



Palestinian Resilience through Dialogue Project

Policy Document Supporting the State of Palestinian Resilience

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Foreword

- This policy document is based on the outputs of the scenario analysis document for the state of Palestinian resilience, which concluded that pathways for Palestinian resilience can be determined according to three main scenarios: Scenario 1 - Continuation of the status quo, characterized by Palestinian division and a fragile society. Scenario 2 - Collapse and chaos. Scenario 3 - Continuation and growth of resilience.
- Therefore, the primacy that guides the process of setting priorities and making policies is to prevent the further deterioration of factors affecting Palestinian resilience, by improving the status quo rather than accepting it. This entails accumulating positive change as a first step, in order to enhance the possibilities for achieving the resilience scenario.

Concept of the Palestinian resilience:

- The unity of the people is based on a collective national project that preserves the national identity, culture and character of the Palestinian people in all their places of residence. It aims to achieve the national goals of self-determination, freedom, independence and return.
- Enhancing Palestinians' ability to confront internal and external pressures and challenges, and to survive, thrive and resist.
- Cohesion in the social, economic and political fabric of Palestinian society, in the homeland and in the diaspora, despite the reality of fragmentation. Rejecting the settler-colonial *fait accompli*.
- Existential cohesion in light of the status quo's indicators, dialectically linked with the enhancement of opportunities for future change in the balance of power, in favor of the Palestinian cause.

This document seeks to present proposals and policy options that enhance Palestinian resilience based on three basic principles:

First: proposing realistic policies

Second: determining the requirements of strategic policy

Third: identifying critical policy issues

This document also proposes plausible policies that can be enacted through improving the work of Palestinian institutions and their performance, it also outlines preferred policies that can be achieved through a qualitative change in thought, performance and institutions.

The Document's Objectives

Overarching Goal

Identifying national priorities and policy options that support Palestinian resilience. Presenting these to official and unofficial Palestinian parties, especially those related to the decision-making process with its various political and intellectual orientations, in order to enhance the development of positive factors that support resilience.

Derivative Objectives:

1. Presenting practical mechanisms that make the Palestinian political system supportive of resilience.
2. Outlining socio-economic policies that are important in strengthening Palestinian resilience.
3. Presenting policy proposals to help in the design, planning and implementation of unified models that support Palestinian resilience.
4. Providing suggestions for plausible policies based on improving the status quo, and minimizing associated damages and losses.

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Scenario 1

The status quo, continuation of division and fragile society
Policy recommendations

Policy Recommendations for the Political Domain

First political priority: Developing a framework for national unity that prevents divisions from turning into secession. Reinforcing factors of resilience and people's steadfastness on the land of Palestine, including requirements for effective resistance and boycott.

Strategic policy: Highlighting the key national goal at this stage, which is to achieve freedom, return, independence and equality. Defining the primary goal, which is to stop settler-colonialism and prepare for its elimination. Preventing the deterioration of divisions and their transformation into permanent separation between the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Second political priority: Enhancing confidence in the Palestinian Authority and changing its role, tasks, budget and obligations.

Strategic policy: Embarking on a gradual process to review political, security and economic relations with the occupying power. Strengthening the role of the Palestinian Authority as a provider of services. This requires, firstly, pressuring Israel to abide by agreements signed with the Palestinians, as a step on the path to the fulfillment of national rights, international law and UN resolutions.

Third political priority: Escalating national, regional and international efforts to combat settler-colonialism and protect Palestinian rights.

Strategic policy: Creating a national, regional and international perspective in support of the immediate national goal of ending occupation and settler-colonialism. Protecting Palestinian rights and achieving freedom, return, independence and equality.

Fourth political priority: Defending the rights of Palestinian refugees and communities residing under conditions of asylum or in the diaspora, while meeting their needs.

Strategic policy: Strengthening the steadfastness of Palestinians outside their homeland, while defending their civil and national rights. Enhancing their positive influence on the Palestinians' collective struggle.

Fifth political priority: Supporting the struggle of Palestinians in the '48 areas for equality, individual and national rights. Enhancing communication with them and boosting their positive influence on Palestinian decision-making.

Strategic policy: Supporting the struggle of Palestinians in the '48 areas against racism and strengthening their role in national decision-making.

Policy Recommendations for the Economic Domain

First economic priority: Forming a policy response to the current state of emergency and its repercussions, in light of the corona pandemic.

Strategic policy: Increasing the efficiency of case management in light of the pandemic. Adopting short-term, high-impact measures as a policy response to the pandemic's repercussions.

Second economic priority: Reforming the Palestinian economy's structure and infrastructure.

Strategic policy: Expanding the scope of reforms in the structure and infrastructure of the Palestinian economy to meet the requirements of resilience. Countering the dominance of the Israeli economy, as a step on the path to complete independence after ending occupation and achieving freedom and independence.

Third economic priority: Activating the developmental role of the private sector.

Strategic policy: Increasing the developmental role of the private sector in strengthening Palestinian resilience.

Fourth economic priority: Adopting structural adjustments to the Palestinian educational system to reduce the gap between the education and labor markets.

Strategic policy: Transitioning to a modern, advanced education system capable of keeping pace with the Palestinian market's needs, while creating opportunities.

Policy Recommendations for the Social Domain

First social priority: Adopting a national identity that embraces all Palestinians.

Strategic policy: Promoting culture and national identity as an inclusive Palestinian framework.

Second social priority: Adopting policies for social protection.

Strategic policy: Enhancing the resilience of Palestinian citizens.

Third social priority: Promoting policies for social inclusion.

Strategic policy: Providing marginalized groups with the opportunity to participate in Palestinian public policy and decision-making.

Fourth social priority: Democratizing grassroots institutions.

Strategic policy: Making grassroots organizations more socially representative, and increasing their effectiveness.

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Scenario 2

Collapse and chaos

Policy Recommendations

First policy priority: Reviving the role of Palestinian forces and factions.

Strategic policy: Preventing society from descending into anarchy.

Second policy priority: Preventing the collapse of the Palestinian Authority, strengthening its role and democratizing its institutions.

Strategic policy: Making the Palestinian Authority's institutions more democratic and supporting the extension of its policies to Area C.

Third policy priority: Protecting the security of Palestinian citizens.

Strategic policy: Enhancing Palestinian citizens' sense of personal and communal security.

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Scenario 3

Enhancing resilience (preferred)

Policy Recommendations

Policy Recommendations for the Political Domain

First political priority: Reviving, rebuilding and defining the unified and approved national Palestinian project.

Strategic policy: Unifying the vision of national institutions on the foundations of the Palestinian project.

Second political priority: Changing the Palestinian Authority's structure, functions, obligations, budget, role and political behavior, such that it can fulfil an administrative and services role, while transferring its political role to the PLO.

Strategic policy: Making the Palestinian Authority a tool for achieving independence and liberation.

Third political priority: Rehabilitating the Palestinian cause at the Arab and international levels.

Strategic policy: Making the Palestinian issue a top priority for Arab, regional and international political actors.

Policy Recommendations for the Economic Domain

First economic priority: Effecting the economic empowerment of citizens and society alike.

Strategic policy: Increasing the productivity of Palestinian citizens.

Second economic priority: Rebuilding the Palestinian economic system and economic relations with the occupation.

Strategic policy: Making the Palestinian economy more capable of development and less dependent on the occupation.

Third economic priority: Adopting economic resistance and rejecting economic peace.

Strategic policy: Resisting the economic dimensions of the Annexation Plan and economic peace.

Fourth economic priority: Integrating the management of the Palestinian economy.

Strategic policy: Activating various sectors that serve the Palestinian economy.

Policy Recommendations for the Social Domain

First social priority: Building a unified national identity for the Palestinian people.

Strategic policy: Unifying the various segments of Palestinian society through an inclusive national vision.

Second social priority: Investing in the various capabilities of the Palestinian people and employing these to serve the national project.

Strategic policy: Integrating Palestinian communities into a unified national framework.

What Next?

Towards the development of national and popular initiatives in support of the scenario of resilience and unity, by building models of joint, unified action in the homeland and in the diaspora. Catalyzing efforts to mobilize a national trajectory that transcends factionalism, regionalism and geographic divisions.

Supporting policies of resilience and national revival.



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