



CEMOFPSC ROUND TABLE 2011:
An education of quality in the conflict area, as a way of improving peace and integration



Presentation

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The FPSC (Foundation for the Social Promotion of Culture) is an NGO for Development working in the education sector in different regions of the world since 1992. FPSC believe that *“education is the levier of development”*. Its wider and deeper experience in the sector has been developed in the countries of the Middle East Region. Since the definition of UNESCO agenda of *Education for All* in 1998 and the MDG (Millennium Development Goals) later in 2000, the FPSC has sought to contribute to their achievement in all countries where it has worked.

Since 2001, when FPSC obtained its first special consultative status with ECOSOC of the United Nations, and then later in 2004, its general status, its objective was to collaborate with ECOSOC in its High Level Segment and since 2007 with its Annual Ministerial Review Development as well as its Cooperation Forum.

This collaboration is based on FPSC field experience of many years in cooperation for development shared with its networks of nearly 100 local partners from the civil society all over the world and with whom FPSC maintains active contacts.

The methodology of this collaboration is based on the organization of working sessions about the yearly selected AMR theme (seminar, workshops, round tables etc..) inviting main stakeholders of cooperation for development from north and south, including donors and beneficiaries (i.e. governments, experts from international and supranational bodies, local and international NGOs, national and international agencies, communication medias, etc..) in order to gather as many inputs as possible



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to be able to draw a picture of the situation, to work together to share experiences, to seek solutions for the problems, to propose policies and finally to develop a set of recommendations to send to ECOSOC of the United Nations and spread to our co-funding agencies, international and national networks of NGOs, universities, and research centers. The proceedings and conference outcomes are to be both published and disseminated through the websites in English and Spanish.

In 2006 CEMOFPS (Center for Middle Eastern Studies of FPSC) an international think tank center, has been created and sponsored by FPSC.

CEMOFPSC objective is to promote and spread multidisciplinary research and analysis about the Middle East (Syria, Lebanon, Palestine, Israel, Egypt and Jordan). It seeks to provide a forum of reflection, study and exchange of opinions, between intellectuals and experts in several fields of interest. Its aim is to contribute to spread knowledge among cultures and people, in order to achieve peace and human rights promotion. The main purpose of the CEMOFPS is "to educate and inform" in the areas of social and political development, as well as international cooperation, professionals, academics, press, politicians, development agencies and society in general working in the field of Middle East specialties.

This year, the Center for Middle Eastern Studies (CEMOFPSC) is the organizer of the round table followed by a debate about the AMR theme "*Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to education*". CEMOFPS selected to focus the round table on *An education of quality in the conflict area, as a way of improving peace and integration: The situation of education in the Palestinian Territories*, and more concretely on the progress and obstacles observed in achieving Universal Primary Education and forwards policy proposals for the period 2010 – 2015 in the Palestinian Territories.

Currently, the Palestinian education system faces major challenges: ensuring a safe access to school, universal primary education, improving the quality of education, educational parity between men and women and building bridges between education and employment. A lot has been done but still much remains to be done and dependence on international funding is too high. With this roundtable our main two objectives will be to inform about the situation of the education sector in Palestine, and to brainstorm all together in order to draw our recommendations for future work