

The Palestinian Youth Network
شبكة الشباب الفلسطيني

Palestinian Youth Network

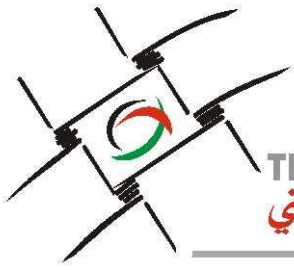
Third Annual Conference

Final Statement

Between November 5th and November 9, 2008, one hundred fifty Palestinian youth from thirty countries gathered together in Madrid Spain for the third Palestinian Youth Network Conference. The first two days of the conference was exclusively for the work and discussion of the PYN founders. The last three days of the conference included new participants who were carefully selected in an application evaluation process. The participants selected demonstrated exceptional leadership qualities as well as a unique passion to commit to the vision of the PYN and the activities that work to achieve the vision.

The key concepts discussed as well as the assumed conclusions of our work during the different activities of the conference can be summarized in the following points:

- The necessity to work on uniting all Palestinians and ending the internal divisions that exist while remembering that the Palestinian people's collective primary objective is the end of the occupation, and any kind of injustice Palestinian communities' face worldwide.
- Reactivating the role of the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) as the representative of all Palestinians and being the entity able and willing to initiate the rectifications of the current situation within Palestinian leadership and representation.
- Discussing and reaffirming the necessity to reassure the inherent rights of all Palestinian people including the human, civil, social, political, environmental, gender, cultural, and economic rights as values that will not be up for negotiation or compromise. Foremost among these rights are the inalienable rights of return, self-determination and freedom.
- Discussing the recognition of the various forms of oppression that the Palestinian communities all over the world experience. The participants discussed the diversity in the packaging of oppression as seen in the recent events in Akka, the continuous siege of Gaza, the annexation of land that separates families and people from one another by the apartheid wall in the West Bank, and the inhumane treatment of the Palestinian-Gaza refugees that still reside in refugee camps in Jordan.



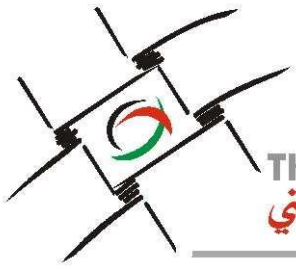
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- The passion to promote, appreciate and activate the important role of the Palestinian youth in the decision making process and planning the future of the Palestinian people and state was evident in every workshop and panel.
- That all Palestinian youth have an equal agency and legitimacy to assume the rights to being Palestinian as well as the responsibilities to their homeland, people, and communities in the Diaspora regardless of places of residence, linguistic, religious, cultural and political differences.
- That the Palestinian Youth Network is an independent network and not affiliated or aspire to perpetuate the agenda of any sole individual, particular political entity or Non-governmental organization.

Conference conclusions:

1. The Palestinian Youth Network bylaws, which had been three years in the making, have finally been completed and approved by the PYN founders committee.
2. The PYN founders Committee has also designed and approved a two year strategic action plan that will assist in the establishment of PYN national countries and the expansion of the PYN vision and goals.
3. The PYN founders have elected the first ever International Executive Board:
 - General Coordinator: Saif AbuKeshek (Spain): pyn@pal-youth.org
 - Vice General Coordinator: Mjriam Abu Samra (Italy): vicepyn@pal-youth.org
 - Secretary: Shuruk Duqqa (Venezuela): secretary@pal-youth.org
 - Activities Coordinator: Loubna Qutami (USA): activities@pal-youth.org
 - Financials Coordinator:
 - 1- Taher Al labadi (France): finance@pal-youth.org
 - 2- Nayef Al Smadi (Syria): finance2@pal-youth.org
 - Public Relations Coordinator: Mustafa Jayousi (Norway): pr@pal-youth.org
 - Media coordinator: Yasna Mousa (Chile): media@pal-youth.org
 - Members Coordinator: Saja Al Kilani (Palestine 1948): members@pal-youth.org

Until the Return and the Liberation



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The International Executive Board of the Palestinian Youth Network



Palestinian Youth Network - PYN

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