



معهد مواطن للديمقراطية وحقوق الإنسان  
Muwatina Institute for Democracy and Human Rights

## Muwatin's 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference “Strategic Thinking in the Time of Monsters and their Wars: The Status of Rights and Prospects of Liberation”

Held at Birzeit University (Hall 243 – Muwatina Institute) and online  
29-30 October 2024

### Programme

#### First Day - Tuesday, 29 October 2024

##### 10:00 Morning Coffee and Registration

##### 10:15 Opening Remarks

*Address by the President of Birzeit University*

*Address by the Director of Muwatina Institute of Democracy and Human Rights*

##### 11:00 Session I: The Broader Context of the Liberation Battle Chair: *Rana Barakat*

Friends and Foes of Palestine in the Future International Order  
Palestine and the World Order  
Palestine: Universal Ethics and the Hypothesis of Double Standards

**Basem Ezbidi**  
**AbderRahman Ibrahim**  
**Raef Zreik**

##### 12:45 Break

##### 13:00 Session II: What the Time of Monsters Revealed Chair: *Islah Jad*

Features of Fascism in Israel: Global Trends and Local Structural Crisis  
Genocide in Gaza: How the Region Understands and Deals with It

**Issam Makhoul**  
**Ibrahim Fraihat**

##### 19:00 Session III (virtual) The Creaking of International Law Chair: *Reem Bahdi*

Food and Genocide: The Interplay of Zionist Ideology and Israel's prolonged War  
Using the Permanent International Courts and the Main International Human Rights Treaty Bodies to Claim the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People  
International Law and Divestment Strategies: Counter-hegemonic Leveraging of Legal Frameworks to Counter Occupation and Erasure of Palestinian Identity

**Maha Abdallah & Tomaso Ferrando**  
**Gentian Zyberi**  
**Nadeen Al-Taher & Vasanthi Venkatesh**

#### Second Day - Wednesday, 30 October 2024

##### 10:00 Morning Coffee and Registration

##### 10:30 Session IV: The Interplay of Internal Tensions and External Politics Chair: *Jumana Sabbah*

US Support for Israel: Strategic Asset or Power of Zionist Lobbies? The War of Extermination as a Model  
Ecological Imperialism and Capitalist Hegemony: Olives and Forests in Palestine  
Responsibilities of Belgian Universities with Regard to Cooperation with Israeli Universities

**George Giacaman**  
**Omar Qassis & Hadil Ayoub**  
**Gamze Erdem Turkelli & Thalia Kruger**

##### 12:15 Break

##### 12:30 Session V: Regional Failure Chair: *Reem Al-Botmeh*

The Poverty of Arab Strategic Thinking in Confronting the Zionist State  
“Why didn't you Bang the sides of the Tank? Why didn't you say Anything?”

**Gilbert Achcar**  
**Larbi Sadiki**

##### 13:40 Lunch

##### 14:30 Session VI: Lessons for the Palestinian National Project Chair: *Ahmad Atallah*

The Decline of Palestinian Popular Culture  
Reimagining the Palestinian National Project: Movement-ship versus Partisanship  
Strategic Essentialism and the Limits of Liberal (and Critical) Thought in Palestinian Liberation

**Faisal Darraj (presented by Abdul-Rahim Al-Sheikh)**  
**Belal Shobaki**  
**Joshua Sealy-Harrington**