



# Pal-Think

FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES

بال ثينك للدراسات الاستراتيجية

LINKING KNOWLEDGE WITH PROSPERITY

المعرفة طريق الإزدهار

GAZA BASED THINK AND DO TANK

مؤسسة حوار وتفكير فلسطينية

Gaza - Palestine

2013

## About PalThink:

**PalThink for Strategic Studies** is an independent non-profit, non-political, non-governmental and non-sectarian think and do tank that aims to stimulate and inspire rational public discussions and consensus for the well-being of the Palestinians and the Region. PalThink was established in 2007 in Gaza-Palestine by group of Palestinian researchers and community activists who have intimate relations and diverse knowledge of the Middle East, its current problems, potentials and possibilities.



## Vision & Mission

**Vision:** To be a leading think and do tank in Palestine and in the middle east that contributes to the building of a free and modern Palestinian state and democratic society.

**Mission Statement:** To promote peace, freedom and prosperity through debate on public issues, producing policy recommendations to the decision makers in Palestine and Middle East.





## Objectives:

- To perform constructive and facilitative roles in the rationalization of public discussions, thinking and decision processes
- Improve quality of life of the Palestinians by promoting innovative development solutions that challenges mainstream thinking on politics, economics and social issues
- To conduct studies and research on topics relevant to the national security and economic and social well-being of the Palestinian society and on other relevant international concerns
- To serve the Palestinian community through the convening of symposia and conferences on topics of significance to the Palestinian community. PalThink also actively assists and promotes the professional development of Palestinian researchers through training programs and consultancy



## Areas of Interest:

- Studies and Research
- Capacity Building of Researchers
- Community Issues







## Areas of Interest:

### Capacity Building of Researchers

PalThink has the vision to play a significant role in preparing advanced training programs aimed at refining the skills of national Palestinian researchers.



## Areas of Interest:

### Community Issues:

The goals and activities related to this field may be summarized as follows:

- Enhancing political, social, and cultural awareness through publishing books and studies, while simultaneously enriching the Palestinian intellectual level with outstanding papers and articles to generate constructive debate on issues of significance within the Palestinian context.
- Encouraging and developing research, authorship and translation - primarily of studies dealing with various topics of concern to Palestine and the Arab world.
- Holding conferences, symposia, workshops and lectures on strategic issues that affect the Palestinian community. These meetings have three objectives: strengthening cooperative links with other research institutes, promoting exchanges between lecturers and specialists, and participating in conferences organized in Palestine and beyond.



## Focus Themes:

### Palestine Issues:

- National Unity and Reconciliation
- Education
- Foreign Affairs
- Political Issues
- Media
- Social Issues
- Economical Issues

### Social Issues:

- Women
- Education
- Youth Involvement and Welfare

### Strategic Issues

- The Palestine-Israel Peace Process
- Energy , Food, and Water Security
- Nuclear Proliferation
- Regional Security

### International Affairs

- The Arab Spring
- Conflict Resolution and Peacekeeping
- International Law
- International Organizations
- International Aid
- Mediation for Peace
- Foreign Affairs



### 1. Reconciliation and Community

Over the last few years, the Palestinian reconciliation has been one of the most crucial issues that concerns the Palestinian society and affects the course of the political developments. In July 2007, Pal Think for strategic studies initiated with self financing a series of meetings which led to the production of its first policy paper “Emerging from the internal crisis...A road map for reconciliation”. Further efforts were exerted through implementing various projects for the same purpose; achieving the Palestinian reconciliation. PalThink's neutral position facilitates hosting both of the major contradicting political parties, Hamas and Fatah, and bring their views closer. Along four years, four projects were set up in this regard in cooperation with the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA).



## Projects

### Projects for Reconciliation:

- Engaging the community into the process of reconciliation (2008)
- Continuing efforts towards reconciliation” Touching on core issue” (2008)
- Empowering the community in the Palestinian National Reconciliation (2009)
- Influential Confidence Building between Decision Makers and the Community (2010)
- Restoring the Cooperation Amongst Community Actors Towards a Reconciled and Civilized Society (2011)





### 2. Political Debate

Following up its work in deepening the debate and the awareness around the core issues, PalThink bears in mind the importance of informing and raising the awareness toward the future political system in Palestine. The projects in this regard include sessions, seminars and conferences that analyze and put clear visions to the Palestinian political system. They were organized in cooperation with Friedrich Ebert Stiftung.

- Enriching Political Public Debate (2009)
- Towards a diversified, democratic and institutionalized Political system in Palestine (2010)
- Advancing Democracy in Palestine (2011)



### 3. Youth and Women Empowerment

Both youth and women are in the priority of PalThink activities as those targeted groups have a significant role in the development of the Palestinian society in all fields. PalThink considers gender quality and women empowerment to ensure their equal participation in public debate and decision making. This course was implemented in cooperation with Atlas Economic Research Foundation and Fraser Institute.

- Promoting Free Markets and Entrepreneurship in the Gaza Strip (2010)



## Conferences, Symposia, and Workshops:

**Conference:** “Two Years since Sharm El-Sheikh Donors Conference Reconstruction of Gaza Strip has not Resumed Yet.” - April 2011

**Seminar:** “International Aid to Palestine, Lessons and Implications” - November 2011

**Presentation of Conflict Sensitivity Assessment:** “International Assistance In Gaza: Aiding Fragmentation Or Unity?”- November 2011 (Conducted with swisspeace- Switzerland).

**Seminar:** “The Gaza Blockade: addressing consequences and recovery strategies .” October 2012 (In cooperation with Heinrich Boll Stiftung- Germany).





## Conferences & Workshops

- Assessing the damage of the Gaza blockade and strategies to cope with the consequences. 22/10/2012
- Oxford strategic think tank meetings 17-18-23/7/ 2012.
- Seminar "Arab Spring and the Palestinian Case: Citizenship, Social justice and Political Islam" 4/12/2012



## Face the Public Program

A series of face to face meetings with decision makers organized on monthly basis. Face the Public program has started in April, 2010 in Gaza City as an instrument of building effective links between the Palestinian intellectuals and policy makers and international key figures. Face the Public was part of project **“Towards a Diversified, Democratic and Institutionalized Political System in Palestine”**.

### Face the Public honorable guests:

- Mr. John Ging, former Director of UNRWA operations in the Gaza Strip
- Mr. Christian Berger, European Commission Representative.
- Mr. Tony Blair, the representative of the Middle East Quartet.
- Mr. Yasser Othman, the Ambassador of Egypt to the Palestinian Authority.
- Dr. Nassir Al-Qudaw, former Palestinian Authority envoy to the United Nations.



Special Event

Special meeting with Mr. John Ging, Director of UNRWA operations - Gaza, 2010.

with Mr. John Ging  
Director of UNRWA operations, Gaza

مشروع "نحو نظام سياسي متنوع وديمقراطي ومؤسسي"

مع السيد / جون جينج  
مدير عمليات الاونروا في قطاع غزة

UNRWA between Enormous Needs and Limited Resources

الأونروا بين الاحتياجات الهائلة... والموارد المحدودة





## Special Event

Special meeting with Mr. Christian Berger, The EU representative - Gaza, 2010.



00:03

## Special Event



Special Event

Special meeting with Dr. Jehad Alwazir, Governor of  
Palestine Monetary Authority 5/1/2012

الجهاز المصرفي الفلسطيني... الواقع والآمال

Thursday, 5 January, 2012  
- Palestine





## Special Event

Special meeting with Mr. Waleed Salman the executive manager of CCC company, 8/2/2012



## Special Event

Special meeting with Mr. John Rutter the EU representative to the PA, 28/11/2012.





Special Event

Special meeting with Mr. Khaled Meshaal, head of Hamas political Bureau, 10/12/2012.

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السيد / خالد مشعل  
رئيس المكتب السياسي  
Mr. Khaled Meshaal  
Head of The Political Office of Hamas

الإثنين، 2012/12/10  
Monday, 10/12/2012  
غزة - فلسطين





## Special Event

Special meeting with Mr. Usama Hamdan, Hamas International Relations Officer. 23/1/2013



## Special Event

Special meeting with Dr. Yasser Othman & Dr. Mahmoud Al Zahar, About the relations between Egypt and Gaza strip, 27/3/2013





## Special Event

Special meeting with The U.S. Consul General in Jerusalem Mr. Michael Ratney, 10/4/2013.





## Beyond Palestine

Expert seminar "the EU's aid to the Occupied Palestinian territory" which was conducted by CIDSE working Group on Palestine/Israel on , 7th of November 2008 in Brussels.

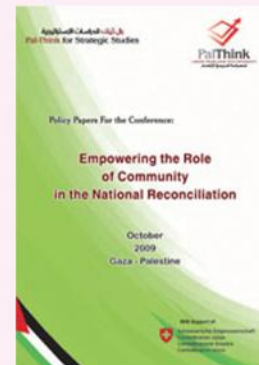
In March 2012 Palthink attended the seminar entailed "The Arab Spring and the future of Euro-Arab relations: a Palestinian perspective" which was held in Brussels sin March 2012 and was organized by European policy centre, EPC.

In November 2012 Pal-Think held a seminar on the possibility of freeing the Middle East from nuclear weapons in cooperation with UNA-Scotland where members of the United Nations Association Scotland and UNA-Edinburgh address the audience ion Gaza through video-conference technology.



## Publications

- Two Years since Sharm Elsheikh Donors Conference Reconstruction of Gaza Strip has not Resumed Yet (2011)
- Understanding the Ongoing Israeli Political Atmosphere (2010)
- The Possibility of a Third Palestinian Current (2009)
- The Impact of International aid to the Palestinians (2009)
- The new American Administration and Horizons of Achieving Peace in the Middle East (2009)
- Reconstructing Gaza: Deepening the Division or Healing the Rift (2009)
- Can the Upcoming Elections Resolve The Crisis of the Palestinian Political System? (2009)
- Europe... Horizons of the Dialogue with Hamas (2009)
- The new Israeli government...is there any chance for peace? (2009)
- Erdogan of Turkey...a new political vision (2009)
- The production of policy paper "Emerging from the present Palestinian • crisis: A Road map towards exit" (2007)







## Palthink & Youth



## Contact us

**Address:** 4th Floor – Dream Building – Haboush Street - Al Remal  
Gaza – Palestine



+970 8 2822005



info@palthink.org



<http://www.palthink.org>



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