



Leaders of Change: Grassroots Women & Youth Turn Crisis Into Possibility

Annual Report 2022

Kayan – Feminist Organization



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Letter from the Director-General



2022 was an eventful year, full of disturbing incidents that threaten the security and stability of our society, calling for us to pause and consider our next steps in confronting what is to come. The most prominent of these incidents might be the last Israeli elections, the fifth held within four years, which led to the rise of the most racist Zionist parties to ever join a ruling coalition. We have been witnessing that government's bloody impact on Palestinians' lived reality since its formation.

This government's plans to abolish a law, which prevents extremist and racist parties from joining the ranks of Parliament, paves the way for further escalation of the violence and prosecution directed against Palestinians. The latest surge in settler violence and attacks, and the impunity with which they are perpetrated, clearly demonstrates this escalation, to say nothing of the increasingly deadly Israeli military incursions and raids against the Jenin refugee camp and Nablus, and the mounting incitement against Palestinians and their leadership within Israel.

This deluge of extremism in Israeli society is accompanied by soaring violence and crime in Palestinian communities within Israel, leading to a record 109 deaths in 2022, including 12 women and children, making it the bloodiest year on record since 2005. Our grassroots connections inform us how this climate of fear and violence intimidates youth and women away from political participation, particularly in local governance. Meanwhile, the ongoing systemic negligence and inaction by law enforcement and the judicial system remains persistent, with police publicly disregarding their responsibility and shifting the blame to security services, pointing to local corruption in Palestinian society as an excuse.

These alarming developments clearly indicate the severity of the current crisis, and the critical strategic changes we need to implement in order to confront it. Our overarching focus at Kayan is battling despair and frustration, while working tirelessly with our partners, leaders and the public to determine the best means of resisting such threats. We engage with people in a wide range of localities, listening to the needs of women, youth, and other marginalized individuals participating in the local women's groups we organize in different Palestinian communities; we operate a 24/7 emergency and emotional and legal support hotline for women in distress; we seek to increase female representation and influence in local politics in the hope of reforming

the state of our communities; and we invest in future generations, while approaching each and every international humanitarian and human rights organization to help us in our mission.

Throughout 2022, we worked to connect women and youth led grassroots movements in Palestinian communities, creating unprecedented cooperation between two extremely underprivileged groups in local politics. That cooperation led to making huge strides in women's and youth representation in politics, most notably through organizing the regional Jusur Forum conference titled "Local Government - No Entry", which thoroughly examined the obstacles facing women and youth seeking to participate in elections.

We continued to follow up on the results from our intensive femicide research study published in 2021, including attending countless sessions related to murder cases with the police and the judiciary in an effort to compel authorities to take these cases seriously, and move to deter future assaults. We received hundreds of calls through our hotline from women in distress. We also maintained and strengthened our cooperation with dozens of our partners in the cross-border "FADA -Palestinian Women Against Violence" coalition, to unify, consolidate and intensify our voices and efforts to confront violence against Palestinian women across all of historic Palestine, employing the coalition's online platform to launch two campaigns against violence.

I am proud of Kayan's tireless staff, who all worked diligently throughout the year, helping countless women survive incidents of violence, as we continue our campaign to pressure decision makers in all levels of authority to advance our rights and bolster our presence and influence in the halls of power where the decisions shaping our lives are made.

Combating all forms of discrimination, violence and oppression is a long battle, requiring a great deal of labor, resources and boundless creativity and patience; using everything in that arsenal is the only way to forge ahead and maintain our struggle. The following presents our most notable achievements throughout the year, accomplished thanks to Kayan's staff, our colleagues in the Jusur Forum, donors, partners, and friends.

I thank each and every one of you from the bottom of my heart for your support, trust and generosity.

Rafah Anabtawi
Director General



Introduction

Our Story & Approach

Kayan was founded in 1998 by a group of Palestinian feminists who sought to advance the status of Palestinian women in Israel. Kayan takes a bottom-up approach to social change. We invest in the field by empowering women and youth to become transformative leaders on local and national levels, protecting and promoting the human and civil rights of Palestinian women in Israel, and breaking down the social and institutional barriers to gender equality and justice. We do this through two interconnected programs: the Community Program and the Legal Program.

Kayan's Community work mobilizes women to challenge gender discrimination at the levels of family, community and society, and to actively participate in public life and decision-making processes through long-term investments in the development of Palestinian women's leadership at the grassroots. Through our community work, we provide personal and group empowerment, assist local women's groups with community organizing, including creative awareness-raising campaigns, and provide training and ongoing support on topics related to women's needs at the local and national levels. By empowering grassroots women to be independent leaders in the field, we ensure the sustainability of our work.

Kayan's Legal work serves Palestinian women in Israel through investigating institutionalized barriers to women's rights; empowering Arab women as informed decision makers able to demand their rights; litigating in defense of women's human and civil rights; and advocating for social, political, economic, and legal reforms that advance Palestinian women's status and rights. Legal work activities include providing free legal consultation and representation, initiating advocacy campaigns that target key political and religious institutions, informing grassroots women of their legal rights, supporting local feminist initiatives with legal tools, educating employers and duty-bearers of their legal obligations as related to Palestinian women's rights, and enforcing the realization of Palestinian women's rights in specific institutions and throughout the society at large. Kayan also provides women with holistic legal and emotional support through our hotline, which is available 24/7. We are determined to enhance Palestinian women's leadership while consolidating their collective power and advancing their social, economic, and political rights.



Kayan's board, volunteers & team

Mission & Vision

Our Mission

Kayan strives towards consolidating an active, systematic, nationwide Palestinian feminist movement that actively affects social change through contesting the root causes of gender-based discrimination, defending and promoting the rights of women and youth, and ensuring their integration in decision-making positions in general.

Our Vision

Kayan envisions a secure and just society free of gender-based discrimination, in which Palestinian women and youth in Israel enjoy full and equitable opportunities for self-actualization and take a leading and active part in society through realizing their individual and collective rights.

Kayan's Board & Team

Our Board

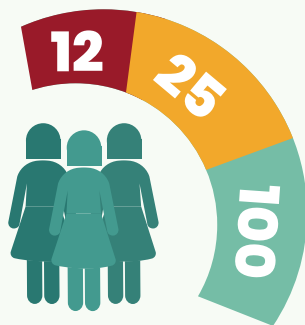
- Mariam Haj Khoury, Chair
- Abeer Bkheet
- Dr. Hanaa Hamdan-Saliba
- Boshra Rashed Awwad
- Reem Haj
- Ruzeen Odeh

Our Team

- Rafah Anabtawi, General Director
- Alhan Nahhas-Daoud, Legal Advocate
- Hajar Abu Salih, Community Organizer
- Rawia Lucia, Community Organizer
- Nisreen Tabare, Hotline & Volunteer Project Coordinator
- Lian Derini, Community Organizer
- Leandra Hettenbach, Development Coordinator
- Aida Kleibo, Evaluation & Monitoring Coordinator
- Francis Tams, Accountant



Kayan's Impact in Numbers



- local women's groups
- Jusur Forum women leaders
- women activists in local women's groups



1,612

received calls through Kayan's support hotline



332

women received legal and emotional support



43%

women took action to change their situation



15

youth volunteers completed Kayan's hotline training



30

sexual harassment appointees in local authorities received supervision and professional support by Kayan



10

women local councilors (out of 18) received professional support



21

localities were reached through the work of Kayan, the Jusur Forum, and the local women's groups



6.654

individuals directly participated

in **123** activities



1.520.319

people reached through social media



50

media publications



18

interviews with Kayan staff and Jusur Forum



5

UN report submissions



3

public movie screenings on the Nakba



2

podcasts on sexual harassment

JUSUR – Our Flagship of Women Leaders

Our grassroots women's movement addresses the issues described above and forges a path to justice and gender equality through community-based activism that builds sustainable change from the roots. The movement is led by the Jusur Forum, which was established in 2009 and is composed of 25 women from local women's groups across the Palestinian society in Israel. By consolidating their collective power through community organizing, we ensure the sustainability of community-based initiatives for social change. Together, Kayan and the Jusur Forum discuss and address critical issues and strategize local and national action plans to promote community organizing and social activism for women and youth. Activities include awareness-raising campaigns, creative fieldwork, and extensive collaboration to connect the local and national levels of advocacy.

By elevating the work of local women's groups to the national level, the Jusur Forum remained a strong voice for Palestinian women's rights, playing a crucial role in addressing the issue of inter-communal violence and the exclusion of women from leadership positions. Moreover, they played a key role in bringing to light real stories of women who have fled violence and their survival stories, and they continue to expand our audience to engage men and youth.



Jusur Forum, February 2022



Grassroots Working Towards A Better Future

This year, Kayan and its grassroots network recognized the need for gender-sensitive responses to inter-communal violence. The local women's groups strategized and mobilized to combat the prevailing fear, insecurity, lack of safe conditions for community work among women and youth during this challenging time of violence and violent backlash by learning ways to appear in public, support each other, conduct emergency needs assessments, and develop gender-sensitive action plans.

“

"In fact, we gained so many skills, community organizing skills, networking, we have learned about the importance of the personal story, especially in recruiting people, we also had the opportunity to meet other women from different areas during Jusur meetings"

local grassroots woman

Listening to the Community's Needs

Local women's groups have proven ongoing transformational leadership and demonstrated the unified power of the only grassroots Palestinian social network that involves the development of local and national networks. By listening to their communities, they understood and defined their needs, challenges, and concerns holistically, knowing what is needed and how to claim it. As they are the first point of contact for women, deepening supportive relationships with youth, municipalities, and their communities overall, we witnessed how respected and trusted the grassroots women have become as leaders and contacts. They tirelessly developed and organized local women's and youth activism in Palestinian localities and advocated for their rights through intensive relationship-building with key actors. As a result, long-term changes occur in the community.



Local grassroots women in Deir Hanna

Major Challenges

The crisis of inter-communal violence caused us logistical, and emotional challenges. Despite this, grassroots women and the Jusur Forum remained united and provided extraordinary support to one another. The last year showed very clearly that the Jusur Forum is not just a platform and a safe space for local leaders to share challenges they are facing among themselves, but also to offer and provide extensive support to each other.

“

“The activities you are doing are important for our students, and I wish we knew about them earlier. It is very comforting to know that you are an Arab association - you create a warm atmosphere and we did not feel embarrassed. We felt no shame when you handled the most sensitive issues with the utmost kindness.”

Quote by a teacher

Some Insights

This year showed us that we are right in our conviction that youth can transform our patriarchal society and deliver a better future for all of us. Together we tirelessly engaged with youth all over the region and we made sure that they found their own place and their own voice in our activist work. Looking back over the last year, we must acknowledge that those are the ones we want to learn from in order to be a strong collective for long-term success. To advance our society in the long run, we commit to investing in the youngest generation.



Youth workshop



Our Projects & Programs

The Historical Nakba from A Feminist Perspective

This year was a year devoted to our Palestinian history and cultural heritage. To emphasize the neglected and absent discourse of women on the Nakba, Kayan produced a short film called **"Bridge of Return"**. A team of about 50 actors, researchers, technicians, and researchers, in addition to the central characters, worked on the film's preparation. From a feminist perspective, the uniqueness of the project lies in the presentation of women's testimonies and stories illustrating the impact of the Nakba and ongoing occupation on women and Palestinian society as a whole.



Movie screening in Nazareth

By walking on the path of our past and visiting displaced Palestinian villages, we were able to experience and hear Palestinian women's narratives of the ongoing Nakba. The peak of our journey were the public movie screenings of the documentary **"Bridge of Return"**, representing the untold women's perspective of the Nakba. At the screenings, we have been pleased to see a wide range of genders, ages, affiliations, and professions attend. Together, we listened to women's voices that have been often overlooked in written and oral history. By telling these stories, we hope to pass them on to the next generation. Only if we keep emphasizing women's narratives, we will achieve social change and equality for Palestinian women.



Movie screening in Nazareth



Movie screening in Shafa-Amr



Legal & Emotional Support Hhotline

Kayan keeps responding to all forms of violence against women with its 24/7 legal and emotional support hotline. We provide women with holistic emotional and legal support so they have the knowledge and power needed to change their reality and, if necessary, take action against their aggressor. The women we serve come to us with all kinds of issues, such as domestic violence, economic violence, sexual harassment, personal status, and mistreatment by families and partners. In 2022 numerous women were empowered to act in claiming and achieving their human rights through our holistic support. The ongoing high

numbers still reflect two important developments: The aftermath of the sharp increase of SGBV during the COVID-19 pandemic and grassroots women spreading wide-scale awareness of this resource within their communities and through social media. We are proud to share that grassroots have positioned themselves as trusted advocates for women in their communities, ensuring that women in need felt comfortable approaching them for support, including the hotline.

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"I gave up many of my rights during the divorce, but what I care about is getting out of the cycle of violence and raising my children in a safe environment."

16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence Campaign

When it came to women and youth in politics, we faced massive patriarchal backlash this year - some grassroots were even threatened by community members. For our 2022 16-days campaign, we decided to speak out loud and address the systematic exclusion of women and youth from politics extensively.

As in all of our work, grassroots activism powered this year's campaign to raise awareness and change attitudes about gender-based violence. Local women's groups, the Jusur Forum, and youth activists, in collaboration with 12 NGO coalition members – coordinated by Kayan - cooperated on all aspects of planning and coordination of all public activities and a social media campaign to expand our collective influence.



16 days campaign art workshop

It's Time She Takes Her Spot

Our slogan for this year was "It's time she takes her spot". Within dozens of initiatives, reaching **2292** people in person, we raised awareness about the causes and the need to end the sexist and discriminatory exclusion of women and youth from local politics. Uncompromisingly, we emphasized the patriarchal, sectarianist, violent, and discriminatory political system that the Palestinian minority in Israel is living in. We further shed light on the obstacle of increased intercommunal violence and organized crime within Palestinian society that controls our localities and creates an atmosphere of fear. The sum of this leads to the unjust exclusion of Palestinian women in the public sphere. With our collective actions, we showed our rejection of this multi-layered violence, and sent a unified and powerful message over Israel Palestine that this unjust exclusion must end!



Public Activism & Creativity

This year's campaign included **44** public events that used creative ways to raise awareness about women's exclusion from politics. Activities included interactive protests, youth workshops, flash mobs, and art workshops. By using innovative ways to reach diverse audiences, our message against the exclusion of women in politics was clear, impactful, and meaningful.



Home workshop in Zalafe



Home workshop in Zalafe

Youth Involvement

Also, this year, the Jusur Forum, women came up with many creative ideas on how to empower youth to take on the responsibility of leading change in the future. Many young people were drawn to participate in creative activities, including rallies and art workshops. Dozens of girls and boys participated in planning, executing and participating in the campaign, discussing and reflecting on the complexity of gender mainstreaming and much more:

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“Discrimination begins when we are children. Whenever my brother goes out by car, no one asks where he is going. On the other hand, however, I am not allowed to leave the house and to drive after 8 p.m.”

Quote of a girl participant



Youth workshop during the 16 days campaign

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“We must rely on our ourselves. The reason we must earn money is that money represents strength - at some point, we may not want to stay with someone any longer, and if we are independent, we are not forced to stay with him due to money.”

Quote of a girl participant



Social Media & Media

Collectively, we reached over **91736** people via social media, appeared in **8** media outlets, and published **10** digital posters, and **2** videos, demonstrating the power of local grassroots women and youth to end their exclusion from local politics. We are proud that our posters amplified our 16 days campaign message about the interconnectedness of political violence and patriarchy. Using our posters, we urged the community not to maintain the facade of corruption and violence, to speak out loud about corruption and organized crime structures that are ruining our villages and towns, and to call for a new era - one where women and youth share power in local councils that are corroded by sectarian tensions.




16 days campaign digital poster

Regional & Global Solidarity

The 16 days campaign is part of a global campaign that takes place across more than 185 countries. During this year's campaign, we were proud to see regional and global solidarity, with the Fada Coalition sharing our slogans and posts through its social media channels, and Kayan's collaboration with our year-long partner cfd - The Feminist Peace Organization. Through contributing to cfd's newsletter on femicide, and Kayan's participation in a panel discussion on femicide in different contexts under the title "Together against femicides", a meaningful message of international solidarity was sent.

TOGETHER AGAINST FEMINICIDES

From Algier
to Haifa
to Zurich



Cfd event during the 16days campaign: Film screening and expert discussion on how to combat feminicides in different contexts.

How can we combat feminicides and enhance a feminist view for a society without violence? What roles can civil society organisations, particularly feminist organisations, play to combat feminicides? What are the challenges in the respective contexts?

Cfd partner organisations SARP and Kayan engage in discussions with the Swiss research project 'Stop Feminizid'.

Screening of the film: *Femicide Detectives: 'They keep killing women and it just isn't fair'* - 100 Women, BBC World Service.

Experts:
Farah Raissi, Psychologist, animator, Association SARP, Algier.
Rafah Anabtawy, General Director Kayan Feminist Organisation, Haifa.
Nadia Brügger, representative from the Swiss Research Project 'Stop Feminizid, Zurich.

Facilitation: Natalia Widla, Journalist

Online panel discussion "Together against femicides"

Our struggle to End Femicide

The year 2022 ended with a grim figure of 12 Palestinian women murdered. This year, we continued our fight in ending the misogynist peak of femicide in Palestinian society in Israel. Kayan is taking a multi-faceted and holistic approach to ensure that no single woman is just a number in a statistic.

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"We are not doomed to live with violence, even if we were born and raised in this way - we can change it!"

Quote by a grassroots woman

Awareness-Raising

Our grassroots women leaders organized demonstrations and awareness-raising initiatives to protest murders of women, while Kayan amplified the story of each femicide victim to our audience. The goal of Kayan's work is to stop society from excusing violence by highlighting each case, telling every individual story of societal, and governmental failures to protect women.

Supporting the Families

This year, we continued our extensive femicide work by attending trials and providing legal and emotional support to the families of femicide victims. Kayan has been assisting in several cases of femicide, by attending ongoing court hearings, submitting letters to influence the police and relevant attorneys, and follow-up on needed actions. Our support will continue to be there for those families in these long and painful court cases until justice is served.



Group demonstration against Femicide



Femicide Research

Using the findings of our research on femicide last year as a basis for workshops and public events, we have continued to raise awareness in Palestinian society about the issue. Furthermore, we continued tracking and following-up on every women's murder (find the report on key findings [here](#) and the full report [here](#)). We kept telling the women's individual stories, and continued analyzing all the data through a social and agendered lens.

As a result of our year-long experience, we have come to the conclusion that there is no profile of a victim or killer. If you are a woman, it can happen anywhere and at any time. It can happen in socioeconomically fragile or wealthy environments, on the street, or behind closed doors. We continue to collect and publish data on femicide despite the fact that the number has not decreased, so institutions and systems cannot claim they are taking it seriously enough. In this way, we keep forcing them to respond and take responsibility for their failures.

For the sake of ending the global femicide pandemic, we continue our fight and advocate for accountability for governments and society.



Round table about Femicide and SGBV in Nof-Hagalil

Preventing Sexual Harassment

Kayan continues to lead the fight against sexual harassment. To address this issue, we have raised awareness and increased protections in workplaces and generally, as well as among local authorities.

We have continued to provide ongoing support to appointees for the prevention of sexual harassment in the Arab local authorities. We are pleased to share that this

year, we could see more and more appointees reaching out to us frequently to receive consultation about sexual harassment cases. For us, this represents an impactful development, since they see us as trusted partners and consultants that they can reach whenever it is needed.

As a result of our efforts, Kayan is pleased to see how we succeeded in influencing Palestinian local authorities to take the Sexual Harassment Prevention Law seriously. Kayan also assisted local authorities in implementing the law effectively by providing personal support and consultation to appointees. Consequently, many of the women who work in Palestinian local authorities will be better protected. Several women in the local authorities also received personal consultations regarding sexual harassment from Kayan staff.

The publication of a bilingual instruction manual, an Arabic version of contact information, and information about the services of relevant NGOs and official government bodies working on gender-based violence in Haifa represent our highlights of the year. As women are unsure of where to find help, publishing this manual is critical to their access to services.

Kayan's Podcasts on Sexual Harassment

Kayan's podcasts on sexual harassment in cooperation with Faraa Maai online magazine was another highlight of the year. During the podcast that was published on Spotify, Kayan's lawyer Alhan Nahhas Daoud and Kayan's hotline coordinator Nisreen Tabari discussed sexual harassment in Palestinian society from a feminist perspective.

This year, we kept our focus on our long-term goal of eradicating sexual harassment completely. Furthermore, we provided recommendations to a Knesset committee regarding the prevention of sexual harassment in the context of the Arab authorities.





Fighting the Exclusion of Women & Youth from Politics

In the context of our women and youth in politics project, this year has been unusual in terms of patriarchal and violent backlash. Local women's leader received threats from members of the community and the family. Not wanting to pressure the women into taking risks for their safety, Kayan decided to deal with this issue by adapting the action plan that the women in the political training groups were developing. Instead of running for local elections, Kayan stressed the importance of not giving up, and, together with the women, brainstormed other ways to participate in local politics:

For example, the women implemented activities such as attending public local council meetings, meeting with local council members to communicate their agenda, and raising awareness about the importance of women in politics in the community into their action plan. Kayan also developed strategies on how to deal with threats and harassment with the women, such as building a support network and developing a team that can support them and help keep them safe.

Besides promoting Palestinian women's active participation in local political processes, both as candidates and as political activists tireless, we kept raising awareness across Palestinian society in Israel that politics is not a male domain, by addressing the issue from all angles. The training of local women enabled them to become political activists, while national-level activities and media work raised awareness of the issue among Palestinians at large. Kayan helped foster an inclusive environment by raising awareness among youth and supporting women local council members persevere in the face of patriarchal norms and attempts at excluding them.

We particularly celebrate our intensive work with youth on this topic and the national Jusur Forum conference on challenges for women in politics for amplifying women's political voices, creating a foundation for future women leaders, and encouraging the Palestinian society to challenge the dominant patriarchal discourse.

A Milestone in Our Fight for Women & Youth in Power

As in all of our work, grassroots leaders' activism powered this year's national conference to raise awareness and change attitudes about the challenges of women in politics. The conference was titled "local authorities; approaching prohibited: Arab local authority elections between patriarchal repression and the stronghold of organized crimes," in view of the upcoming local authority elections in 2023. This conference represents a milestone in our fight against family, sectarian, and clan affiliation as well as the increase in organized crime and violence fostered by the Israeli state and the wider context of occupation and discrimination against Palestinians in the Israeli political system involved in the elections.



National Jusur Forum conference poster

During the conference, a host of speakers and panelists – such as Sami Abu Shehadeh, a member of the Knesset and leader of the political party Balad, and Jusur forum member Samira Azam, member of Ossifya council - shed light on how these circumstances negatively affect the representation of women and youth in local government. Over **250** people came to discuss, to listen to the speakers, and most importantly to learn more about how to make local politics more inclusive, fairer, and peaceful. Parallel to this, Kayan launched a social media campaign that reached **68288** people while appearing in **9** media outlets.

It is our hope that the participants will take what they heard here back to their towns and villages and remember this event during the upcoming local elections. In the words of Kayan's support hotline coordinator Nisreen Tabare:



“

“Change in the local authorities, and social change more generally, will not happen without the accountability of decision-makers and those who are concerned about gender equality and who are working to ensure that women and youth are able to participate in local politics. In the face of an unjust reality, Palestinians have the power to change things, particularly through their electoral power.

We urge the Palestinian community to exercise this power.”

Nisreen Tabare

Through encouraging women to run for election and supporting those who do, we continue to fight the exclusion of women in politics.



Jusur Forum conference in Nazareth



Jusur Forum conference in Nazareth

Once A Month

This year, Kayan started a new online project called "once a month" which takes place via Zoom and our Facebook page on the first Friday of every month. Every month, Kayan's hotline and volunteer coordinator Nisreen Tabare initiates one episode, inviting one expert per session to address community issues, including feminist issues. Kayan's new digital project allows us to reach a variety of target groups in a variety of settings. For us, this project is essential to reach people who are unable to attend Kayan's in-person events. We see great potential for this innovative new project after our successful launch in early November with **868** online participants.



"Once a month" flyers



Kayan's Legal Projects

Promoting Personal Status Rights

Discriminatory obedience lawsuits must end: This year, We continued to work on promoting women's rights on personal status. We are pleased to share some insight about our successful obedience in the Sharia court campaign:

Under religious law, a wife must obey her husband, who in turn must cover her expenses. Obedience lawsuits continued to be filed in religious courts. Our fight for justice and equal protection of the law in religious courts in Israel continued in 2022. We aim to stop these humiliating, discriminatory, and expensive obedience procedures as we continue to approach Sharia Courts.



Slogan on obedience lawsuits

Cristian Courts

Moreover, Kayan filed a lawsuit against the ecclesiastical courts: Ecclesiastical courts continue to violate basic human rights due to excessive fees compared to other religious and civil courts. At the same time, there is a lack of publication and an inadequate publication of fees, discounts, and exemption procedures. In most cases, their legal procedures and decisions are not published or reported. During an amicus curiae appeal, Kayan urged the courts to increase fees and to publish clear regulations regarding protective fee discount laws. The fight against these violations will continue!

This year, Palestinian women continued to receive legal support and consultations from us on family issues, including through our support hotline. Kayan's legal consultation services through feminist lenses enable women to understand and advocate for their rights related to their personal status, such as divorce, custody, or alimony, as well as socioeconomic exclusion.

International Advocacy & Collaborations

Promoting Civil Marriage

At Kayan, we believe that every woman should have the freedom to choose her spouse, her family, and what kind of marriage she wants. As an organization with Special Consultative status to the UN, Kayan has submitted **5 reports** to call on Israel to end discrimination against women in the religious courts, to allow civil marriage and to ensure justice in cases of personal status as part of our advocacy work. In our efforts to promote personal status rights, we aim to help women stand up for their legal rights. Besides that, Kayan participated in **3 UN** panels on personal status issues in Israel. Finally, Kayan's director participated in **2 international** conferences in Switzerland (Basel Peace Forum) and Holland (World Justice Forum); and attended the working group meetings with EuroMed Rights in Berlin.

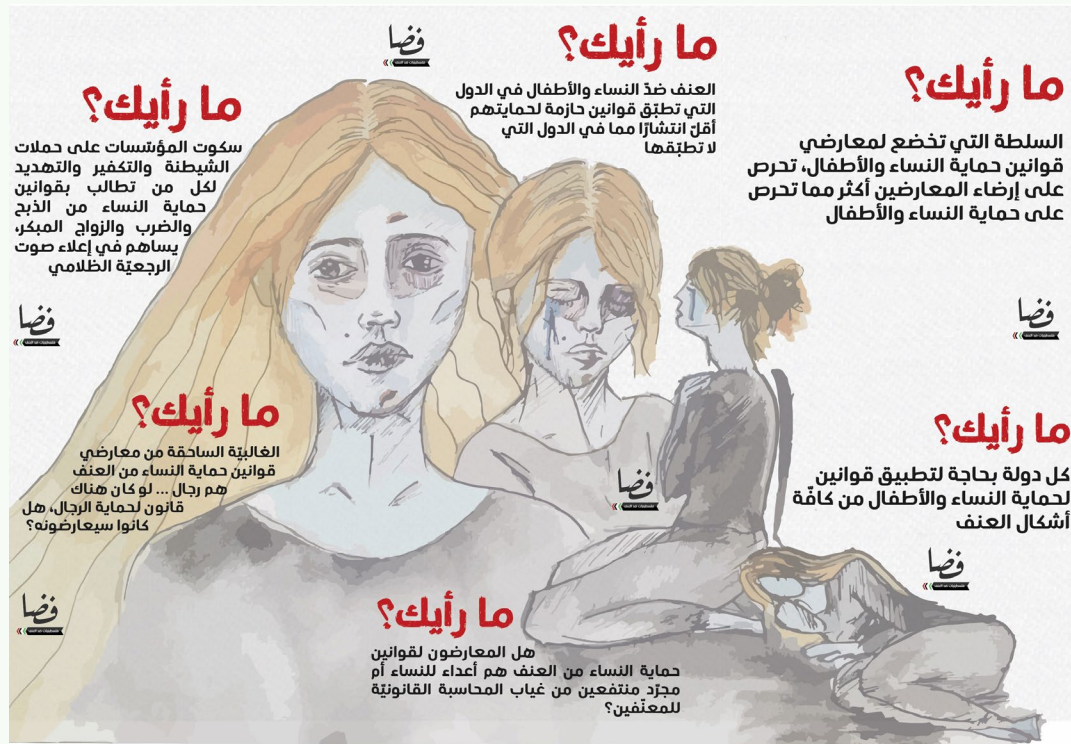
Fada: A Ground-Breaking Coalition Across Borders

In response to the monumental challenge of the Covid-19 crisis, Kayan formed a ground-breaking coalition of Palestinian feminist organizations across borders, the Fada Coalition of Palestinian Women Against Violence. Fada is the first and only coalition of Palestinian feminist organizations based in the West Bank, Gaza Strip, East Jerusalem and 1948 land (Israel).

This year that coalition collaborated intensively to create two extended media campaigns, reaching **90632** people all over the region:

Our first campaign with the slogan "**Boycott the killer**" called on Palestinian society to stand up against femicide. Together, we sent a powerful message to hold society accountable for putting an end to impunity by boycotting murderers while embracing the families of the victims. Despite the systematic neglect of women's issues, it is crucial for the community to boycott the killers, as murderers rarely get punished.

With our second "**What do you think**" campaign we raised awareness of the role and function of protective laws for women in Palestine, while reaching out to women to inform them about Fada member organizations' critical resources. After increased attacks on those laws from the Palestinian community, the campaign aimed to end these attacks while embracing their value.



Slogans of our "What do you think" campaign

Initiating the First Cross-Border Youth Network

We are proud to share about the first cross-border youth retreat with 19 youth from the West Bank, and 48 lands. During the retreat, we focused on feminism and how to be activists of change on social media.



Cross-border youth retreat in Ramallah



Cross-border youth retreat in Ramallah

Fada Retreat in Amman

Another highlight at the end of the year was our intensive 3-days retreat in Amman. We felt the importance of finally meeting in-person after facing several obstacles beforehand: Since Israeli authorities refused most coalition members permission to enter 1948 lands (Israel), we were unable to meet in Haifa. As a coalition, we can say that this retreat made us feel more connected, and it pushed us to continue our unified fight against political and social violence against women across borders. As a coalition that raises the voices of all Palestinian women, we felt our coalition's uniqueness.



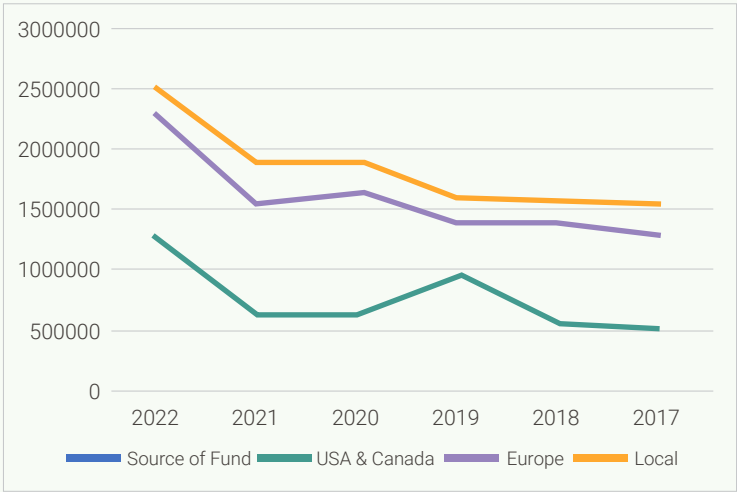
Fada retreat in Amman

The last year showed us the need for a unified Palestinian feminist movement, since Palestinian women share a similar context of oppression that is caused by the ongoing Occupation and systemic discrimination and fragmentation. With the worsening political context, it is more evident than ever that a unified coalition of feminist Palestinian NGOs across borders is necessary to strengthen our collective platform to pursue human security and human rights for all women since gender equality is a global issue.

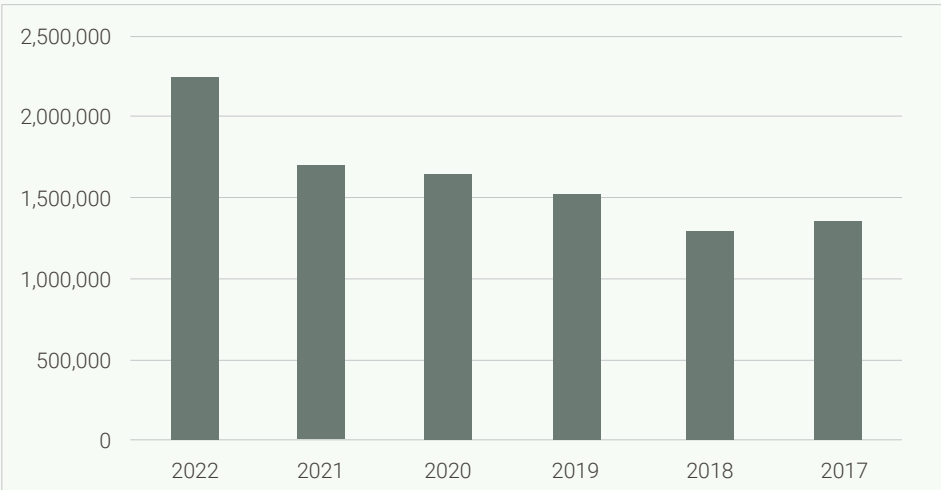


Financial Report

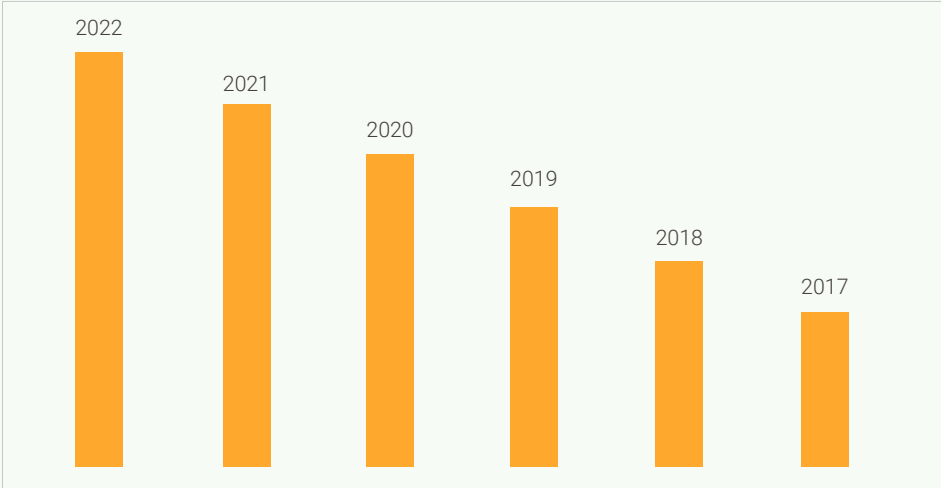
Source of Fund



Programs cost



Admin cost



How to Support Kayan

Donations from generous supporters are crucial in helping us further our mission and vision of creating a secure and just society free of gender-based discrimination. Please consider making a donation to Kayan Feminist Organization in one of the following ways:

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For more information, or for general inquiries, please contact us at:

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