

Palestine

We make justice a reality for poor people by fighting to guarantee high-quality legal representation for everyone arrested or detained. We provide criminal defense services and help build sustainable, effective legal aid institutions.

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2010

First West Bank office established

4,000+ People

represented to date

4 Offices

in Ramallah, Hebron, Jenin & Nablus, serving 11 governorates

Our Approach

We catalyze meaningful, sustainable change. Every day, we fight in court to protect the rights of our clients. We litigate for maximum impact, winning precedent-setting cases that expand access to justice and strengthen rule of law. At the systems level, we collaborate with governments and other partners to transform justice systems and ensure sustainability.

International Fellows Program

The International Fellows Program is core to our approach. International Fellows are experienced legal experts who volunteer for 3 to 5-month professional exchange assignments. They work case-by-case with ILF lawyers to build skills and knowledge needed to provide client-centered, rights-based representation. Fellows specialize in areas including juvenile representation, gender, trauma, and holistic representation.

- The ILF has brought **25 International Fellows** to Palestine from the United States, the United Kingdom, and Australia.

**In Palestine,
more than 50%
of our clients are
children.**

The Crisis in Access to Justice

Every day, thousands of men, women, and children are held in jails because they cannot afford a lawyer. Lack of access to qualified criminal defense lawyers particularly impacts poor and otherwise marginalized communities who are disproportionately arrested, prosecuted, and incarcerated.

Our Impact

In 2019, we secured the release of **300 children** through mediation, diversion, and acquittals.

Since 2010, we have trained more than **250 women lawyers.**

Since 2019 we've reached **128 students** through our Know Your Rights education program.

Empowering Women

In Palestine, nearly 50% of ILF lawyers are women, and women head two of our four offices. **The ILF's Women in Leadership in the Law (WiLL) program is elevating women as leaders in the justice system** through mentorship, know your rights trainings, and community outreach to women and girls.

Protecting Children

Over half of our clients in Palestine are children. Our lawyers are leaders in juvenile defense, providing holistic representation and taking a **positive youth development** approach. We aim to keep kids out of jail through **early intervention, mediation, and diversion.** We also provide expert juvenile representation trainings to other lawyers in Palestine and across the Middle East and North Africa.

Building Effective Legal Aid Institutions

We are committed to sustainability and long term reforms. **The ILF holds observer status on Palestine's National Legal Aid Committee,** where we advocate for quality legal aid and expanded access to justice.



I had another lawyer. He stopped showing up in court when he knew I did not have enough money to pay his fees. My ILF lawyer gave me hope. I started thinking about my life outside of jail because she stood by me in court. She fought for me.

Mohammad, Ramallah



Our Partners

