public in the Fifth Legal Monitor report represent the knowledge of the procedures of several institutions. For example, the knowledge of the procedures of the military courts was low compared to that of the Sharia and regular courts, affecting the overall average of knowledge level.

and law students. Five of these workshops were conducted in the Gaza Strip, while one workshop (Arbitration as an Alternative to Dispute Resolution) was conducted in the West Bank.

Moot Trial Programs

During 2018, MUSAWA implemented three moot trial programs. The first program was a continuation of a training program that began in December 2017. A total of 146 participants took part in these programs, including 60 students from Gaza University who attended a moot court presentation in Sharia judiciary that was implemented to spread the benefit.

The participants in these training programs came from three universities in the Gaza Strip, and three universities in the West Bank, in addition to a number of trainee and newly-licensed lawyers. The below section provides more details on these programs.

1. Moot Court Program on a Criminal Case

This program was implemented in the period between December 2017 and February 2018, and targeted law students at three of the Gaza Strip universities. It was attended by 35 students, including 12 female students. Pre and post evaluations were made for this activity, in addition to an evaluation for the quality of the training program, all of which can be found attached to this report.

Evaluations of this activity showed the benefit gained by the participants in the training, where the average positive change in the participants' knowledge on a number of subjects was equal to 19%, while they indicated an increase in their confidence in a number of skills by about 9%.

2. Military Court Proceedings through Mock Trial

In cooperation with the Military Justice Commission, the training was implemented in Ramallah, in the period March 25th – 27th, 2018. The training targeted law faculty students at Birzeit University, Modern College University and Al-Quds University, in addition to a number of trainee and newly-licensed lawyers. A total of 21 law students (including 13 females) and 3 trainee and practicing lawyers attended the training. Pre and post evaluations were made for this activity, in addition to an evaluation for the quality of the training program, all of which can be found attached to this report.



Evaluations of this activity showed the benefit gained by the participants in the training, where the average positive change in the participants' knowledge on a number of subjects was equal to 39%, while they indicated an increase in their confidence in a number of skills by about 10.5%.

3. Moot Court Training on Sharia Court Verdicts

In cooperation with the Sharia Bar Association in Gaza, MUSAWA implemented a training program and moot trial in Sharia judiciary, for a number of trainee and newly licensed lawyers in the Gaza Strip. The program was implemented over the course of three training days, in the period September 10th – 13th. In addition, and to spread the benefits to the widest set, an additional training day was held on September 26th, where the moot trial was presented another time before law students at Gaza University. Pre and post evaluations were made for this activity, in addition to an evaluation for the quality of the training program, in order to benefit from them in developing work in this sector.

Evaluations of this activity showed the benefit gained by the participants in the training, where the average positive change in the participants' knowledge on a number of subjects was equal to 35%, while they indicated an increase in their confidence in a number of skills by about 37%.



MUSAWA learned later that all the trainee lawyers who participated in this training in Sharia judiciary had successfully passed the Sharia judiciary practice exam.

Providing Legal Consultations to the Marginalized Groups

During 2018, MUSAWA implemented a total of 74 legal awareness workshops for the marginalized groups; 39 of which were implemented in the West Bank, and 35 in the Gaza Strip. The number of beneficiaries of these awareness workshops reached 2039 beneficiary, including 1,393 women⁹. The awareness sessions were distributed on the Palestinian governorates as follows:

Jericho	Hebron	Jerusalem	Bethlehem	Jenin	Ramallah & al-Bireh	Salfit	Tubas
٧	٣	١	٨	٢	١١	١	١
Tulkarem	Qalqilia	Nablus	North Gaza	Gaza	Al-Wusta	Rafah	Khanyounis
٢	١	٢	٩	٨	٣	٣	١١

MUSAWA has worked hard to reach as many marginalized areas as possible and raise the legal awareness among their residents. The most difficult of these was the areas of Salfit, Tubas and Qalqilia. The awareness-raising workshops covered 43 different areas, where awareness raising workshops on different topics were given in the areas that were addressed more than once.

MUSAWA's staff and volunteers provided a total of 99 legal consultations during 2018, including those provided through the above-mentioned awareness sessions, or through the complaints and monitoring and documentation of violations trainings provided to CBOs, or were provided in MUSAWA's officer or by phone, or as a result of a filing a complaint. The following table shows beneficiary data:

Sex	28% Women 72% Men	Noting that the number of women who attended the awareness raising session in the legal clinic program was over twice the number of men.
Age Groups	6% within the age group (18 – 24) 67% within the age group (25 – 44) 25% within the age group (45 - 64) 1% within the age group (65 or older)	Noting that the data on age groups was available for only 72.7% of the beneficiaries. The rest wither were not willing to provide such information, or were provided a consultation as a result of

⁹ Annex (5) includes a table of all awareness workshops implemented during 2018.

		filing a complaint, where such information is not required.
Marital Status	74% Married 17% Unmarried 5% Divorced/divorcees 4% Widows/widowers	Noting that all of those who received legal advice in the (Divorced/ divorcees, Widows/ widowers) groups were women. And, all legal consultations provided for the (Divorced/ divorcees) group were regarding Sharia cases (Sharia rights, custody of children). Also, noting that data on the marital status was available for only 92.9% of the beneficiaries.
Case Categorization	73% of the provided consultations were on civil cases. 27% of the provided consultations were on sharia cases.	Noting that most of the civil cases revolved around contract, trade, employment rights, and land settlement; whereas the sharia cases revolved around sharia rights, inheritance, and child custody. Also, all consultations provided through complaints revolved around the performance of the justice sector institutions.

Legal consultations have played a significant role in directing the beneficiaries to claim their right to access to justice as reported by many of them later.

Milestones in the Institutional Building of MUSAWA

Communication and participation between the General Assembly and the Board of Directors of MUSAWA and its executive staff

In order to activate the communication and participation in the implementation of the executive plan between MUSAWA's General Assembly and Board of Directors with the executive staff, the General Assembly held its regular annual meeting with the attendance and participation of the executive staff, in which it approved the Annual Administrative and Financial report, and discussed the need to develop MUSAWA's tools in light of the Executive Authority's unilateral approach, and the non-viability of the currently used tools in facing the pre-mentioned circumstances.

The members of the BoD also met with the executive staff, and several GA and BoD members participated in the activities of MUSAWA in accordance with the executive plan approved by the Board. Subsequently, MUSAWA conducts bi-monthly meetings for the executive staff to follow up on the implementation of the executive plan and discuss the mechanisms of developing MUSAWA's work. In addition, an administrative committee, consisting of the General Manager, the Executive Manager, the Finance Manager, the Public Relations and Fundraising Officer, supervises the implementation of the executive plan, faces challenges, and provides alternative solutions in light of the lack of funding and the organization's efforts to rely on its internal resources to cope with the deficit in the budget.

The internal life at MUSAWA witnessed regular meetings of the Board of Directors and the General Assembly in accordance with the provisions of the law and the institutional need. Members of the Board of Directors participated in MUSAWA's meetings with duty bearers and partner and friend organizations as reported in different stations of this report.

Mainstreaming Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA)

MUSAWA adopted holding the official bodies accountable for their responsibilities through its legal memos and position papers on violations of the law and human rights, in which it demanded that the appropriate legal action be taken to address and overcome these violations. This is accompanied by conducting awareness raising campaigns for the citizens, especially those in the marginalized areas and within the most marginalized groups, such as women, children, and people with disabilities. To activate this role, MUSAWA focused on supporting the observance of violations and improving the justice system both as a system and infrastructure through working within coalitions. In the same context, and in addition to its work in the Civic Coalition for Monitoring the Legislative Process, MUSAWA began working on the establishment of coalitions led by it at the level of CBOs in Gaza Strip and the West Bank, in order to build the capacities of these organizations in the monitoring and documentation of violations, and performing pressure on duty bearers to address these violations.

In addition, MUSAWA focused on the harmonization of physical and programmatic specializations for people with disabilities. For example, translation into Sign Language was provided at the press conference of the Fifth Legal Monitor Report, and the selection of conference venues in the West Bank and Gaza Strip was based on accessibility for people with physical disabilities.

Examples where HRBA was mainstreamed:

The establishment of the Coalition for the Protection of Child Dignity

Given that children are among the most marginalized groups in societies, and the most vulnerable in the face of the violations they and their rights are subjected to, and having noted the frequent sexual aggression against children in the Gaza Strip, and to prevent those violations from becoming a phenomenon, MUSAWA held an extended community workshop during March, entitled: “[Sexual Assault on Children: Let's Take Responsibility](#)”, which was referred to earlier in this report.

The coalition also issued a position paper entitled “[Perpetrators of Torturing Children in Gaza must not Escape Punishment](#)”, in response to the incident of torturing children inside a number of mosques in the Gaza Strip, which was monitored by one of the volunteers at Dr. Haider Abdul Shafi Center for Culture and Development, who has participated in MUSAWA’s training program on Monitoring and Documentation of violations. In the position paper, MUSAWA demanded the decision makers to accelerate the proceedings of taking the necessary legal action in that regard, and to announce the outcomes of the trial and the investigation; in addition to stating the administrative procedures taken to prevent any future recurrences of the incident.

Combating Violence, Torture, and Death Penalty

In light of Palestine’s signing of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of death penalty, as well as the signing of the First Optional Protocol to the said Covenant, which incriminates the crime of torture; and, provided that the Palestinian legislation still include provisions for death sentence, and thus having both military and regular courts still impose it, MUSAWA issued a [position paper](#) demanding taking the legislative and administrative measures to guarantee the abolition of death penalties in text and practice. The number of death sentences issued in Palestine since the beginning of 2018 reached “(15) verdicts, (13) among which are newly issued verdicts, and one of the other two verdicts is issued by the Military Court of Appeal in support of a previous verdict, while the other one is issued by the Court of Cessation. This raises the number of verdicts issued in the areas of the Palestinian Authority since 1994 to (216), including (186) verdict issued in the

Gaza Strip, and (30) in the West Bank. Among the verdicts issued in the Gaza Strip, (128) were issued since the political division in 2007”¹⁰.

Proceeding from its belief in the human right to life, and the non-viability of the death penalty as an exemplary punishment, and as this kind of punishment is irreversible in case of providing new proofs in its regard, MUSAWA participated in the activities of the World Day Against Death Penalty, as well as participating in a march at the invite of the Human Rights and Democracy Media Center SHAMS. MUSAWA also published a video that illustrates the grounds for refusing the death sentence and the desired objective of abolishing it, while new death sentence verdicts were being issued in the Gaza Strip.

MUSAWA reaffirms again its opposition to death penalty, which contradicts with the modern criminal philosophy, especially in light of the lack of fair trial guarantees, and the deterioration of the citizens' trust in the justice system, be it the civil or the military judiciary, in addition to the impossibility to have a proven certainty for the crimes on which the Palestinian legislation stipulates death penalty for the perpetrators. MUSAWA also calls upon the duty-bearers to take the legislative and administrative measures to ensure the abolition of the penalty, both in legal text and practice.

In addition, MUSAWA participated in a number of workshops and meeting on torture and death penalty, among them is a workshop entitled “Torture: Beyond the crime”, and “Combating Violence and Torture”, and a legal meeting conducted by the Institute of Law at Birzeit University on “Death Sentence in Palestine in the light of joining the Optional Protocol on abolishing the death penalty”.

The Citizens’ Right to Freedom of Expression and to Peaceful Assembly

Throughout 2018, MUSAWA monitored a continuation and recurrence of assaulting citizens during peaceful assemblies in the WB and Gaza Strip. These incidents included police officers dispersing a peaceful assembly outside the Movenpick Hotel in Gaza city; the incident of preventing female citizens from watching a football match in Alnusairat refugees camp stadium to the south of Gaza; and violating the sanity of Al-Azhar University’s Campus as police officers physically attacked a crowd of students in the campus and inside exams halls, and violently ordered the students to leave the university. Add to these incidents one where security bodies in Ramallah, both in civilian and military uniforms, and with unprecedented violence, attacked the peaceful assembly of “lift the sanctions on Gaza” movement, in addition to the suppression of the peaceful movement – using security elements and persons in civilian clothing- of citizens who took part of a peaceful gathering in Gaza against the division, and the suppression of the peaceful march in the city of Nablus.

In its turn, MUSAWA issued legal memos, position papers and statements, both individually and in cooperation with civil society organizations, in response to such incidents, and demanding protecting the citizens’ rights to expression and peaceful assembly and providing them with

¹⁰ Source of data: The Palestinian Centre for Human Rights (<https://pchrgaza.org/ar/?p=16426>)

protection instead of assaulting them. In addition, MUSAWA demanded initiating investigations into these attacks and accounting the ones responsible for them. In following statements, MUSAWA expressed its concern at the competent bodies' lack of responsiveness to the demands of civil society organizations, and its concern at their failure to discharge their responsibilities as demonstrated through the recurrence of the attacks.

In addition, and in cooperation with Dr. Haidar Abdel Shafi Center for Culture and Development and the International Commission to Support Palestinians Rights (ICSPR), MUSAWA held a legal meeting at Al-Awdeh refugee camp entitled "The Use of excessive force against peaceful assemblies, a violation against laws, international covenants and human rights". The participants' recommendations included demanding the Palestinian diplomacy to resort to the International Criminal Court and the United Nations, including the Security Council and the General Assembly to enforce the International Ordinance No 194 guaranteeing the Palestinians' right to return to their homeland.

The Rights of Persons with Disabilities

As part of strengthening MUSAWA's human rights-based approach, MUSAWA's team in both the West Bank and Gaza Strip received a training in the concept of disability and the ways to integrate PwDs in work and public life through the promotion of inclusive culture, noting that this training was conducted in cooperation with The Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) as part of the "Enhancing inclusive employment opportunities for PwDs" program. MUSAWA emphasized that it welcomes the employment of PwDs in accordance with their expertise and qualifications.

MUSAWA has adapted its premises to meet the needs of people with hearing disabilities, and has initiated the procedures of adapting its premises to meet the needs of people with physical disabilities. In support of those steps, MUSAWA signed memorandums of understating with community-based organizations concerned with the rights of PwDs in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

In the same context, MUSAWA held a workshop on harmonizing the Palestinian Disability Law, in cooperation with "kun Insan – Be Human" group. The workshop discussed harmonizing the Palestinian Disability Law No (4) of 1999 with the international covenant on the rights of PwDs, and integrating its provisions in the Palestinian national legislation. The workshop resulted in a number of recommendations, most importantly the need to adhere to applying the Palestinian Disability Law No (4) of 1999 on the environmental harmonization to meet the needs of PwDs through the Ministry of Local Government, and all that relates to that for setting plans to rehabilitate the public facilities and buildings. The participants also recommended to pressure the official bodies into refusing to grant any permits for engineering schemes that do not meet the standards responsive to the needs of PwDs. Other recommendations included considering the possibility of adding a permanent provision on harmonizing public places with the needs of PwDs in the general budget, in addition to unifying the definitions of terms in the Labour Law and the Palestinian Disability Law.

MUSAWA devoted special workshops to raise awareness on PwDs issues, which discussed their needs, constitutional rights and claiming their rights, in addition to one on performing hysterectomy on women with mental disabilities.

Moreover, MUSAWA participated in a discussion panel on the national negotiations on Palestine's first periodic report regarding the PwDs covenant, and in a workshop on the inclusion of PwDs in the community, which was organized by the Independent Commission for Human Rights, and in the sit-in entitled "Towards an equal and inclusive representation of Palestinian disabled people".

Women's Rights

In planning for its activities, MUSAWA devotes special attention to women's rights and issues, especially in implementing awareness raising activities on women's rights for the various community groups. Throughout 2018, MUSAWA carried out 31 awareness raising workshops on women's rights, in which they discussed Sharia rights of women, the personal status law, women's right to education and work, CEDAW, women's right to access to justice, violence against women, sexual harassment and electronic blackmailing.

For its role in defending women's rights and issues, MUSAWA delivered a speech during the celebration organized by Gaza University on the occasion of International Women's Day, in which MUSAWA asserted that Palestinian women cannot enjoy their rights while their homeland is occupied.

MUSAWA also participated in workshops, meetings, and conferences that address women's rights and related issues, including a workshop on repealing article 303 of the Penal Procedures Law, for the absence of the legitimacy marrying the rapist to his victim and exempting him from punishment, as ensues from this article. In addition, MUSAWA participated in a meeting on the situation of Palestinian women and the violence against them, and the need to network with women's organizations and to have ongoing awareness raising to limit violence against women and the obstacles of women's access to justice.

Success Story: MUSAWA Defeats Discrimination against Women in Holding Public Office

Success Story: MUSAWA Defeats Discrimination against Women in Holding Public Office

Article (9) of the Palestinian Basic Law states that "Palestinians shall be equal before the law and the judiciary, without distinction based upon race, sex, color, religion, political views or disability"; and paragraph four of article (26) of the same law states that "Palestinians shall have the right to participate in political life, both individually and in groups. They shall have the

following rights in particular: 4- To hold public office and positions, in accordance with the principle of equal opportunities”.

Beginning of the problem

On 25/9/2017, MUSAWA received a written complaint from the citizen: Ms. Huda Taysir Odwan, reporting that she applied to the announcement of hiring judges at the Magistrate Court, which was published during May 2017 and that she passed both, the written exam and the oral interview, and that she got the second place among the qualified candidates for the job.

The complainant added that she was the only one who was qualified for the job, out of six other women applying, and that her name was listed within the final disclosure of appointment that was published on Sep 12, 2017 and referred, on September 20, 2017, to the Legislative Council-Gaza, for validation.

The complainant mentioned, in her complaint, that she was shocked to discover that her name was removed from the validated disclosure; and when she asked the High Judiciary Council and the Ministry of Justice, in Gaza, about the reasons behind that, the Secretary-General of the government replied that the reason is “being a woman”; and women are unwelcomed to work in the Judicial Service.

MUSAWA’s Intervention

In the light of MUSAWA’s role in protecting the rights and the fundamental freedoms of Palestinian citizens, we followed up with this case and intervened on three levels. 1. We sent a legal [memo](#), on Oct 5, 2017, to Dr. Ahmad Bahar, the First Deputy Head of the Legislative Council, describing the complaint’s details, and asking for cancelling the excluding decision against the complainant, and enabling her to work as judge in the Magistrate Court duly. 2. MUSAWA released a [position paper](#), in cooperation with several civil society organizations, to reaffirm women’s constitutional right to hold public office according to both, the Palestinian Basic Law and International Conventions and Treaties. 3. MUSAWA provided the complainant with legal counseling, advising her to refer to the judiciary channels and challenge the decision of excluding her and to ask for her right to work as a judge in the Magistrate Court according to the delimitation decision. The complainant was convinced with MUSAWA’s opinion and submitted a lawsuit to the court against excluding her name from the list. On September 4, 2018, the court ruled in her favor to serve as a judge in the Magistrate Court.

Acknowledgment

With feelings of pride for succeeding in obtaining her right, Adv. Huda Odwan sent MUSAWA a message of thanks for their support. In her letter, she wrote, “I am writing to you filled with pride and tribute for the efforts you made to help me regain my right in serving as a judge in the Magistrate Court. You were amongst the first institutions that supported my case, either with your legal efforts, or with your position in the media that refused excluding me from this office for being a woman; and this indicates that you deserve your roles that flourish every day through you and your achievements. Today I am pleased to thank you all for the wonderful concerted efforts though you have never wanted to be thanked for”.

As MUSAWA shares the feelings of pride with Adv. Huda Odwan, we reaffirm the right of citizenship, integrity, and equality in serving in public services. MUSAWA also reaffirms the importance of the real and practical commitment to the rights and freedoms guaranteed for all citizens by the Basic Law and the international legitimacy. Moreover, MUSAWA reaffirms its pledge to continue the hard work to protect the Palestinian citizens’ rights and freedoms that are guaranteed by the Basic Law, charters, conventions, and the international declarations.

Gender Mainstreaming

Building on MUSAWA’s achievements in regards to gender mainstreaming, whether in MUSAWA’s internal policies, activities and work or in external participation and representation, MUSAWA maintained its policy to have women in decision making positions and an internal gender committee was formed to monitor mainstreaming gender in all of MUSAWA’s aspects of work, at daily life and strategic levels.

Developing and Building the Capacities of MUSAWA’s Executive team and BoD members

MUSAWA is constantly seeking to invest in developing and building the capacities of MUSAWA’s executive team in particular, and the BoD members in general, proceeding from its belief in the benefit of these trainings in developing the professional performance of MUSAWA, in addition to the individual benefit of each employee, which prepares them to serve the Palestinian Society on a larger scale. Throughout the year, MUSAWA has provided a number of collective trainings to its team members, as well as other individual specialized trainings tailored to the individual training needs of each member.

- A training session on integrating PwDs in the workplace: the training was conducted in cooperation with The Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) as part of the “Enhancing inclusive employment opportunities for PwDs” program. MUSAWA’s team in both the West Bank and Gaza Strip received a training on the concept of disability and the ways to integrate PwDs in work and public life through the promotion of the inclusive culture.

MUSAWA emphasized that it welcomes the employment of PwDs in accordance with their expertise and qualifications.

- Developing the capacities of MUSAWA's executive staff in Financial Management, where MUSAWA's financial manager conducted an internal training on this regard, which aimed at developing the team's capacities in matters that relate to financial management, such as taxes and the how to calculate them, tax reimbursement, the financial implications of executing the decree-law on Social Security, and other related subjects. Moreover, the staff also learnt the basics of dealing with financial transactions related to the work of organizations in general, and MUSAWA in particular.
- The annual meeting, which brought together MUSAWA's executive and administrative staff and members of the BoD and GA, included internal trainings in SWOT analysis and lobbying and advocacy campaigns, which aimed at raising the members' capacities in strategic planning and implementation that serves the goals of MUSAWA. In addition, the meeting covered a training on the professional code of conduct.
- The Monitoring and Evaluation officer received a training on Results-based Monitoring and Evaluation, which focused on developing the capacities of the trainees in the fields of results and their levels, how to formulate results, the process of selecting indicators and ensuring their suitability, and the appropriate selection of data collection tools. Based on the training, a monitoring framework was developed, applying in preparing it the skills acquired from the training.
- During 2018, MUSAWA's Legal Monitoring Officer in the West Bank took part in the Regional Summer School on Law and Armed Conflicts in Beirut/Lebanon, which aims at providing the legal experts, researchers and human rights defenders with the needed knowledge and experience to work and research within legal frameworks to save civilians at times of armed conflicts and emergency situations. It also aims at creating an academic-training source for human rights issues in the Arab World, and brings together participants from various Arab countries. The training covered the International Humanitarian Law (Law of War), the nature of armed conflicts and their classifications in the law, the groups and figures protected by the International Humanitarian Law and the role of the United Nations in the Humanitarian field in the Middle East and OCHA, as well as other international organizations that function at times of armed conflicts, such as the International Committee of the Red Cross - history and missions. In addition, the training covered the International Criminal Law and the International Criminal Court and their role in the Palestinian cause. At the end of the training, a moot court on an imaginary case in an armed conflict was conducted, where each group studied the case, analyzed it, wrote a legal plead on its regard and litigated before the International Criminal Court.
- Digital Story Telling course: During October, MUSAWA's Translation and Media Officer participated in a training course on Digital Story Telling, organized by 7amleh – The Arab Center for the Advancement of Social Media. The course focused on the tools of digital storytelling and gave examples on outstanding digital stories in each group, which were pictures, videos and graphic design. The training aimed at building the participants'

capacities through presentations and exercises, comparing the use of the different platforms and social media in digital storytelling, and discussing the advantages and disadvantages of each one of them.

- In Gaza Strip, the Legal Awareness and Training Officer participated in several legal trainings that aimed at developing and building legal capacities. The First training course was in monitoring over courts and hearing sessions, organized by SAWASYA II program, which contributed to enhancing the participants' knowledge and capacities regarding the different concepts and approaches of monitoring over courts and hearings, through exchanging the experiences and practices of other countries, and by using practical exercises. In addition, the training discussed how this methodology could serve different objectives, including advocacy initiatives on violence against women and justice for children. Finally, it worked on developing joint plans and tools to enhance and develop monitoring over courts and hearings under the jurisdiction of the Palestinian judiciary. The second training course was in the arbitration of legal disputes as a Legal Arbitrator for 2018, which addressed the arbitration of a legal conflict between the parties of a legal dispute, whether it was a legal dispute or a Sharia one. Finally, and in support of the Palestinian community's causes, the Legal Awareness and Training Officer/Gaza participated in a training on the decree-law on Social Security, in which the advantages, disadvantages, and reasons for objecting to it were all discussed. In his turn; the Legal Awareness and Training Officer transferred the information to the other team members.

Challenges and Lessons Learnt

1. Networking and Building Relationships

As aforementioned, MUSAWA took a significant part in forming the civic coalition for the independence and protection of the judiciary, however it withdrew later due to lack of transparency by the hosting organization as well as lack of coordination regarding sensitive decisions without consulting with MUSAWA as a member at the executive council of the coalition. MUSAWA believes that the difference in the views regarding reforming the judiciary had an impact on the relationships between the organizations within the coalition. The expertise of MUSAWA as the only specialized watchdog organization monitoring the justice sector with a record of 17 years of daily observation, is capable of providing deeper insight on the trends within the sector and providing a legal judgment of the executive authority's technicalities to reforming the judiciary. In the same context, it happened that the closest organization to this understanding was Al-Haq organization that chose not to join the coalition from the beginning.

MUSAWA, on the other hand, worked on forming coalitions and partnerships with counterpart organizations and CBOs, as explained earlier in this report, on building a

strong society to work on monitoring the justice system and adopt reforming it on national consensus basis and on the rule of law principle at the same time.

2. Funding

MUSAWA have not managed to secure fund other than the NRO core funding yet. However, an initial positive feedback was received on a 5 year program preposition sent to Montreal University in Canada to promote a rule of law culture in Palestine through strengthening monitoring as a planning tool. In parallel, MUSAWA has contacted other donor organizations and submitted concept notes whether in response to calls for proposals or as initiatives by MUSAWA. Negative feedback was received from 2two agencies for priority related reasons while MUSAWA is still waiting to hear from others.

3. Deficit

- MUSAWA's budget of 2018 was USD 553,643 where 80% of it was secured, 80% was from NRO. The mitigation as briefly aforementioned, MUSAWA has taken the initiative and continued to carry out the high priority activities with the minimum available funding since MJUSAWA has not succeeded in securing more funding in 2018,
- In this regard, MUSAWA updated the sensitivity prioritizing the activities so the high impact activities were implemented. MUSAWA has placed different importance on different activities depending on their significance to MUSAWA mission statement and objectives. The categories are divided into high, medium, low depending on the priority provided by the strategic plan.
- In addition, some activities were project-based which could not be implemented as planned since they are designed with a specific budget, such as the moot courts that were designed with specific number of training sessions and hours, as well as specific numbers of universities and students. However, the moot courts as an activity was implemented as a small activity in 2018 with smaller number of participants, accompanied with cutting out the budget planned for prizes and transportation, Moreover, the PHRDs activities were not implemented as planned since MUSAWA has not been granted the targeted funding.
- For the second year in a row, some activities were implemented with low quality, yet relatively adequate, facilities as a result of income deficit. For example, some legal clinics activities were held in kindergartens or open spaces that are not considered as the best options to hold such activities. Furthermore, MUSAWA has reactivated its networks of expert friends and others in 2017 and continued in 2018 to help implementing some awareness activities free of charge as a contribution to MUSAWA's sustainability.

4. Social Media Platforms

MUSAWA continued working on developing its presence on social media platforms in 2018 by creating content that is suitable for these platforms, especially Facebook; the most popular platform in Palestine, according to the Social Media Report the Social Studio has been publishing for four years now.

The following figures, taken from the Facebook page insights, show development in the interaction on MUSAWA's Facebook page. Although MUSAWA relied entirely on the organic reach to followers and did not utilize the paid advertising system for its page and publications; increased interest in the Facebook page and content has been observed, and an additional number of around 2500 new likes to the page has been recorded during 2018 (compared to 1000 in 2017).



Figure 1: MUSAWA's Facebook page likes as of December 31, 2018.

The page insights also show that 44% of those who engage with the publications of the page are women (compared to 37% in 2017), as shown in Figure 2 below.

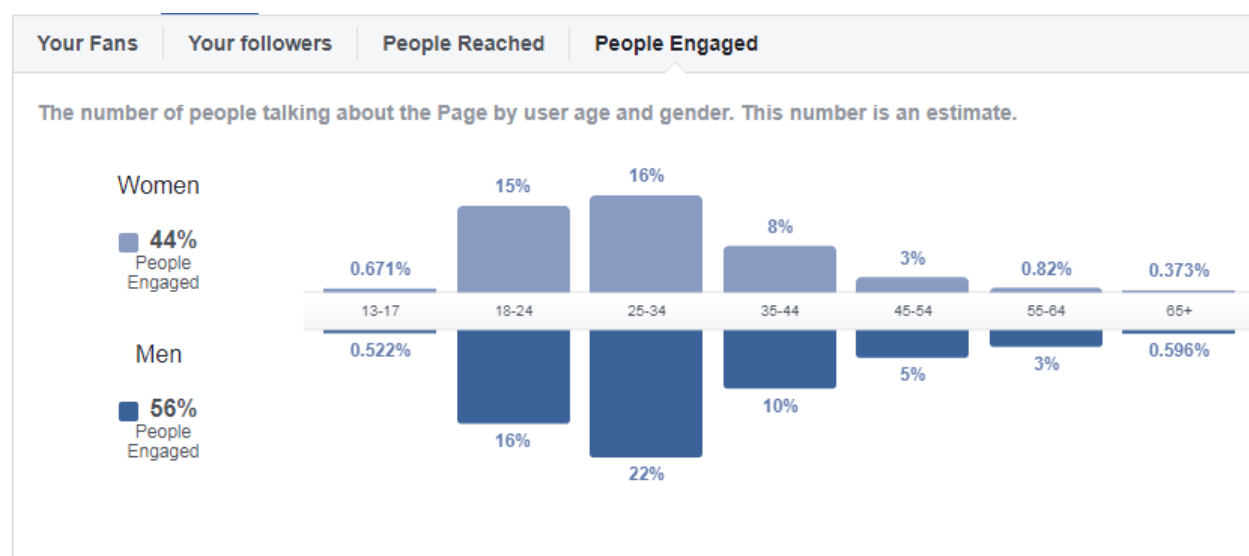


Figure 2: The percentages of people engaged in MUSAWA's Facebook page during 2018, by user, age and gender.

Expected Risks

At external level:

- The political division in the Palestinian territories turns into a complete separation, leading to the end of reconciliation efforts and resulting in two different "regimes". Naturally, this restricts the communication between MUSAWA's management and the executive staff located in Gaza, and it raises complications in the relationship MUSAWA has with the duty-bearers whether in the West Bank or Gaza Strip. Given the critical role of MUSAWA, it is possible that any of the two governments arrest or detain MUSAWA's staff. MUSAWA's offices may get closed as well, which would require that MUSAWA's staff work from outside the offices and search for alternative means of performing MUSAWA's monitoring and oversight role. For example, this might require developing tools for approaching UN rapporteurs with a view to promoting international accountability of the justice system under the current restrictions on internal control and accountability.
- Further embodiment of a security-based system and an increased acquisition of all powers by the executive authority and the security forces, which in turn makes it incredibly less probable that duty-bearers and right-holders arrive at genuine collaboration and partnership.

This includes imposing restrictions on MUSAWA's work in an attempt to hinder its role as a watchdog organization.

- The decree-law that stopped the enforcement of social security decree-law had a clear indication of changing the Palestinian constitutional system, which MUSAWA solely pointed out and asserted following the issuance of the said decree-law. This in fact indicates not only the postponement of the general elections, but also a drastic change in the political system in Palestine, which consequently will pave the road for establishing a totalitarian regime and contributing to the justice system's subordination to of the executive authority. This may further hinder the watchdog role that MUSAWA performs.
- The phenomenon of violating human rights, including the right to access to justice, spreads; by expanding the powers of the Joint Security Committee contrary to the law and in contradiction with the principle of separation of powers.
- An increase in the official obstacles towards the unity of the work of the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and its shift into a serious pressure force, and alluring some of these organizations to work as subordinates to the ruling regime and to continue to observe a policy of appealing in lieu of the policy of accountability, which has started to be observed in 2018.
- The deepening of the economic and social crises as a result of the monopoly and hegemony policy, exercised by the two governments and their security services, thus increasing frustration and weakening community participation in the campaigns for monitoring and change, as well as the resorting to alternative tools for conflict resolution which might threaten the social stability.
- If the Gaza Strip is declared a rebel territory, or Hamas and Fatah are declared as illegal blocs, this will lead to obstacles in securing the salaries of the staff and providing the necessary financial resources to implement MUSAWA's activities in Gaza on the one hand, and in making use of the skills of legal professionals living under Ramallah's government or residing in Gaza but under Ramallah's government, as it is highly probable that the decision-makers on both sides would hinder the legal professionals of the opposing body from taking part in any legal or human-rights movement initiated by MUSAWA.
- The one-man show exercised by the executive authority (that could be even legalized through changing the constitutional system as aforementioned in this section) might lead to a breakdown in the positions of CSOs, distorting the unified vision these organizations have to rebuild the justice system, which means losing the current alliance of these organizations (To retreat from their current positions as a means of maintaining their existence by adopting positions that are more toned-down). This means that MUSAWA should continuously seek new allies, with specific focus on grassroots organizations to promote their role in this regard, the matter that MUSAWA has established.

- The possibility of the death of the Palestinian President may lead to armed conflict between the competitors for his succession, which may set the atmosphere for social and security breakout, leading to movement difficulties between the governorates for the staff members, which would require high dependence on social media and other media platforms. This has been observed through drastic updates within the justice sector in 2018 such as the court case filed against the appointment of the former attorney general that is still under ruling despite the news of his resign afterwards.
- The danger of changing the judicial authority and spreading the phenomenon of rotation of posts between the justice system and the executive authority, and the transfer of employees to influential administrative positions in the judiciary and public prosecution for political and partisan considerations, in further entrenchment of what is known as hereditary succession and “mating” between the executive and judicial authorities. Naturally, this would leave the door wide open for corrupted judicial performance where the people have no access to justice. In this context, MUSAWA would not be able to resort to the judiciary, as a means of monitoring the proper implementation of the law, as much. In addition, this would influence MUSAWA’s role in amending legislation and governmental decisions relating to justice. In this case, the sole alternative would be to shift to spreading community awareness in order to mobilize a wider range of the community with a view to achieving their demands. The said alternative would also include developing tools of control, lobbying, and advocacy to keep-up with the developments taking place in the external environment.

At internal level:

- MUSAWA might fail to secure a financial protection network to ensure its sustainability, which might influence MUSAWA’s structure, hence obstructing MUSAWA’s role as a leading organization in monitoring the performance of the justice system. Therefore, MUSAWA has considered a significant approach to address its vision and plans that are in line with the priorities of potential donors through keeping the leading role in the oversight and monitoring of the justice system with a focus on human rights and good governance angles and improving the scope of work to focus on mobilizing the public to take part in this oversight role, the aspiration that would strengthen the impact of the watchdog role MUSAWA is taking.
- Given the general atmosphere of corruption that is manifested in the interference of political regimes and the political parties in the free will of members and allies, on the basis of mutual interest or perhaps blackmailing, accompanied by the failure of the authorities to effectively handle corruption in all its forms, there is a risk of potential members joining MUSAWA’s team who might turn a blind eye to serious issues that must be addressed and reported and advocating for or against. MUSAWA, however, has developed an anti-corruption policy to monitor and take care of this critical issue.

Annex (1): Legal Memos, Position Papers, and Statements issued by MUSAWA during 2018

#	Title of the Memo/ Position Paper/ Statement	Classification	Receiving party	Date of Issuance	Link to MUSAWA's website
1	Violating Rule of Law and Overstepping Authority Lines	Memo	Attorney General Dia' Al-Din Al-Madhoun/ Gaza	4/Jan/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/a-memo-to-attorney-general-gaza-violating-rule-of-law-and-overstepping-authority-lines.html
2	Fair Trial Guarantees	Memo	Head and Members of the High Judicial Council	9/Jan/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/a-memo-to-high-judicial-council-gaza-fair-trial-guarantees.html
3	CSOs Demand Abolition of Decree-Law on High Criminal Court	Position paper		17/Jan/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/csos-demand-abolition-of-decree-law-on-high-criminal-court.html
4	MUSAWA's Initiative for the Unification, Reform, and Improvement of the Justice System	Statement		30/Jan/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/musawa-s-initiative-for-the-unification-reform-and-improvement-of-the-justice-system.html
5	CSOs Call for Abolition and National Discussion of Landlords and Tenants Draft Decree-Law	Position paper		1/Feb/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/csos-call-for-abolition-and-national-discussion-of-landlords-and-tenants-draft-decree-law.html
6	CSOs Back Up Bar Association on Boycotting High Criminal Court	Position paper		5/Feb/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/csos-back-up-bar-association-on-boycotting-high-criminal-court.html
7	Position Paper on Draft Decree-Law Amending Anti-Corruption Law	Position paper		12/Feb/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/position-paper-on-draft-decree-law-amending-anti-corruption-law.html
8	CSOs Demand High Judicial Council to Realize the Judges' Right to Freedom of Expression	Position paper		15/Feb/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/csos-demand-high-judicial-council-to-realize-the-judges-right-to-freedom-of-expression.html
9	Failure to Fulfill Provisions of Law in Public Service	Memo	Head of PACC, Mr. Rafiq Al-Natsheh	19/Feb/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/memo-to-pacc-failure-to-fulfill-provisions-of-law-in-public-service.html
10	Failure to Fulfill Provisions of Law in Public Service	Memo	President of the State of Palestine By his Legal Adviser Minister Hasan Al-Ouri	19/Feb/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/memo-to-president-failure-to-fulfill-provisions-of-law-in-public-service.html
11	CSOs decide to establish a truth commission on the causes of the continued deterioration in the judiciary	Position paper		26/Feb/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/csos-decide-to-establish-a-truth-commission-on-the-causes-of-the-continued-deterioration-in-the-judiciary.html

12	The Police's Monopoly and Hegemony Manifest a Security System Inconsistent with the Basic Law	Memo	Attorney General Dia' Al-Din Al-Madhoun/ Gaza	4/Mar/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/memo-the-police-s-monopoly-and-hegemony-manifest-a-security-system-inconsistent-with-the-basic-law.html
13	The ongoing infringement of the rights and dignity of citizens	Position Paper		7/Mar/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/the-ongoing-infringement-of-the-rights-and-dignity-of-citizens.html
14	The ongoing infringement of the rights and dignity of citizens	Memo	Attorney General Dia' Al-Din Al-Madhoun/ Gaza	12/Mar/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/the-ongoing-infringement-of-the-rights-and-dignity-of-citizens.html
15	Failure to Maintain Fair Trial Guarantees and Obligations of Public Service	Memo	Head of the High Judicial Council	14/Mar/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/memo-failure-to-maintain-fair-trial-guarantees-and-obligations-of-public-service.html
16	Judicial Inspection Findings and the Action Taken on the Public Prosecution's Serious Professional Error	Memo	Attorney General, Dr. Ahmad Barrak	19/Mar/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/memo-judicial-inspection-findings-and-the-action-taken-on-the-public-prosecution-s-serious-professional-error.html
17	The Disapproval of Kidney Transplant without Legal Justification	Memo	Attorney General Dia' Al-Din Al-Madhoun/ Gaza; Deputy Minister of Justice, Dr. Mohammad Al-Nahhal; Deputy Minister of Health, Dr. Youssef Abu-Rish	27/Mar/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/memo-on-the-disapproval-of-kidney-transplant-without-legal-justification.html
18	the Assault of Security Forces on Students on the Campus of Al-Azhar University in Gaza	Memo	Attorney General Dia' Al-Din Al-Madhoun/ Gaza; President of Al-Azhar University, Dr. Abdul Khaleq Al-Farra; The competent department at MoEHE	27/Mar/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/a-memo-on-the-assault-of-security-forces-on-students-on-the-campus-of-al-azhar-university-in-gaza.html
19	CSOs and Forcefully Retired Workers Join Efforts (letter to President)	Position Paper	President Mahmoud Abbas	3/Apr/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/csos-and-forcefully-retired-workers-join-efforts-letter-to-president.html
20	Violating Code of Ethics and Lawyer's Rights	Memo	Judicial Inspection Commission	19/Apr/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/memo-violating-code-of-ethics-and-lawyer-s-rights.html

21	Reminder to Public Prosecution Regarding Action Taken to Address Serious Mistake	Reminder	Attorney General Dr. Ahmad Barrak	19/Apr/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/reminder-to-public-prosecution-regarding-action-taken-to-address-serious-mistake.html
22	Deprivation of Liberty, Violation of the Right to Education	Memo	Attorney General, Dr. Ahmad Barrak; Minister of Education and Higher Education, Dr. Sabri Saidam; Child Protection Advisor at the Ministry of Social Affairs	23/Apr/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/memo-deprivation-of-liberty-violation-of-the-right-to-education.html
23	MUSAWA & Over 100 CSOs Demand that Public Officials in Gaza be Paid	Position Paper		24/Apr/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/musawa-over-100-csos-demand-that-public-officials-in-gaza-be-paid.html
24	Illegal Detention, Unlawful Sanctions, Abuse of Power, Charging Unlawful Fees , Separation of Powers	Memo	President of Higher Sharia Court, Dr. Hasan Al-Joujou; Attorney General Dia' Al-Din Al-Madhoun/ Gaza; Head of the High Judicial Council, Advisor Abdul Raouf Al-Halabi; Secretary-General of the Legislative Council, Nafeth Madhoun; Chairman of Sharia Bar Association, Ayman Abu-Eisheh	25/Apr/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/memo-illegal-detention-unlawful-sanctions-abuse-of-power-charging-unlawful-fees-separation-of-powers.html
25	Violating Inviolability of Residence & Abuse of Power	Memo	Attorney General Dia' Al-Din Al-Madhoun/ Gaza; Controller General, Brigadier General Mohammad Lafi; Inspector General of Police, Brigadier General Aa'ed Hamada	29/Apr/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/memo-violating-inviolability-of-residence-abuse-of-power.html
26	Alleged Torture & Deprivation of the Right to Medical Care	Memo	Attorney General Dia' Al-Din Al-Madhoun/ Gaza; Inspector General of Police, Brigadier General Aa'ed Hamada;	29/Apr/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/memo-alleged-torture-deprivation-of-the-right-to-medical-care.html

			Director of the relevant police station, Lieutenant Colonel...		
27	Draft Decree-Law on the High Criminal Court, and Draft Decree-Law on Cybercrime	Position paper		10/May/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/position-paper-draft-decree-law-on-the-high-criminal-court-and-draft-decree-law-on-cybercrime.html
28	Failure to Enforce Judicial Decision	Memo	Attorney General, Dr. Ahmad Barrak	13/May/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/memo-failure-to-enforce-judicial-decision.html
29	Reminder to Judicial Inspection Dep. about the memo "Violating Code of Ethics and Lawyer's Rights"	Reminder	Judicial Inspection Department, Supreme Judge Department	22/May/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/reminder-to-judicial-inspection-dep.-about-the-memo-violating-code-of-ethics-and-lawyer-s-rights.html
30	Arrests Ordered by Governors also against Children!	Memo	Attorney General, Dr. Ahmad Barrak	23/May/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/arrests-ordered-by-governors-also-against-children.html
31	Failure to Enforce Final Ruling to Annul Retirement Decision	Memo	Head of PACC, Mr. Rafiq Al-Natsheh	10/Jun/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/failure-to-enforce-final-ruling-to-annul-retirement-decision.html
32	MUSAWA Warns of the Decision to Change Name of Security Committee Instead of Dissolving It	Position paper		5/Jun/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/musawa-warns-of-the-decision-to-change-name-of-security-committee-instead-of-dissolving-it.html
33	The PA Suppresses Peaceful Assembly in Gaza Using Force and Violence	Statement		14/Jun/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/the-pa-suppresses-peaceful-assembly-in-gaza-using-force-and-violence.html
34	MUSAWA's Statement on the PA's Suppression of "Lift the Sanctions on Gaza" Demonstration	Statement		14/Jun/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/musawa-s-statement-on-the-pa-s-suppression-of-lift-the-sanctions-on-gaza-demonstration.html
35	Urgent Demand to Apologize to Citizens and Hold the Perpetrators Accountable	Position Paper		24/Jun/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/urgent-demand-to-apologize-to-citizens-and-hold-the-perpetrators-accountable.html
36	A Letter to the President: Required Administrative and Political Accountability Regarding the Statements Made by the Governor of Nablus	Statement		20/Jun/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/a-letter-to-the-president-required-administrative-and-political-accountability-regarding-the-statements-made-by-the-governor-of-nablus.html

37	MUSAWA's Statement on the Suppression of a Peaceful Demonstration in Gaza	Statement		18/Jun/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/musawa-s-statement-on-the-suppression-of-a-peaceful-demonstration-in-gaza.html
38	Demand to protect the participants in demonstrations and to maintain civil peace	Statement		13/Jun/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/demand-to-protect-the-participants-in-demonstrations-and-to-maintain-civil-peace.html
39	Continuous Repression is No Way to Face Trump's Scheme	Position Paper		1/Jul/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/continuous-repression-is-no-way-to-face-trump-s-scheme.html
40	Depositing Public Officials' Gifts in the Public Treasury	Memo	Head of PACC, Mr. Rafiq Al-Natsheh	11/Jul/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/memo-to-the-anti-corruption-commission-depositing-public-officials-gifts-in-the-public-treasury.html
41	Reminder to the Anti-Corruption Commission to identify the actions taken regarding MUSAWA's memo entitled "The failure to enforce final ruling to annul retirement decision"	Reminder	Head of PACC, Mr. Rafiq Al-Natsheh	12/Jul/18	-
42	Will the National Committee for the Development of Justice Sector Succeed in stopping the bleeding?	Position paper		16/Jul/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/will-the-national-committee-for-the-development-of-justice-sector-succeed-in-stopping-the-bleeding.html
43	Security Chaos is a Recipe for Mass Collapse	Position paper		16/Jul/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/security-chaos-is-a-recipe-for-mass-collapse.html
44	The Community is Entitled to Lawful Accountability	Position paper		17/Jul/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/the-community-is-entitled-to-lawful-accountability.html
45	MUSAWA's Position on the Draft of Decree-Law Medical and Health Protection and Safety	Position paper		24/Jul/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/musawa-s-position-on-the-draft-of-decree-law-medical-and-health-protection-and-safety.html
46	MUSAWA Demands Abolition of Death Penalty	Position paper		31/Jul/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/musawa-demands-abolition-of-death-penalty.html
47	Memo to Attorney General Demanding Immediate Release of a Detainee and to Enable Him to Contact Lawyer and Family	Memo	Attorney General, Dr. Ahmad Barrak	31/Jul/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/memo-to-attorney-general-demanding-immediate-release-of-a-detainee-and-to-enable-him-to-contact-lawyer-and-family.html
48	Memo to Attorney General on the Arrest of a Citizen Upon Governor's Request	Memo	Attorney General, Dr. Ahmad Barrak	2/Aug/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/memo-to-attorney-general-on-the-arrest-of-a-citizen-upon-governor-

	and the Detention of a Public Official in Violation of the Law				s-request-and-the-detention-of-a-public-official-in-violation-of-the-law.html
49	A new Case Where Personal Relations are a Barrier to Accepting Complaints from Citizens at Police Stations	Memo	Attorney General Dia' Al-Din Al-Madhoun/ Gaza	5/Aug/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/memo-a-new-case-where-personal-relations-are-a-barrier-to-accepting-complaints-from-citizens-at-police-stations.html
50	Imposing Charges/Fees without Legal Basis	Memo	President of the High Judicial Council, Advisor Abdul Ra'ouf Al-Halabi	5/Aug/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/memo-imposing-charges-fees-without-legal-basis.html
51	The Judicial Holiday Should Not Disable the Judiciary and the Delayed Justice is a Blatant Injustice	Memo	President and members of the High Judicial Council	6/Aug/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/memo-the-judicial-holiday-should-not-disable-the-judiciary-and-the-delayed-justice-is-a-blatant-injustice.html
52	Reminder to the Anti-Corruption Commission regarding MUSAWA's memo "Depositing Public Officials' Gifts in the Public Treasury"	Reminder	Head of PACC, Mr. Rafiq Al-Natsheh	12/Aug/18	-
53	The Public Prosecution's Supervision of the Police Officers	Memo	Attorney General, Dr. Ahmad Barrak	14/Aug/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/the-public-prosecution-s-supervision-of-the-police-officers.html
54	The Amendment of the General Pension Law No. (7) for the Year 2005	Position Paper		15/Aug/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/memo-on-the-amendment-of-the-general-pension-law-no.-7-for-the-year-2005.html
55	MUSAWA's Remarks on the draft of the Amendment of the Decree-law Medical and Health Protection and Safety	Position Paper	The Independent Commission for Human Rights; Representative of Palestine Medical Association in the committee of preparing the draft Decree-Law on Medical & Health Protection	16/Aug/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/musawa-s-remarks-on-the-draft-of-the-amendment-of-the-decree-law-medical-and-health-protection-and-safety.html
56	Rule of the Jungle Prevails and Extrajudicial Killing Continues	Position Paper		27/Aug/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/rule-of-the-jungle-prevails-and-extrajudicial-killing-continues.html
57	Judiciary Rules Code of Conduct: Repeated Violation; Exploiting Power in Violation of the Code, and Illegal	Memo	Head of the High Judicial Council, Advisor Abd Al-Raouf Al-Halabi	28/Aug/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/judiciary-rules-code-of-conduct-repeated-violation-exploiting-power-in-violation-of-the-code-and-illegal-approaching-of-losing-judiciary-files-phenomenon.html

	Approaching of Losing Judiciary Files Phenomenon				
58	Procedures Affecting the Right to Physical Integrity	Memo	Attorney General, Dr. Ahmad Barrak	29/Aug/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/memo-to-the-attorney-general-procedures-affecting-the-right-to-physical-integrity.html
59	Perpetrators of Torturing Children in Gaza must not Escape Punishment	Position Paper	Head of the regular judiciary council; Head of the high Sharia court; the Palestinian Bar Association; the Sharia Bar Association; Attorney General; Ministry of justice; political powers: Fatah, Palestinian People's Party, Palestinian National Initiative, Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, Palestinian Democratic Union, Islamic Jihad Movement in Palestine, Hamas "both Al-Sinwar's office and Haneyye's office", Palestinian Mukhtars Association.	3/Sep/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/position-paper-perpetrators-of-torturing-children-in-gaza-must-not-escape-punishment.html
60	MUSAWA Refutes the Recommendations of the Official Committee for Developing the Justice System	Position Paper		8/Sep/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/musawa-refutes-the-recommendations-of-the-official-committee-for-developing-the-justice-system.html
61	Refraining from Executing Judicial Rulings Continues	Memo	Attorney General, Dr. Ahmad Barrak	10/Sep/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/memo-to-attorney-general-refraining-from-executing-judicial-rulings-continues.html
62	MUSAWA's Oversight Report on the Bar Association's Board Exam	Statement	Chairman of the Palestinian Bar Association, Adv. Jawad Obeidat	17/Sep/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/musawa-s-oversight-report-on-the-bar-association-s-board-exam.html

63	MUSAWA's Oversight Report on the Bar Association's Board Exam	Memo	Attorney General, Dr. Ahmad Barrak	23/Sep/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/musawa-s-oversight-report-on-the-bar-association-s-board-exam.html
64	Position Paper on the explanatory decision of the high Constitutional Court No 02/2018 for the interpretation request No(4) - judicial year 3	Position Paper		23/Sep/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/position-paper-on-the-explanatory-decision-of-the-high-constitutional-court-no-02-2018-for-the-interpretation-request-no-4-judicial-year-3.html
65	The decree-law draft on amending the Associations Act undermines the work of civil society organizations and threatens their sustainability	Position Paper		2/Oct/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/position-paper-issued-by-the-civic-coalition-for-monitoring-the-legislative-process-the-decree-law-draft-on-amending-the-associations-act-undermines-the-work-of-civil-society-organizations-and-threatens-their-sustainability.html
66	The Rejection of a Master's Degree Equivalence Although It Meets The Conditions Required	Memo	Minister of Education and Higher Education, Dr. Sabri Saydam	4/Oct/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/the-rejection-of-a-master-s-degree-equivalence-although-it-meets-the-conditions-required.html
67	MUSAWA Demands Cancellation of the Procedures for the Hiring of Prosecutors' Assistants	Position Paper		4/Oct/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/musawa-demands-cancellation-of-the-procedures-for-the-hiring-of-prosecutors-assistants.html
68	Memo on Declaring the Recommendations of the National Committee for Developing the Justice System and Reviewing the Judicial Legislation System	Memo	Legal Department at the Office of the President	7/Oct/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/memo-on-declaring-the-recommendations-of-the-national-committee-for-developing-the-justice-system-and-reviewing-the-judicial-legislation-system.html
69	MUSAWA Endorses Participation in Community Activities to Stop the Implementation of the Decree-Law on Social Security	Position Paper		9/Oct/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/musawa-endorses-participation-in-community-activities-to-stop-the-implementation-of-the-decree-law-on-social-security.html
70	Denial of the Right to Education Contradicts the Obligations to Respect the Human Dignity of Children	Memo	Attorney General, Dr. Ahmad Barrak; Head of the Complaints Department at MoEHE, Mr. Ahmad AlHindi; The Child Protection Adviser at the Ministry of Social Affairs	15/Oct/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/denial-of-the-right-to-education-contradicts-the-obligations-to-respect-the-human-dignity-of-children.html
71	The Publication of Juvenile's Pictures and Information is a Coarse Violation of	Position Paper		15/Oct/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/the-publication-of-juvenile-s-pictures-and-information-is-a-coarse-

	Human Dignity and an Offence Punishable By Law				violation-of-human-dignity-and-an-offence-punishable-by-law.html
72	Violating the Sanctity of the Home and a Humiliating Arrest	Memo	Attorney General, Dr. Ahmad Al-Barrak; Director of the Grievances and human rights Department at the Palestinian Police, Colonel Rodaina Bani Odeh	16/Oct/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/violating-the-sanctity-of-the-home-and-a-humiliating-arrest.html
73	Memo to the High Judicial Council on the Resolution of Land Issues	Memo	Head and members of the High Judicial Council	21/Oct/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/memo-to-the-high-judicial-council-on-the-resolution-of-land-issues.html
74	Civil Society Organizations Demands Not To Enforce the Landlord and Tenant's Decree-Law	Position Paper		28/Oct/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/civil-society-organizations-demands-not-to-enforce-the-landlord-and-tenant-s-decree-law.html
75	MUSAWA's Monitoring Report on the Written Exam for Trainee Lawyers	Statement	Chairman of the Palestinian Bar Association, Adv. Jawad Obeidat	30/Oct/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/musawa-s-monitoring-report-on-the-written-exam-for-trainee-lawyers.html
76	Reminder to the Minister of High Education on MUSAWA's memo "The Rejection of a Master's Degree Equivalence"	Reminder	Minister of Education and Higher Education, Dr. Sabri Saidam	4/Nov/18	-
77	System Proposal for the Gifts Presented to Public Officials	Memo	Prime Minister, Dr. Rami Al Hamdallah	5/Nov/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/memo-to-the-prime-ministry-system-proposal-for-the-gifts-presented-to-public-officials.html
78	The Need for a legislation to Govern the Public Officials' Gifts	Memo	Head of PACC, Mr. Rafiq Al-Natsheh	5/Nov/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/memo-to-the-anti-corruption-commission-the-need-for-a-legislation-to-govern-the-public-officials-gifts.html
79	Reminder to the head and members of the High Judicial Council on MUSAWA's memo "the Resolution of Land Issues"	Reminder	Head and members of the High Judicial Council	5/Nov/18	-
80	MUSAWA Condemns the Violation of the Citizens' Rights to Movement, to Peaceful Assembly, and to Express Opinions	Position Paper		12/Nov/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/musawa-condemns-the-violation-of-the-citizens-rights-to-movement-to-peaceful-assembly-and-to-express-opinions.html

81	Violating the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and their Humane Dignity	Memo	President and members of Al-Azhar University Board of Trustees; President and members of Al-Azhar University BoD; Deans of the faculties of Arts Sharia at Al-Azhar University	14/Nov/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/memo-to-al-azhar-university-on-violating-the-rights-of-persons-with-disabilities-and-their-humane-dignity.html
82	Violating the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and their Humane Dignity	Memo	Mr. Ziad Thabet, Ministry of Education and Higher Education	18/Nov/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/memo-to-the-head-of-the-ministry-of-high-education-gaza-on-violating-the-rights-of-persons-with-disabilities-and-their-humane-dignity.html
83	Reminder regarding MUSAWA's memo "Violating the Sanctity of the Home and a Humiliating Arrest"	Reminder	Attorney General, Dr. Ahmad Al-Barrak; Director of the Grievances and human rights Department at the Palestinian Police, Colonel Rodaina Bani Odeh	18/Nov/18	-
84	Memo to Attorney General on the Judicial Police's Negligence in Discharging its Duties and Arrest Ordered by a Governor	Memo	Attorney General, Dr. Ahmad Al-Barrak	25/Nov/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/memo-to-attorney-general-on-the-judicial-police-s-negligence-in-discharging-its-duties-and-arrest-ordered-by-a-governor.html
85	Violating the lawyer's Right to Copy the Case File and Discharge his Professional Duty	Memo	Head of the Military Judiciary, Major General Ismael Farraj	25/Nov/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/violating-the-lawyer-s-right-to-copy-the-case-file-and-discharge-his-professional-duty.html
86	Violating Detainees' Constitutional Rights	Memo	Head of the Military Judiciary in Gaza, Brigadier General Nasser Suleiman	26/Nov/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/memo-to-the-head-of-the-military-judiciary-in-gaza-on-violating-detainees-constitutional-rights.html
87	Children's Organized Begging	Memo	Attorney General Dia' Al-Din Al-Madhoun/ Gaza	26/Nov/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/memo-to-attorney-general-in-gaza-on-children-s-organized-begging.html
88	MUSAWA Demands Mr. President Not to Adapt the Recommendations of the Presidential Committee for Developing the Justice System and the Draft Decree	Position Paper		3/Dec/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/musawa-demands-mr.-president-not-to-adapt-the-recommendations-of-the-presidential-committee-for-developing-the-justice-system-and-the-draft-decree-law-amending-the-judicial-authority-law.html

	Law Amending the Judicial Authority Law				
89	Recommendations of the Fifth Legal Monitor press conference	Position Paper		19/Dec/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/recommendations-of-the-fifth-legal-monitor.html
90	Assaulting the Lawyers with Electric Prods Represents an Intolerable Suppression	Position Paper		20/Dec/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/assaulting-the-lawyers-with-electric-prods-represents-an-intolerable-suppression.html
91	Dissolving the Legislative Council is a Dangerous Step towards Secession	Position Paper		23/Dec/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/dissolving-the-legislative-council-is-a-dangerous-step-towards-secession.html
92	The Police's Failure in Implementing its Duties and Refrain from Implementing the Orders of the Public Prosecution for Almost a Year	Memo	Director of the Grievances and human rights department at the Palestinian Police, Colonel Rodaina Bani Odeh,	17/Dec/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/the-police-s-failure-in-implementing-its-duties-and-refrain-from-implementing-the-orders-of-the-public-prosecution-for-almost-a-year.html
93	Violating the Lawyer's Right to Communicate with his Client	Memo	Attorney General, Dr. Ahmad Barrak	16/Dec/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/memo-to-attorney-general-violating-the-lawyer-s-right-to-communicate-with-his-client.html
94	Position Paper by Palestinian Civil Society Organizations and the Independent Commission for Human Rights on the Decision by the Supreme Constitutional Court to Dissolve the Palestinian Legislative Council and to Call for Legislative Elections	Position Paper		27/Dec/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/position-paper-by-palestinian-civil-society-organisations-and-the-independent-commission-for-human-rights-on-the-decision-by-the-supreme-constitutional-court-to-dissolve-the-palestinian-legislative-council-and-to-call-for-legislative-elections.html
95	To Strengthen Unity and Avoid Chaos: It is time to Stop All Forms of Assault on the Rights of Citizenship and Hold the Perpetrators Accountable	Position Paper		31/Dec/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/to-strengthen-unity-and-avoid-chaos-it-is-time-to-stop-all-forms-of-assault-on-the-rights-of-citizenship-and-hold-the-perpetrators-accountable.html
96	MUSAWA Renews its Demand to Publish the Recommendations of the Presidential Committee for the Development of the Justice Sector	Reminder	Legal Department at the Office of the President	31/Dec/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/musawa-renews-its-demand-to-publish-the-recommendations-of-the-presidential-committee-for-the-development-of-the-justice-sector.html

97	MUSAWA Renews its Request to Adopt the Palestinian Human Rights Defenders Declaration	Memo	Minister of Justice, Mr. Ali Abu Diak	31/Dec/18	http://www.musawa.ps/post/musawa-renews-its-request-to-adopt-the-palestinian-human-rights-defenders-declaration.html
----	---	------	---------------------------------------	-----------	---

Annex (2): MUSAWA's Awareness Raising Sessions and Discussed Topics

* R.C: Refugee Camp

#	Subject of the awareness raising session	Date	Governorate	Area	Direct Beneficiaries		
					Women	Men	Total
1	Juvenile's delinquency and protection	3-Apr-18	Gaza	Al-Shate' R.C	34	0	34
2	The inheritance sharia rights	3-Apr-18	Khan Younis	Khuza'a	29	0	29
3	Personal Status Law "marriage and divorce"	23-Apr-18	Khan Younis	Khuza'a	28	5	33
4	Women's access to justice	26-Apr-18	North Gaza	Jabalya R.C	7	14	21
5	The Palestinian labor Law No 7 of 2000	30-Apr-18	North Gaza	Jabalya	0	25	25
6	Law on the Protection of Juveniles	29-Jan-18	Bethlehem	Al-Dheisheh R.C	3	12	15
7	Decree-law on Cybercrimes	3-Feb-18	Hebron	Al-Namous Village	21	14	35
8	Law on the Protection of Juveniles	7-Feb-18	Hebron	Hitta Village	19	2	21
9	Women's Sharia Rights	7-Feb-18	Hebron	Hitta Village	19	2	21
10	Children's Rights	21-Feb-18	Ramallah & Al-Bireh	Tormos Ayya	0	43	43
11	Women's labor rights	26-Feb-18	Bethlehem	Al-Dheisheh R.C	19	0	19
12	Women's Sharia Rights	6-Mar-18	Ramallah & Al-Bireh	Kofor Ne'meh	27	2	29
13	Women's rights to education & employment	20-Mar-18	Ramallah & Al-Bireh	Ein Arik School	31	0	31
14	Women's rights to education & employment	22-Mar-18	Jericho	Aqbet Jaber R.C School	78	0	78
15	The Palestinian labor Law No 7 of 2000	22-Mar-18	Nablus	Al- Najah National University	33	48	81
16	Women's rights to education & employment	26-Mar-18	Ramallah & Al-Bireh	Spanish School	31	0	31
17	Women's rights to education & employment	29-Mar-18	Ramallah & Al-Bireh	Khawla Bent Al-azwar School	39	0	39
18	Women's right to access to justice	29-Mar-18	Tulkarem	Tulkarem R.C	12	0	12

19	Children's Rights	3-Apr-18	Jerusalem	Badeyat Al-Quds School – Jaba' Bedwen community	11	11	22
20	The Palestinian labor Law No 7 of 2000	16-Apr-18	Tulkarem	Al-Quds open University / Tulkarem	23	15	38
21	Children's Rights	19-Apr-18	Ramallah & Al-Bireh	Kofor Ne'meh	27	0	27
22	Women's Sharia Rights	25-Apr-18	Bethlehem	Al-Dheisheh R.C	12	0	12
23	Women's rights in the Labor Law, Civil Service and CEDAW	3-May-18	Bethlehem	Beit Sahour	16	0	16
24	The Palestinian labor Law	7-May-18	Ramallah & Al-Bireh	Ramallah	23	12	35
25	The Palestinian labor Law	8-May-18	Ramallah & Al-Bireh	Ramallah	36	0	36
26	The Use of excessive power against peaceful assemblies as a violation against international laws, covenants and human rights	7-May-18	Gaza	Al- Awdeh R.C	5	30	35
27	Fair Trial Guarantees in the Palestinian Legislation	7-May-18	Rafah	Al- Shweikeh	33	0	33
28	Personal Status Law "marriage and divorce"	24-May-18	Rafah	Al- Jneineh	33	0	33
29	The Independence of the Judicial Authority	30-May-18	Khan Younis	Khuza'a	24	0	24
30	The right to housing in the Palestinian law and international covenants on human rights	31-May-18	Khan Younis	Khuza'a	32	0	32
31	Personal Status Law "Marriage and its implications"	25-Jun-18	Al-Wusta	Deir Al-Balah	21	0	21
32	The marriage contract	27-Jun-18	Al-Wusta	Al- Zawaydeh	20	0	20
33	Palestinian Children's rights	28-Jun-18	Al-Wusta	Al-Maghazi R.C	19	10	29
34	Personal Status Law "Sharia Rights"	5-Jul-18	North Gaza	Beit Hanoun	11	0	11
35	The proceedings of marriage and alimony procedures	16-Jul-18	Khan Younis	Khan Younis	11	0	11
36	Electronic Blackmailing is a punishable crime	17-Jul-18	Khan Younis	Khuza'a	25	0	25
37	An open meeting on Sharia rights	17-Jul-18	Khan Younis	Khuza'a	20	13	33
38	Inspection procedures in the Penal Procedures Law	17-Jul-18	North Gaza	Beit- Hnoun	11	5	16
39	Marriage provisions	18-Jul-18	Gaza	Al-Toffah	7	0	7
40	Labor rights according to the Palestinian labor Law No 7 of 2000	19-Jul-18	North Gaza	Jabalya	21	0	21

41	Women's Rights	5-Jul-18	Jenin	Jenin R.C	16	3	19
42	Children's Rights	5-Jul-18	Jenin	Jenin R.C	16	3	19
43	Fair Trial Guarantees in the Palestinian Legislation	10-Jul-18	Tubas	Kardalah	2	11	13
44	Personal Status Law	16-Aug-18	Khan Younis	Khan Younis	40	0	40
45	Violence among children (Bullying)	8-Aug-18	Bethlehem	Al-Dheisheh R.C	11	14	25
46	Violence among children (Bullying)	12-Aug-18	Ramallah & Al-Bireh	Kofor Ne'meh	17	0	17
47	Violence among children (Bullying)	13-Aug-18	Jericho	Aqbet Jaber R.C	0	73	73
48	Women's Sharia Rights	14-Aug-18	Qalqilya	Qalqilya	11	2	13
49	Divorce: Causes, implications and ways to limit it	15-Sep-18	Nablus	Qabalan	26	32	58
50	Sexual Harassment and Electronic Blackmailing	13-Sep-18	Jericho	Aqbet Jaber	34	0	34
51	Sexual Harassment and Electronic Blackmailing	18-Sep-18	Bethlehem	Al-Dheisheh R.C	7	0	7
52	Sexual Harassment and Electronic Blackmailing	20-Sep-18	Jericho	Aqbet Jaber R.C	38	0	38
53	land registration and settlement procedures	24-Sep-18	Ramallah & Al-Bireh	Kofor Ne'meh	9	5	14
54	Children's Rights	26-Sep-18	Bethlehem	Al-Dheisheh R.C	11	0	11
55	Establishing the concepts of justice, democracy and human rights	6-Sep-18	North Gaza	Jabalya	4	16	20
56	The right to political participation in international agreements and local legislation	7-Oct-18	Rafah	Qaa' Al-Qrein	24	2	26
57	The right to freedom of opinion and expression	8-Oct-18	Gaza	Al-Zaitoon	28	0	28
58	Fair trial guarantees for Juvenile Delinquents	14-Oct-18	North Gaza	Beit Lahya	20	26	46
59	The needs and rights of persons with disabilities	17-Oct-18	Gaza	Al-Shate' R.C	8	13	21
60	The citizen's right at the time of the arrest	18-Oct-18	Khan Younis	Khuza'a	21	8	29
61	The protection of childhood in Palestine	31-Oct-18	North Gaza	Beit Hanoun	4	16	20
62	Performing a hysterectomy on women with mental disabilities	3-Oct-18	Bethlehem	Beir Sahour	9	1	10
63	Children's Rights	12-Oct-18	Jericho	Aqbet Jaber	0	18	18
64	Women's right to education	17-Oct-18	Jericho	Aqbet Jaber	36	0	36
65	land registration and settlement procedures	20-Oct-18	Ramallah & Al-Bireh	Ne'lin	2	39	41
66	Combating drugs	23-Oct-18	Jericho	Aqbet Jaber	16	0	16
67	land registration and settlement procedures	17-Nov-18	Salfit	Salfit	3	4	7
68	Women and Law	1-Nov-18	Gaza	Al-Daraj	20	0	20

69	The implications of enforcing the decree-law on social security and the right to work	5-Nov-18	Gaza	Gaza	14	14	28
70	Violence against women	6-Nov-18	Khan Younis	Qa' Al Qrein	28	0	28
71	Demanding the right of PwDs	18-Nov-18	North Gaza	Jabalya	0	25	25
72	The protection of battered women	21-Nov-18	Khan Younis	Absan	32	0	32
73	A legal meeting on the rights of the prisoners at Al-Katibah prison in Gaza entitled "The rights and guarantees of prisoners in Palestinian legislation and international covenants"	5-Dec-18	Gaza	Gaza	0	50	50
74	Labour rights according to the Palestinian labor law	31-Dec-18	Gaza	Gaza	15	8	23

Annex (3): Participation in TV and radio interviews, radio episodes organized by MUSAWA, media interviews and the topics discussed in them

First: TV Interviews

#	Topic	TV Station	Date	Represented MUSAWA
1	MUSAWA's Initiative for the Unification, Reform, and Improvement of the Justice System	Al-Kufiyyeh TV	6/Feb/18	BoD member, Adv. Islah Hasaneyyah
2	MUSAWA's Initiative for the Unification, Reform, and Improvement of the Justice System	Falastiniya TV	6/Feb/18	Executive Manager, Ahlam Tarayra
3	MUSAWA's Initiative for the Unification, Reform, and Improvement of the Justice System	Maan TV	27/Feb/18	Legal Monitoring officer, Adv. Rula Moussa
4	Draft decree-law amending decree-law on Cybercrimes	Wattan TV	21/Apr/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
5	Legal right to work	Alyawm TV	16/Jul/18	Lawyers for the Rule of Law member, Adv. Mohammad Allouh

#	Topic	TV Station	Date	Represented MUSAWA
6	Raising community awareness in cooperation with community based organizations	Al-Kufiyyeh TV	26/Jul/18	Legal Monitoring officer, Adv. Rula Moussa
7	The resignation of a number of the Supreme court's judges	Palestine Today	6/Sep/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
8	MUSAWA Refutes the Recommendations of the Official Committee for Developing the Justice System	Maan TV	13/Sep/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
9	MUSAWA Refutes the Recommendations of the Official Committee for Developing the Justice System	Al-Najah Channel		General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
10	MUSAWA Refutes the Recommendations of the Official Committee for Developing the Justice System	Al-Fajer TV		General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
11	Women's Rights	Baladna channel	23/Sep/18	Member of Lawyers for the Rule of Law Groups and PHRDs Network, Adv. Mohammed Al-Dahdouh
12	youth rights; between reality and hope	Baladna channel	24/Sep/18	Member of Lawyers for the Rule of Law Groups and PHRDs Network, Adv. Kawthar Seder
13	Referring Judge Abdullah Ghuzlan to a disciplinary council	Watan News Agency	10/Oct/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
14	The results of the Fifth Legal Monitor Report	Alfalstiniah TV		Executive Manager, Ahlam Tarayra
15	Reportage: The results of the Fifth Legal Monitor Report	Ro'ya TV	23/Dec/18	Executive Manager, Ahlam Tarayra
16	Reportage: The results of the Fifth Legal Monitor Report	Al-Kufiyyeh TV	19/Dec/18	BoD member, Adv. Sharhabl Al-Za'eem & Legal Monitoring officer, Adv. Rula Moussa
17	Reportage: The results of the Fifth Legal Monitor Report	Wattan TV	19/Dec/18	General Manager, Mr. Ibrahim Barghouthi & Executive Manager, Ahlam Tarayra

Second: Radio Interviews

#	Topic	Radio	Date	Represented MUSAWA
1	Draft Decree-Law on Landlords and Tenants	Alam al-Khalil Radio	11/Jan/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
2	Draft Decree-Law on Landlords and Tenants	Ajyal Fm	14/Jan/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
3	MUSAWA's Initiative for the Unification, Reform, and Development of the Justice System	Mawwal FM	1/Feb/18	Executive Manager, Ahlam Tarayra

#	Topic	Radio	Date	Represented MUSAWA
4	MUSAWA's Initiative for the Unification, Reform, and Development of the Justice System	Gaza FM	5/Feb/18	GA member, Dr. AbdulKarim Shbeir
5	MUSAWA's Initiative for the Unification, Reform, and Development of the Justice System	Ramallah FM	5/Feb/18	Executive Manager, Ahlam Tarayra
6	MUSAWA's Initiative for the Unification, Reform, and Development of the Justice System	Al- Israa FM	7/Feb/18	Legal Monitoring officer, Adv. Rula Mousa
7	MUSAWA's Initiative for the Unification, Reform, and Development of the Justice System	Al-Azhar FM	11/Feb/18	Legal Awareness & Training Officer, Adv. Momen al-Hattab
8	MUSAWA's Initiative for the Unification, Reform, and Development of the Justice System	Sawt Al-Ray	11/Feb/18	Executive Manager, Ahlam Tarayra
9	MUSAWA's Initiative for the Unification, Reform, and Development of the Justice System	Alam al-Khalil Radio	15/Feb/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
10	MUSAWA's Initiative for the Unification, Reform, and Development of the Justice System	Ajyal FM	18/Feb/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
11	MUSAWA's Initiative for the Unification, Reform, and Development of the Justice System	Ahla FM	19/Feb/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
12	The new Law on Landlords and Tenants	Ajyal FM	12/Feb/18	Executive Manager, Ahlam Tarayra
13	The extended social meeting on child sexual abuse	Gaza FM		Legal Monitoring officer, Adv. Rula Mousa
14	The Coalition for the Protection of Child Dignity	Al-Ray FM		Legal Monitoring officer, Adv. Rula Mousa
15	MUSAWA's Legal Clinics	Nissa FM	4/Apr/18	Legal Awareness & Training Officer, Adv. Shorouq Abu Qare'
16	Bar Council elections	Alam al-Khalil Radio	6/Apr/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
17	Extortion using the witchcraft phenomenon	Alam al-Khalil Radio	18/Apr/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
18	Draft decree-law amending decree-law on Cybercrimes	Ajyal FM	18/Apr/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
19	Legal Profession Practice Exams	Hawa Nablus FM	10/May/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
20	Decision to Dissolve the Supreme Security Committee	Mawwal FM	3/Jun/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
21	MUSAWA's success in stopping the issuance of a decision threatening the fate of UNRWA students in Gaza	Alam al-Khalil Radio	5/Jun/18	Legal Monitoring officer, Adv. Rula Mousa
22	Arrests Ordered by Governors also against Children!	Alam al-Khalil Radio	5/Jun/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
23	The Capital Sentence	Alam al-Khalil Radio	10/Jun/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi

#	Topic	Radio	Date	Represented MUSAWA
24	The High Judicial Council Convenes against the Law, and Statements of a Judge Offensive to CSOs	Mawwal FM	22/Jun/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
25	The Right to Education according to the Palestinian legislation and the international conventions	Gaza Fm	9/Jul/18	Lawyers for the Rule of Law member Adv. Mohammad Allouh
26	The shortcomings of the Anti-Corruption Law	Raya FM	11/Jul/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
27	The Official Committee for Developing the Justice System	Ajyal FM	17/Jul/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
28	The assault on a Deputy Prosecutor at the Hebron Police Station	Mawwal FM	17/Jul/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
29	The assault on a Deputy Prosecutor at the Hebron Police Station	Hawa Nablus FM	17/Jul/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
30	The assault on a Deputy Prosecutor at the Hebron Police Station	Ahla FM	17/Jul/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
31	Legal Protection of Women in the Palestinian Laws	Hawwa FM	29/Jul/18	Lawyers for the Rule of Law member, Adv. Mohammad Allouh
32	MUSAWA's Remarks on the draft of the Amendment of the Decree-law Medical and Health Protection and Safety	Alam al-Khalil Radio	8/Aug/18	Legal Monitoring officer, Adv. Angham Mansour
33	MUSAWA's demand for immediate abolition of implementing the death penalty	Alam al-Khalil Radio	8/Aug/18	Executive Manager, Ahlam Tarayra
34	The role of the tribal judiciary in light of the degradation of the formal judiciary	Ahla FM	3/Sep/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
35	MUSAWA Refutes the Recommendations of the Official Committee for Developing the Justice System	Ahla FM	10/Sep/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
36	MUSAWA Refutes the Recommendations of the Official Committee for Developing the Justice System	Alam al-Khalil Radio		General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
37	MUSAWA Refutes the Recommendations of the Official Committee for Developing the Justice System	Mawwal FM		General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
38	MUSAWA Refutes the Recommendations of the Official Committee for Developing the Justice System	Nissa FM		General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
39	MUSAWA Refutes the Recommendations of the Official Committee for Developing the Justice System	24 FM		General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
40	MUSAWA Refutes the Recommendations of the Official Committee for Developing the Justice System	Hawa Nablus		General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
41	MUSAWA Refutes the Recommendations of the Official Committee for Developing the Justice System	Saba FM		General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi

#	Topic	Radio	Date	Represented MUSAWA
42	The explanatory decision of the high Constitutional Court on the legal nature of the Police and Military	Ahla FM	24/Sep/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
43	Keeping the Recommendations of the Official Committee for Developing the Justice System confidential and not sharing them with the public	Alam al-Khalil Radio	29/Sep/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
44	MUSAWA's perception of the Judiciary status	Nissa FM	2/Oct/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
45	The appointments of public prosecution assistants	24 FM	4/Oct/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
46	The appointments of public prosecution assistants	Mawwal FM	9/Oct/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
47	The Social Security decree-law	Raya FM	14/Oct/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
48	MUSAWA's point of view regarding the Social Security decree-law	Al-Ray FM	22/Oct/18	Legal Monitoring officer, Adv. Rula Mansour
49	Amending Legislation, before or after execution?	Alam al-Khalil Radio	2/Nov/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
50	The draft decree- law amending the Judicial Authority Law	Ajyal FM	28/Nov/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
51	The decree- law amending the Judicial Authority Law	Alam al-Khalil Radio	1/Dec/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
52	The Palestinian Human Rights Defenders Network, on the International Human Rights Day and the International Day for the protection of human rights defenders	Gaza FM	10/Dec/18	Legal Awareness & Training Officer, Ad. Momen Al-Hattab
53	The decision to dissolve the legislative council	Alam al-Khalil Radio	24/Dec/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
54	The decision to dissolve the legislative council	Mawwal FM	29/Dec/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
55	The Decree-law on Medical and Health Protection and Safety	Nissa FM	31/Dec/2018	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
56	The results of the Fifth Legal Monitor Report	Alam al-Khalil Radio	12/Dec/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
57	The results of the Fifth Legal Monitor Report	Al-Balad FM	18/Dec/18	Executive manager, Ahlam Tarayra
58	The results of the Fifth Legal Monitor Report	Raya FM	19/Dec/18	Executive manager, Ahlam Tarayra
59	The results of the Fifth Legal Monitor Report	Ajyal FM		Executive manager, Ahlam Tarayra
60	The results of the Fifth Legal Monitor Report	24 FM		Executive manager, Ahlam Tarayra
61	The results of the Fifth Legal Monitor Report	Ramallah FM		Executive manager, Ahlam Tarayra

Third: Media Interviews

#	Topic	Newspaper /Agency	Date	Represented MUSAWA
1	Draft Decree-Law on Landlords and Tenants	Palestine Economy Portal	15/Jan/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
2	The decision to refer a Supreme Court judge to investigation because of participating in a workshop	Wattan TV	13/Feb/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
3	The decision to refer a Supreme Court judge to investigation because of participating in a workshop	Ultra Agency	13/Feb/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
4	Attacking restaurants in Ramallah	Wattan TV	27/Jul/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
5	The appointments of public prosecution assistants	Al- Hadath Newspaper	7/Oct/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
6	The appointments of public prosecution assistants	Nawa Newspaper	12/Oct/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
7	The High Judicial council's Advisor for planning and international Cooperation, whose appointment decision was not considered for not applying the academic diplomas that prove his experience after practicing the work for a few months, and who was lately accused of selling Palestinian lands in Jerusalem to Israelis.	Wattan News Agency	22/Nov/18	General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi

**THE PALESTINIAN CENTER FOR THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE
JUDICIARY AND THE LEGAL PROFESSION (MUSAWA)**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018**

AND INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

–TABLE OF CONTENTS–

	<u>Page</u>
Independent auditor's report	2-4
Statement of financial position	5
Statement of financial performance	6
Statement of changes in net assets	7
Statement of cash flows	8
Notes to the financial statements	9



Independent auditor's report to the Board of Directors of the Palestinian Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (MUSAWA)

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Our opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements of the Palestinian Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (hereinafter the "Center") present fairly, in all material respects the financial position of the Center as at December 31, 2018, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs).

What we have audited

The Center's financial statements comprise:

- the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2018;
- the statement of financial performance for the year then ended;
- the statement of changes in net assets for the year then ended;
- the statement of cash flows for the year then ended; and
- The notes to the financial statements, which include a summary of significant accounting policies.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of our report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Independence

We are independent of the Center in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Palestine. We have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the IESBA Code.

Other matter

The financial statements of the Center for the year ended December 31, 2017 were audited by another firm of auditors whose report, dated April 16, 2018, expressed an unmodified opinion on those statements.

Responsibilities of management and those charged with governance for the financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation *and fair presentation of the financial statements* in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs), and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.



Independent auditor's report to the Board of Directors of the Palestinian Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (MUSAWA) (continued)

Report on the audit of the financial statements (continued)

Responsibilities of management and those charged with governance for the financial statements (continued)

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Center's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Center or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Center's financial reporting process.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Center's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.



**Independent auditor's report to the Board of Directors of the Palestinian Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (MUSAWA)
(continued)**

Report on the audit of the financial statements (continued)

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements (continued)

- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Center's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Center to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.


PricewaterhouseCoopers


April, 24 2019
Ramallah, Palestine


STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION


(All amounts in US Dollars)

	<u>Note</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Assets			
Non-current assets			
Furniture and equipment	(6)	20,180	24,975
Current assets			
Contributions receivable	(7)	349,650	726,000
Accounts receivable and other current assets	(8)	9,496	9,367
Cash and bank balances	(9)	85,228	110,207
		<u>444,374</u>	<u>845,574</u>
Total assets		<u>464,554</u>	<u>870,549</u>
Liabilities and net assets			
Net assets		<u>41,591</u>	<u>22,209</u>
Non-current liabilities			
Provision for employees' benefit	(10)	45,868	28,421
Current liabilities			
Accounts payable and other accruals		5,097	8,090
Deferred operating contributions	(11)	371,998	811,829
		<u>377,095</u>	<u>819,919</u>
Total liabilities		<u>422,963</u>	<u>848,340</u>
Total liabilities and net assets		<u>464,554</u>	<u>870,549</u>

–The notes on pages 9 to 22 form an integral part of these financial statements.

–The financial statements on pages 5 to 22 were authorized for issue by the Board of Directors on April 20, 2019 and were signed on its behalf.


Dr. Taleb Awad
Chairman of the Board of
Directors


Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi
Director General

THE PALESTINIAN CENTER FOR THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE JUDICIARY AND THE LEGAL PROFESSION (MUSAWA)

Financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2018

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

(All amounts in US Dollar)

	<u>Note</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Contributions and other income			
Contributions recognized as revenue	(11)	439,831	439,651
Other income, net	(12)	24,756	3,935
Gain on foreign currency translation		-	7,369
Total contributions and other income		<u>464,587</u>	<u>450,955</u>
Expenses			
Program expenses	(13)	(234,000)	(217,977)
General and administrative expenses	(14)	(203,471)	(232,690)
Depreciation expense	(6)	(7,539)	(7,789)
Loss on foreign currency translation		(195)	-
Total expenses		<u>(445,205)</u>	<u>(458,456)</u>
Net surplus (deficit) for the year		<u>19,382</u>	<u>(7,501)</u>

–The notes on pages 9 to 22 form an integral part of these financial statements.

THE PALESTINIAN CENTER FOR THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE JUDICIARY AND THE LEGAL PROFESSION (MUSAWA)

Financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2018

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

(All amounts in US Dollar)

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Balance at the beginning of the year	22,209	29,710
Net surplus (deficit) for the year	<u>19,382</u>	<u>(7,501)</u>
Balance at the end of the year	<u>41,591</u>	<u>22,209</u>

–The notes on pages 9 to 22 form an integral part of these financial statements.

THE PALESTINIAN CENTER FOR THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE JUDICIARY AND THE LEGAL PROFESSION (MUSAWA)

Financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2018

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

(All amounts in US Dollar)

	<u>Note</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net surplus (deficit) for the year		19,382	(7,501)
Adjustments			
Depreciation expenses	(6)	7,539	7,789
(Gain) / loss on disposal of furniture and equipment		(21,231)	792
Provision for employees' benefits	(10)	22,196	22,993
Operating contributions recognized as revenue in the statement of financial performance	(11)	(439,831)	(439,651)
Cash flows from operating activities before contributions received, payment of employees benefits and changes in working capital		(411,945)	(415,578)
Employees' benefits paid	(10)	(4,749)	(6,349)
Operating contributions received	(11)	-	60,000
Changes in working capital:			
Contributions receivable		376,350	418,484
Accounts receivable and other current assets		(129)	(400)
Accounts payable and other accruals		(2,993)	(2,199)
Net cash (used in) generated from operating activities		(43,466)	53,958
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of furniture and equipment	(6)	(2,744)	(3,074)
Proceeds from disposal of furniture and equipment	(6)	21,231	-
Net cash generated from (used in) investing activities		18,487	(3,074)
Net changes in cash and cash equivalents		(24,979)	50,884
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of the year		110,207	59,323
Cash and cash equivalents, end of the year	(9)	85,228	110,207

–The notes on pages 9 to 22 form an integral part of these financial statements.

NOTE (1) GENERAL

The Palestinian Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (MUSAWA) is an independent civil society Not-For-Profit organization established on March 18, 2002 as part of an initiative by lawyers, former judges, and human rights advocates devoted to guaranteeing the independence of the judiciary and the legal profession through: monitoring and documenting violations; and treating the social, cultural, economic, and political obstacles that hinder the proper implementation of the independence of the judiciary and the legal profession. The Center conducts its activities and implement its projects through its West Bank's office (57 Al-Mahakim Street, Al-Balou', Al-Bireh, P.O. 1920 Ramallah) and Gaza' office (Building no. 8108, Al-Naser, Gaza).

NOTE (2) GOING CONCERN

As at 31 December 2018, the Center does not have sufficient contributions to fund its operating expenses for the subsequent year. Management seeks to intensify its effort and reach-out to several donors during 2019 to cover its operating expenses and to carry on its activities without a significant curtailment of operations. Accordingly, these financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

NOTE (3) SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and IFRIC Interpretations under the historical cost convention.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with IFRS requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgment in the process of applying the Center's accounting policies.

Change in accounting policies

(a) New and amended standards adopted by the Center

The Center has applied the following standards and amendments for the first time for their annual reporting period commencing 1 January 2018:

- IFRS 9, 'Financial instruments: Classification and Measurement' (effective from 1 January 2018)

IFRS 9 replaces the provisions of IAS 39 that relate to the recognition, classification and measurement of financial assets and financial liabilities, derecognition of financial instruments, impairment of financial assets and hedge accounting.

(i) Classification and measurement

On 1 January 2018 (the date of initial application of IFRS 9), the Center's management has assessed which business models apply to the financial assets held by the Center and has classified its financial instruments into the appropriate IFRS 9 categories.

There is no impact on the classification and measurement of the financial assets and financial liabilities of the Center.

(ii) Impairment of financial assets

The Center's financial assets are subject to IFRS 9's new expected credit loss model.

The Center was required to revise its impairment methodology under IFRS 9. The impact of the change in impairment methodology was immaterial.

Change in accounting policies (continued)

- IFRS 15 'Revenue from contracts with customers' (effective from 1 January 2018)

The IASB has issued a new standard for the recognition of revenue. This will replace IAS 18 which covers contracts for goods and services and IAS 11 which covers construction contracts.

The new standard is based on the principle that revenue is recognised when control of a good or service transfers to a customer - so the notion of control replaces the existing notion of risks and rewards.

A new five-step process must be applied before revenue can be recognised:

- identify contracts with customers
- identify the separate performance obligation
- determine the transaction price of the contract
- allocate the transaction price to each of the separate performance obligations, and
- recognise the revenue as each performance obligation is satisfied.

Management has carried out an assessment of the impact on the financial statements and no adjustments have been recorded in the financial statements as the impact is not material. The adoption of these amendments do not have any impact on the current or any prior year period.

(b) New standards, amendments and interpretations issued but not effective for the financial year beginning 1 January 2018 and not early adopted

- IFRS 16, 'Leases' (effective 1 January 2019). It will result in almost all leases being recognised in the statement of financial position, as the distinction between operating and finance leases is removed. Under the new standard, an asset (the right to use the leased item) and a financial liability to pay rentals are recognised. The only exceptions are short-term and low-value leases. The accounting for lessors will not significantly change. The standard will primarily affect the accounting for the Center's operating leases.

- As of the reporting date, the Center has no non-cancellable operating lease commitments.
- At this stage, the Center does not intend to adopt the standard before its effective date.

(c) Annual Improvements to IFRS Standards 2015-2017 Cycle (effective 1 January 2019). The following improvements were finalised in December 2017:

- IFRS 3 - clarified that obtaining control of a business that is a joint operation in a business combination achieved in stages.
- IFRS 11 - clarified that the party obtaining joint control of a business that is a joint operation should not remeasure its previously held interest in the joint operation.
- IAS 12 - clarified that the income tax consequences of dividends on financial instruments classified as equity should be recognised according to where the past transactions or events that generated distributable profits were recognised.
- IAS 23 - clarified that if a specific borrowing remains outstanding after the related qualifying asset is ready for its intended use or sale, it becomes part of general borrowings.

There are no other IFRS's or IFRIC interpretations that are not yet effective that would be expected to have a material impact on the Center's financial statements.

Furniture and equipment

Furniture and equipment are stated at historical cost net of accumulated depreciation and impairment losses, if any. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets based on their estimated useful lives, as follows:

<u>Asset category</u>	<u>Estimated useful life</u>
Office Furniture	7%
Office Equipment	15%
Computers	20%
Motor Vehicles	15%

The cost of the furniture and equipment includes all of the expenditures that are directly attributable to the acquisition of the items. Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the Center and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. The carrying amount of any component accounted for as a separate asset is derecognised when replaced. All other repairs and maintenance are charged to profit or loss during the reporting period in which they are incurred.

Impairment of non-financial assets

Assets that are subject to depreciation or amortisation are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable.

An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use. For the purposes of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are separately identifiable cash flows (cash-generating units). Non-financial assets that suffered impairment are reviewed for possible reversal of the impairment at each reporting date.

Financial instruments

Financial assets and liabilities are recognised on the Center's statement of financial position when the Center becomes a part of the contractual provision of the instruments.

(a) Financial assets

Classification

The Center classifies its financial assets in accordance with IFRS 9. The Center's financial assets consist of contributions receivables, accounts receivables and cash and cash equivalents. The classification depends on the purpose for which the financial assets were acquired.

Management determines the classification of its financial assets at initial recognition. The Center's financial assets are classified as financial assets at amortized costs.

i. Contributions receivable

Contributions receivable are stated at the original amount of the conditional pledge less amounts received and any uncollectible pledges. They are generally due from settlements in one year or less and therefore are all classified as current, if not they are classified as non-current.

ii. Accounts receivable

Accounts receivable are amounts due from customers and related parties for goods sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business. They are generally due for settlement in one year or less and therefore are all classified as current. If not, they are classified as non-current assets.

Financial instruments (continued)

iii. Cash and cash equivalent

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on hand and bank balances.

Recognition and measurement

Financial assets at amortized cost are initially recognized at fair value and subsequently carried at amortized cost using the effective interest method. If, in a subsequent period, the amount of the impaired loss decreases and the decrease can be related objectively to an event occurring after the impairment was recognized such as an improvement in the debtor's credit rating, the reversal of the previously recognised impairment loss is recognised in the statement of financial position.

Impairment of financial assets

i. Contributions and accounts receivable

The Center applies the IFRS 9 simplified approach to measure expected credit losses, which uses a lifetime expected loss allowance for all contributions and accounts receivable.

To measure the expected credit losses, contributions and accounts receivable have been grouped based on shared credit risk characteristics and the days past due. Contributions and accounts receivable are written off when there is no reasonable expectation of recovery. Indicators that there is no reasonable expectation of recovery include, amongst others, the failure of a debtor to engage in a repayment plan with the Center, and a failure to make contractual payments per case by case basis.

ii. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are also subject to the impairment requirements of IFRS 9.

Derecognition

A financial asset (or, where applicable a part of a financial asset or part of a group of similar financial assets) is derecognised when:

- The rights to receive cash flows from the asset have expired
- The Center has transferred its rights to receive cash flows from the asset or has assumed an obligation to pay the received cash flows in full without material delay to a third party under a 'pass-through' arrangement; and either (a) the Center has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of the asset, or (b) the Center has neither transferred nor retained substantially all the risks and rewards of the asset, but has transferred control of the asset.

(b) Financial liabilities

Financial liabilities mainly comprise accounts payable and other accruals. Financial liabilities are initially measured at fair value and subsequently carried at amortized cost using the effective interest method. The Center's financial liabilities are classified as financial liabilities at amortized costs. They presented as current liabilities unless payment is not due within 12 months after the reporting period.

Subsequent measurement

The measurement of financial liabilities depends on their classification as follows:

i. Financial liabilities at amortized costs

After initial recognition, accounts payable and other accruals are subsequently measured at amortized cost using the effective interest rate method. Gains and losses are recognized in the statement of financial performance when the liabilities are derecognized as well as through the amortization process.

Derecognition

A financial liability is derecognized when the obligation under the liability is discharged or cancelled or expires. When an existing financial liability is replaced by another from the same lender on substantially different terms, or the terms of an existing liability are substantially modified, such an exchange or modification is treated as a derecognition of the original liability and the recognition of a new liability, and the difference in the respective carrying amounts is recognized in the statement of financial performance.

Offsetting of financial instruments

Financial assets and financial liabilities are offset and the net amount reported in the statement of financial position if, and only if, there is a currently enforceable legal right to offset the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis, or to realise the assets and settle the liabilities simultaneously.

Provision for employee' benefits

Provision for Severance Pay: Provision for severance pay is payable to the employees at the end of their services and it is provided in accordance with the guidelines set by the local labor laws. The provision is computed and provided for based on one month for the latest salary of each employee.

An actuarial valuation is not performed on the provision for employees' end of service benefits as the net impact of the discount rate and future salary and benefits level on the present value of the benefits obligations are not expected by management to be significant.

Provisions

Provisions are recognized when the Center has an obligation (legal or constructive) arising from a past event, and the costs to settle the obligation are both probable and able to be reliably measured.

Provisions are measured at the present value of the expenditures expected to be required to settle the obligation using a rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the obligation. The increase in the provision due to passage of time is recognised as interest expense.

Translation of foreign currencies

The accompanying financial statements are denominated in US Dollars. Transactions in other currencies are translated to US Dollars using the exchange rates prevailing at the date of each transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated to US Dollars by applying the exchange rates prevailing at the reporting date. Exchange gains or losses resulting from the settlement of such transactions are recognised in the statement of financial performance. The exchange rates of other currencies against the US dollar as of December 31, 2018 and 2017 are as follows:

	2018	2017
New Israeli Shekel (NIS)	3.748	3.472
EURO	0.878	0.845

IFRS 15 'Revenue from contracts with customers'

Other revenues

Other revenues are recognised when economic benefits are likely to flow to the Center, and when the amount of revenue can be reliably measured and are recorded as deferred revenues.

Deferred contributions

Contributions are recognised where there is reasonable assurance that the contribution will be received and all attached conditions will be complied with.

When the contribution relates to an expense item, it is recognised as income over the period necessary to match the contribution on a systematic basis to the costs that it is intended to compensate. To the extent that the contribution is not matched to expenditure in the year, it is recognised as deferred income.

Where the contribution relates to an asset, it is recognised as deferred income and released to income in equal amounts over the expected useful life of the related asset.

Expenditures recognition

Expenses are recognized when incurred based on the accrual basis of accounting.

Income tax

The Center is a non-profit organization. Accordingly, it is not subject to income tax.

NOTE (4) RISK MANAGEMENT

The Center manages various risks through a strategy that addresses those risks and the procedures to mitigate them by applying reporting systems aiming to review and adopt appropriate risk mitigating procedures. In addition, the various departments are responsible for identifying risks associated with their activities and to apply and monitor appropriate control procedures. The overall responsibility of managing and monitoring risks rests with the Board of Directors.

Risk measurement and reporting systems

Managing risks is established by monitoring limits for each type of risk. The limits reflect the Center strategy and market condition. Information is gathered from each department and analysed to identify expected risk. Information is presented and analysed to the Board of Directors. The Center's management oversees and monitors risks and ensures strategic and optimal allocation of assets and liabilities. These risks include market risk, liquidity risk and credit risk.

a) Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Market risk comprises two types of risk: interest rate risk and foreign currency risk.

Interest rate risk: Since the financial assets and liabilities are not bearing significant interest rate, changes in market interest rates do not have a direct and significant impact on the results of the Center.

Foreign Currency Risk: Foreign currency risk is defined as the risk that the fair value of future cash flows of a financial instruments will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates. These fluctuations in the exchange rates resulted in a loss of US Dollars 195 and a gain of USD 7,369 for the year ended December 31, 2018 and 2017 respectively.

b) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Center will not be able to meet its commitments associated with financial liabilities as they fall due. To mitigate this risk, management diversifies financing resources and manages assets. The table below summarizes the maturity profile of the Center financial instruments based on contractual undiscounted payments:

	<u>On demand</u>	<u>Less than 3 months</u>	<u>3 to 12 months</u>	<u>Total</u>
December 31, 2018				
Accounts payable and other accruals	-	5,097	-	5,097
December 31, 2017				
Accounts payable and other accruals	-	8,090	-	8,090

c) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will fail to discharge an obligation and cause the other party to incur a financial loss. For all categories of financial assets held by the Center, the maximum exposure to credit risk is the carrying value as disclosed in the statement of financial position. To minimise these risks the Center obtains funds only from donors who have good reputation and in accordance with signed agreements and there is minimal risk associated with their settlement. Also, they maintain their cash in banks with good reputation and there are no restrictions on using these amounts.

NOTE (5) KEY JUDGEMENT AND SOURCE OF ESTIMATION AND UNCERTAINTY

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The Center makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, rarely equal the related actual results. The major estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are:

(a) Useful lives and residual values

The useful lives and residual values of assets are assessed using the following indicators to inform potential future use and value from disposal:

- The condition of the asset based on the management assessment,
- The nature of the asset, its susceptibility and adaptability to changes in technology and processes,
- The nature of the processes in which the asset is deployed,
- Availability of funding to replace the asset,
- Changes in the market in relation to the asset,

(b) Impairment of contributions and accounts receivable

The impairment charge reflects estimates of losses arising from the failure or inability of the parties concerned to make the required payments or the time value of money. The charge is based on the expected credit losses, contributions and accounts receivable that have been grouped together based on their shared credit risk characteristics and the days past due of the aging of the party accounts, the party's credit worthiness and historic write-off experience. Changes to the estimated impairment provision may be required if the financial condition of the customers was to improve or deteriorate.

THE PALESTINIAN CENTER FOR THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE JUDICIARY AND THE LEGAL PROFESSION (MUSAWA)

Financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2018

NOTE (6) FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT

<u>Cost</u>	<u>Office Furniture</u>	<u>Office Equipment</u>	<u>Computers</u>	<u>Motor Vehicles</u>	<u>Total</u>
At January 1, 2018	31,189	33,972	22,079	46,140	133,380
Additions during the year	80	1,269	1,395	-	2,744
Disposals	-	-	-	(46,140)	(46,140)
At December 31, 2018	31,269	35,241	23,474	-	89,984
<u>Accumulated Depreciation</u>					
At January 1, 2018	19,747	24,316	18,202	46,140	108,405
Change for the year	2,185	3,429	1,925	-	7,539
Disposals	-	-	-	(46,140)	(46,140)
At December 31, 2018	21,932	27,745	20,127	-	69,804
Net Book Value as of December 31, 2018	9,337	7,496	3,347	-	20,180

<u>Cost</u>	<u>Office Furniture</u>	<u>Office equipment</u>	<u>Computers</u>	<u>Motor Vehicles</u>	<u>Total</u>
At January 1, 2017	32,512	37,047	37,165	46,140	152,864
Additions during the year	1,781	316	977	-	3,074
Disposals	(3,104)	(3,391)	(16,063)	-	(22,558)
At December 31, 2017	31,189	33,972	22,079	46,140	133,380
<u>Accumulated Depreciation</u>					
At January 1, 2017	19,733	23,960	32,549	46,140	122,382
Change for the year	2,330	3,745	1,714	-	7,789
Disposals	(2,316)	(3,389)	(16,061)	-	(21,766)
At December 31, 2017	19,747	24,316	18,202	46,140	108,405
Net Book Value as of December 31, 2017	11,442	9,656	3,877	-	24,975

Furniture and equipment include US Dollars 30,669 and US Dollars 68,962 of fully depreciated assets that are still operational as of December 31, 2018 and 2017, respectively.

THE PALESTINIAN CENTER FOR THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE JUDICIARY AND THE LEGAL PROFESSION (MUSAWA)

Financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2018

NOTE (7) CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVABLES

As at December 31, 2018:

Donor-Party	Beginning balance	Additions during the year	Cash received	Write off	Currency variance	Ending balance
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands	726,000	-	(376,350)	-	-	349,650

As at December 31, 2017:

Donor-Party	Beginning balance	Additions during the year	Cash received	Write off	Currency variance	Ending balance
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands	1,130,025	-	(404,000)	(25)	-	726,000
European Commission - Human Rights Defenders	31,081	-	(23,174)	(10,458)	2,551	-
UNDP	-	60,000	(60,000)	-	-	-
	1,161,106	60,000	(487,174)	(10,483)	2,551	726,000

THE PALESTINIAN CENTER FOR THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE JUDICIARY AND THE LEGAL PROFESSION (MUSAWA)

Financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2018

NOTE (8) ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE AND OTHER CURRENT ASSETS

	2018	2017
Prepaid expenses	9,063	8,967
Other receivable	433	400
	9,496	9,367

NOTE (9) CASH AND BANK BALANCES

	2018	2017
Cash on hand	1,067	1,298
Cash at banks	84,161	108,909
	85,228	110,207

NOTE (10) PROVISION FOR EMPLOYEES' BENEFITS

	As at 1 January	Charge during the year	Paid during the year	As at 31 December
2018				
Severance pay provision	28,421	22,196	(4,749)	45,868
2017				
Severance pay provision	11,777	22,993	(6,349)	28,421

NOTE (11) DEFERRED OPERATING CONTRIBUTIONS

	Grants related to operations
As at January 1, 2017	1,208,102
Contributions granted during the year	60,000
Grants recognized as revenue in the statement of financial performance	(439,651)
Write-offs	(10,458)
Currency variance	(6,164)
As at December 31, 2017	811,829
Grants recognized as revenue in the statement of financial performance	(439,831)
As at December 31, 2018	371,998

NOTE (12) OTHER INCOME, NET

	2018	2017
Gain (loss) on disposal of furniture and equipment	21,231	(792)
Miscellaneous revenue	3,525	4,727
	24,756	3,935

THE PALESTINIAN CENTER FOR THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE JUDICIARY AND THE LEGAL PROFESSION (MUSAWA)

Financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2018

NOTE (13) PROGRAM EXPENSES

	2018	2017
Salaries and related benefits	143,438	120,625
Base line survey	59,303	-
Law and justice magazine	14,219	18,212
Eye on justice magazine	5,108	7,514
Consultants Fees	2,950	-
Capacity building - lawyers	2,006	9,086
Lobbying Activities	1,672	66
Legal Aid & Legal clinics	1,644	657
Capacity building - Internal	1,036	1,471
Staff Training	828	2,843
Lawyers for the role of law	591	6,541
Advocacy Campaigns	385	-
Moot courts	288	-
Regular workshops	192	10,154
Advertising, printing and copying	120	-
BOD/GA annual meetings	110	1,560
Subscriptions	57	-
Volunteers rewards & transportations	53	4,386
Brochures	-	2,008
TV and radio programs	-	6,353
Legal Complaints	-	4,181
Field visits - HRDs	-	1,420
Conferences	-	16,840
Transportation	-	690
Programs / Projects Evaluation	-	3,370
	234,000	217,977

NOTE (14) GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

	2018	2017
Salaries and related benefits	144,420	158,714
Office rent	18,795	18,233
Medical and insurance	7,956	8,376
Postal, telephone and mail	7,557	9,888
Transportation	5,617	6,497
Hospitality and cleaning	3,430	4,495
Maintenance	3,194	8,758
Electricity and water	3,095	3,457
Subscriptions	1,820	2,074
Stationery	1,586	2,120
Fuel and gas	617	851
Bank charges	531	510
Advertising, printing and copying	300	1,630
Cars license	-	426
Other miscellaneous expenses	4,553	6,661
	203,471	232,690

THE PALESTINIAN CENTER FOR THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE JUDICIARY AND THE LEGAL PROFESSION (MUSAWA)

Financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2018

NOTE (15) PROGRAM AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES BY UNIT

	Legal Monitoring, Law Drafting & improvement Legislations	Legal Public awareness and capacity Building	Institutionalization and internal capacity Building	Total 2018	Total 2017
Salaries and related benefits	244,679	28,786	14,393	287,858	279,339
Advertising, printing and copying	357	42	21	420	1,630
Bank charges	451	53	27	531	510
Audit fees	3,485	410	205	4,100	6,051
Eye on justice	5,108	-	-	5,108	7,514
Law and justice magazine	14,219	-	-	14,219	18,212
Cars license	-	-	-	-	426
Regular workshops	-	192	-	192	10,154
Electricity and water	2,630	310	155	3,095	3,457
Capacity building - lawyers	-	2,006	-	2,006	9,086
Lobbying activities	-	1,672	-	1,672	66
Postal, telephone and mail	6,423	756	378	7,557	9,888
Transportations	4,774	562	281	5,617	7,187
Fuel and gas	524	62	31	617	851
Programs / Projects Evaluation	-	-	-	-	3,370
Hospitality and cleaning	2,915	343	172	3,430	4,495
Maintenance	2,715	319	160	3,194	8,758
Medical and insurance	6,762	796	398	7,956	8,376
Office rent	15,975	1,880	940	18,795	18,233
Stationery	1,348	159	79	1,586	2,120
Subscriptions	1,595	188	94	1,877	2,074
BOD/GA annual meetings	-	-	110	110	1,560
Staff Trainings	-	-	828	828	2,843
Conferences	-	-	-	-	16,840
TV & radio programs	-	-	-	-	6,353
Capacity building - Internal	-	-	1,036	1,036	1,471
Lawyers for the role of law	591	-	-	591	6,541
Other miscellaneous expenses	385	45	23	453	610
Volunteers rewards & transportations	53	-	-	53	4,386
Legal Complaints	-	-	-	-	4,181
Field visits HRDs	-	-	-	-	1,420
Brochures	-	-	-	-	2,008
Legal aid & legal clinics	-	1,644	-	1,644	657
Moot Courts	-	288	-	288	-
Consultants Fees	-	-	2,950	2,950	-
Base Line Survey	59,303	-	-	59,303	-
Advocacy Campaigns	-	385	-	385	-
	374,292	40,898	22,281	437,471	450,667

NOTE (16) RELATED PARTIES

This item represents transactions and balances with related parties, i.e., trustees, directors (management) and organizations over which they exercise control.

a) Transactions with related parties are as follows:

	2018	2017
Key management salaries and related benefits	62,260	61,860
BOD / GA annual meetings	110	1,560
Number of key management personnel	1	1

b) Balances with related parties are as follows:

	2018	2017
Severance pay of key management	12,721	8,101

NOTE (17) FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS BY CATEGORY

	2018	2017
Financial assets		
Contributions receivable	349,650	726,000
Accounts receivable and other current assets (excluding prepayments)	433	400
Cash and bank balances	85,228	110,207
	435,311	836,607
Financial liabilities		
Accounts payable and other accruals	5,097	8,090

NOTE (18) CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) IFRS 9 'Financial Instruments'

IFRS 9 replaces the provisions of IAS 39 that relate to the recognition, classification and measurement of financial assets and financial liabilities, derecognition of financial instruments, impairment of financial assets and hedge accounting.

The adoption of IFRS 9 Financial Instruments from 1 January 2018 resulted in changes in accounting policies and adjustments to the amounts recognised in the financial information. The new accounting policies are set out below. In accordance with the transitional provisions in IFRS 9 (7.2.15) and (7.2.26), comparative figures have not been restated.

I. Classification and measurement

There is no impact on the classification and measurement of the financial assets and financial liabilities of the Center.

II. Impairment of financial assets

The Center's contributions and trade receivables are subject to IFRS 9's new expected credit loss model.

The Center has revised its impairment methodology under IFRS 9 for contributions and trade receivables. The impact of the change in impairment methodology on the Center's net surplus / deficit was immaterial.

While cash and cash equivalents are also subject to the impairment requirements of IFRS 9, the identified impairment loss was immaterial.

In addition to the above, specific provision is recorded for customers with specific impairment indicators on a case-by-case basis.

(b) IFRS 15 'Revenue from contracts with customers'

The Center has adopted IFRS 15 from 1 January 2018 which didn't result in a change in accounting policies. The adoption of these amendments do not have any impact on the current or any prior year period.

NOTE (19) COMPARATIVE FIGURES

Certain comparative figures have been reclassified to comply with the financial statements presentation for the current year. Management believes that the current period presentation provides more meaningful information to the readers of the financial statements.