

My experience in

OPERATION 1325

October 10th, 2022



Since joining the Palestinian Center for Peace and Democracy and other civil society institutions, I have participated in many workshops and training sessions that focused on international treaties, charters, and resolutions. Alongside the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and others. But unfortunately, UN R 1325 was barely mentioned during these activities. However, in one of the sessions, participants discussed resolution 1325, which made me realize how important it is to learn about it and to increase my knowledge about it. That is the reason why I was thrilled to join the Operation 1325 project when PCPD announced it.

During this project, and through the workshops and training sessions we received, my blurry vision of R 1325 became clear as the project answered all the ambiguous questions about this resolution. Because it directly affects us women who have been living in a conflict zone for decades and have experienced all types of violence.

After getting to know the theoretical side of the resolution in the workshops, we conducted media training sessions about the process of producing TV episodes; how to make episodes consisting of having an introduction, having guests, managing the episode, writing the script and preparing it before the episode, coordinating with the guests, and all the details related to showing an integrated television episode that reaches the largest number of audience.

The theme of these episodes was about the current situation of Palestinian women and how it differs from what this resolution stipulates. And how to elevate women's status accordingly, based on the provisions of resolution 1325. This resulted in having very intriguing discussions with the guests, and I was proud to see my colleagues on the TV talking with guests and decision-makers.

After that, we moved to holding meetings in all governorates with the female Palestinian decision-makers in different centres, whether in political parties, civil society, municipal councils, etc. This experience was the most valuable for me because it added additional information to what I did not know. I learned about many experiences from female decision-makers who worked in different and multiple committees for this decision, and they monitored violations that occurred to women and recorded them in files to submit to the competent international bodies, but they did not take this step

Here, I felt that as women who are subjected to violence from all sides and are facing obstacles in political participation, we must raise our voices to take the next step and start calling for the implementation of the resolution, and monitor violations of it. Hence, I asked the PCPD to provide us with additional training on the details and process of monitoring violations against women and how we can present them and follow up on the issue with the responsible authorities.

Currently, my colleagues and I have developed ideas and scenarios for short films that do not exceed 20 seconds. The film aims to convey an idea that concerns women, which is either a negative idea, habit, the violence and discrimination women suffer from, something that we demand to stop, or a positive idea that portrays women's abilities and their right to have the opportunity to prove themselves in all positions, especially political positions and decision-making.

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Rana Abu Seir,
Project coordinator at PCPD
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Soon we'll begin filming these short films, and they will get published on social media platforms. Then, we'll present and discuss them at grassroots institutions in all governorates and discuss them with the youth. We're also in the process of preparing for radio spots that talk about the important details of Resolution 1325 that we want each citizen to learn about.

What makes me very happy is that all the steps we took during my aforementioned experience were from our work, our achievements, our ideas, our aspirations, and the colleagues from the cooperating centre. Now, we're waiting for the making of films in the upcoming period and completing the rest of this wonderful project.

-Rana Abu Seir