



المركز الفلسطيني
للبحوث
السياسية والمسحية
Palestinian Center for
POLICY and
SURVEY RESEARCH

The Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research (PSR)

PSR is an independent nonprofit institution and think tank of policy analysis and academic research. It was founded in 2000 with the goal of advancing scholarship and knowledge on immediate issues of concern to Palestinians in three areas: domestic politics and government, strategic analysis and foreign policy, and public opinion polls and survey research. PSR conducts policy analysis and empirical surveys and public opinion research and organizes task forces, study groups, meetings and conferences. Its work focuses on current public policy issues with a special reliance on empirical evidence as a tool to advance scholarship and understanding.

PSR is dedicated to promoting objective and nonpartisan research and analysis and to encouraging a better understanding of Palestinian domestic and international environment in an atmosphere of free debate and exchange of ideas. PSR is registered as a nonprofit institution in the Palestinian Ministry of Justice.

This initiative has been organized in cooperation with the Netherland Representative Office in Ramallah and in cooperation with the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung in Ramallah



The Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research (PSR)

P. O. Box 76, Ramallah, Palestine

Tel: +970-2-2964933

Fax: +970-2-2964934

pcpsr@pcpsr.org

www.pcpsr.org

Preface:

Since early 2016, the Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research has conducted empirical research on Palestinian needs for security and rule of law in the Palestinian territories outside the area known as “A.” These targeted areas included the following: (1) area B, (2) area C, (3) H2 sector of Hebron, and (4) isolated Jerusalem neighborhoods located to the east of the Israeli separation wall, including Kofr Aqab, Samir Amis, Shufat refugee camp, and parts of Qalandia.

The study utilized various means and activities. Eight focus groups were conducted, each with a small group of residents from these areas ranging between 15 and 20 men and women, young and old. Four public opinion polls have been conducted during 2016. They included all areas under study, with two among a representative sample of the entire West Bank, to allow comparisons between A and non-A areas, while the other two focused on non-A areas. Six case studies covered a range of issues, including forced migration from area C, the status of security in the Jerusalem neighborhoods in area B, drug trafficking in non-A areas, aggression against women in area C, settlers’ violence, particularly in H2 area, and absence of security in isolated Jerusalem neighborhoods beyond the separation wall. The case studies relied on official statistical data, polling results, focus group findings, and field interviews. Finally, the study relied on interviews with Palestinian officials in relevant ministries and agencies, such as the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Justice, the Supreme Judicial Council, the Police, the Palestinian Military Liaison, and others. Interviews were also conducted with relevant international and Israeli figures involved in the management of Palestinian-Israeli security coordination and rule of law. The study concludes with a Final Report containing a summary of the findings and the study’s recommendation and main conclusions. This paper, “Before and After the Deployment of the Palestinian Police: Law Enforcement in Jerusalem’s Suburbs” provides a review of the outcome of the recent deployment of Palestinian police to large urban areas on the outskirts of Jerusalem.

This initiative has been conducted in close cooperation with the Palestinian Ministry of Interior and in consultation with various security sector and rule of law agencies. The study has also been conducted in cooperation with the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung in Ramallah and the Quartet Office and with funding from the Netherlands Representative Office in Ramallah. PSR wishes to express gratitude to all those partners and donors who contributed to its work. It should be clear however that support for this project does not necessarily mean an endorsement of the content of this final report or any of the other papers and products.

PSR

Executive Summary:

The Jerusalem suburbs of Al Ram, Biddu, and Abu Dis/al Izariyyah, and their neighboring towns, are located in the area classified as B. As in other B and C areas of the West Bank, residents suffer from insecurity, crime, drug and arms trafficking, stolen cars, and shooting. Attacks on private and public property go unpunished. Criminals use such areas as a safe haven to avoid arrest by the police. The police finds it difficult to enforce the law in such areas in a routine sustained manner. Instead, the police relies on occasional law enforcement campaigns from time to time. But these are much less effective than a permanent police presence.

Yet, as it turned out, even when such permanent presence is ensured, as the case has been in these Jerusalem suburbs back in April 2015 with the opening of three police stations, one in each of the three suburbs, other problems arise. The number of policemen deployed to the entire Jerusalem suburbia is 67. As importantly, the movement of the police deployed in these locations to other towns and populated areas just outside the immediate borders of the built-up area requires coordination with the Israeli side. Finally, many of the residents of these areas are holders of Israeli ID cards, like those residing inside East Jerusalem. The Palestinian police lacks legal jurisdiction over these Jerusalemites despite the fact that they live in the area of the PA judicial jurisdiction. Such restrictions reduce the effectiveness of the current police deployment.

In order to enforce rule of law and improve the performance of the police stations in the areas under study various options should be considered:

- (1) The number of policemen should be increased to meet the demand taking into account the population size in these locations. If the number of policemen is to be increased to reflect international standards of population-police ratio, the number of policemen in al Ram would increase to 422, Biddu to 133, and Abu Dis/al Izariyyah to 155. This would also require greater access to equipment, arms, and vehicles.
- (2) The Palestinian police cannot operate effectively without full jurisdiction over all Palestinians residing in the PA's judicial jurisdiction. The PA should revise the agreement with the Israeli side to allow for full Palestinian legal control over East Jerusalemites.
- (3) Finally, the PA coordination and liaison office should seek to obtain easy and long term coordination for multiple trips of police movement on roads connecting towns and villages in the entire Jerusalem suburbia in order to insure continuous and uninterrupted access.

Since early 2016, the Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research has conducted empirical research on Palestinian needs for security and rule of law in the Palestinian territories outside the area known as “A.” These targeted areas included the following: (1) area B, (2) area C, (3) H2 sector of Hebron, and (4) isolated Jerusalem neighborhoods located to the east of the Israeli separation wall, including Kofr Aqab, Samir Amis, Shufat refugee camp, and parts of Qalandia.

The study utilized various means and activities. Eight focus groups were conducted, each with a small group of residents from these areas ranging between 15 and 20 men and women, young and old. Four public opinion polls have been conducted during 2016. They included all areas under study, with two among a representative sample of the entire West Bank, to allow comparisons between A and non-Areas, while the other two focused on non-A areas. Six case studies covered a range of issues, including forced migration from area C, the status of security in the Jerusalem neighborhoods, drug trafficking in non-A areas, aggression against women in area C, settlers’ violence, particularly in H2 area, and absence of security in isolated Jerusalem neighborhoods. The case studies relied on official statistical data, polling results, focus group findings, and field interviews. Finally, the study relied on interviews with Palestinian officials in relevant ministries and agencies, such as the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Justice, the Supreme Judicial Council, the Police, the Palestinian Military Liaison, and others. Interviews were also conducted with relevant international and Israeli figures involved in the management of Palestinian-Israeli security coordination and rule of law. The study concludes with a Final Report containing a summary of the findings and the study’s recommendation and main conclusions. This paper, focusing on the reallocation of resources within the security sector, provides a review of the capacity of the Palestinian security sector and addresses one of the recommendations of the Final Report of the study.

This initiative has been conducted in close cooperation with the Palestinian Ministry of Interior and in consultation with various security sector and rule of law agencies. The study has also been conducted in cooperation with the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung in Ramallah and the Quartet Office and with funding from the Netherlands Representative Office in Ramallah. PSR wishes to express gratitude to all those partners and donors who contributed to its work. It should be clear however that support for this project does not necessarily mean an endorsement of the content of this final report or any of the other papers and products.

PSR



The Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research (PSR)

P. O. Box 76, Ramallah, Palestine

Tel: +970-2-2964933

Fax: +970-2-2964934 pcpsr@pcpsr.org

www.pcpsr.org