



EURO-MEDITERRANEAN HUMAN RIGHTS NETWORK  
RÉSEAU EURO-MÉDITERRANÉEN DES DROITS DE L'HOMME  
الشبكة الأوروبية - المتوسطية لحقوق الإنسان

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE ADVOCACY PAPER ON PALESTINIAN WOMEN IN ISRAEL AND OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES (OPT)**

Posted 13 June 2012; Closing date 13 July 2012

### **Introduction:**

The European Mediterranean Human Rights Network (EMHRN) seeks, as a part of its work on promoting women's rights and gender equality, to develop an advocacy paper that will support and guide the women's rights advocacy work directed at the European Union, of both Palestinian civil society organizations in the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT) and Israel as well as interested international and European CSOs based in Europe. One part of the paper shall refer to the violations committed by Israel towards Palestinian women living in Israel, inside the 1948 borders<sup>1</sup> and towards Palestinian women living in the OPT, addressing Israel's systematic occupation policy and taking into account the impact of the Israeli family reunification policy, its illegal settlement policy in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and the impact of its illegal closure policy in the Gaza strip. The second part of the paper will address violations committed by the Palestinian Authority (PA) towards women living in the OPT, as well as the violations committed by Hamas towards women in Gaza.

### **Purpose:**

The purpose of the advocacy paper is to develop joint messages for advocacy work in relation to women's rights towards the EU, based on input from Palestinian civil society organisations, and in particular Palestinian women's rights organisations, as well as from relevant Israeli NGOs. These advocacy messages will contribute to raising awareness of the EU stakeholders of the challenges which the Palestinian women face, and will consolidate the organisations advocacy work in relation to women's rights towards the EU.

The process of gathering the input (interviews and focus group meetings) shall serve as a means to generate basic consensus on the selected priorities as well as reconfirm Palestinian women's ownership of the key messages for advocacy.

### **Methodology and Content of the advocacy paper**

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<sup>1</sup> Not mentioning "Palestinian citizen of the State of Israel" is on purpose as there are Palestinian women living illegally in Israel due to lack of implementation of the family reunification law.

The advocacy paper will be prepared by a person selected on the basis of a public call and will be developed in consultation with the EMHRN Gender Project Director and the EMHRN Gender Working Group, including Adalah - The Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel, Women Center for Legal Aid and Counselling (WCLAC), Kvinna till Kvinna (KtK) and The Association for Cooperation in the South (ACSUR). Several members of the Palestine, Israel and Palestinians working group (PIP), including Palestinian Center for Human Rights (PCHR), Al Mezan Center for Human Rights, Public Committee Against Torture in Israel (PCATI) and Al Haq are working on women's rights, hence they will be consulted.

The researcher will conduct desk studies and analyze the existing information in order to provide a brief overview of the situation for Palestinian women in the OPT and Israel.

The researcher will interview women who have been subjected to violations, key human rights and women's rights organizations and feminists working on Palestinian women in different areas of Israel and the OPT in order to identify key messages for lobby and advocacy work on women's rights.

Furthermore, interviews will be conducted with representatives of the EU institutions and EU member states in Brussels, and EU-missions in Israel and the OPT. In addition, interviews will be held with relevant governmental officials in Israel and the OPT. These interviews will be dedicated to get information on the implementation of gender policies and gender commitments.

The advocacy paper will be 18-20 pages (average of 400 words/page). It will be written in English and the final paper will be translated to Arabic and French by the EMHRN.

**Content of the two chapters** (the same basis shall be used for the two of the papers):

*Background:*

- Provide brief summary of the main challenges and priorities of Palestinian women in the current political, socio-economic and cultural situation in the OPT and Israel
- Summary of the advocacy instruments available, including in the context of EU-Israel relations and EU-PA relations, and of the EU structures that will be targeted
- Provide an overview of best practices in advocacy work by International and European NGOs as well as Palestinian and relevant Israeli organisations towards the EU missions in-country, in the member states and in Brussels

*Key Messages:*

- Identify key messages for advocacy work on women's rights targeting EU, Israel and PA (this section ought to contain no less than 5 and no more than 10 key messages,

which reflect a broad range of priorities for Palestinian women including economic, social and cultural (ESC) , and civil and political (CP) rights.

- For each key message
  - Provide evidence based background information
  - Define the basic legal framework (international and national), in addition to political commitments (bilateral and regional) relevant to the message
  - Map relevant targets for advocacy at EU level, including member states and related national authorities in Israel and OPT
  - List allies, within the Palestinian civil society (in Israel and the OPT) and internationally that can coordinate/cooperate on advocacy actions on the specific issue
  - List contacts and short bio of experts within Palestinian civil society to serve as points of reference/resource people on the issue for advocacy

*Bibliography:*

- List of relevant reports and analysis recently published concerning the rights of Palestinian women and Palestinian women living in Israel (with and without Israeli citizenship)
- List all (recent) UN documents referring to Palestinian women rights and containing specific recommendations

*Contact list:*

- A contact list of all organizations and individuals interviewed for the document

*Annex:*

- Summary and conclusions of the conducted interviews and meetings

## **Qualifications**

The selected candidate must:

- Have prior similar experience of writing reports, promoting local ownership, and building consensus on the specific priorities
- Have extensive knowledge of the EU system and HR instruments and EU external policies, including EU-Israel relations EU-PA relations and International human rights law, as well as some knowledge of International humanitarian law
- Be very familiar with the situation of Palestinian women and Palestinian women's organizations in the OPT and Israel
- The assignment can be undertaken by an individual or a research institution
- Arabic speaking is preferred
- Have excellent analytical and writing skills in English

## **Responsibilities of the writer of the advocacy paper**

- To provide the EMHRN with a table of content and a methodology note for the drafting of the advocacy paper
- To organize and conduct the interviews in Brussels, Israel and OPT in September and October
- To provide the EMHRN with successive drafts of the advocacy paper according to the ToR and agreed table of content and methodology note and according to the time line (annex1)
- Finalize the final draft after receiving comments from the EMHRN Gender Working Group and the EMHRN Secretariat by the EMHRN deadline
- To take part in the testing and launching of the advocacy paper

The researcher will be paid a fee of EUR2000 for meeting the responsibilities above.

In addition to this amount, the EMHRN will take in charge all travel expenses related to the preparation and testing of the advocacy paper, in compliance with the EMHRN's guidelines on reimbursements.

### **Applications**

Interested applicants are invited to submit their application letter along with a CV in English and their methodology note for preparing the advocacy paper by e-mail to Lina Al-Qurah at [lqu@euromedrights.net](mailto:lqu@euromedrights.net) by 13 July 2012 at the latest.

### **General Description of the EMHRN**

The Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network (EMHRN) regroups more than 80 human rights organizations and individuals based in 30 countries in the Euro-Mediterranean region. It promotes networking, cooperation and development of partnerships between human rights NGOs, activists and wider civil society in the Euro-Mediterranean region.

### **Annex 1**

#### **Time Frame**

13 July 2012	Deadline to submit application including CV and methodology note
26 July 2012	Deadline of recruitment process and contracting the person to prepare the advocacy paper
31 August 2012	Deadline to submit a table of content, and revised methodology (if needed) for the drafting of the advocacy paper
15 November 2012	Deadline to submit first draft of the advocacy paper
30 January 2013	Deadline to submit second draft of the advocacy paper

5 March 2013

Deadline to submit final draft of the advocacy paper