

# Strengthening Higher Education Capacities in Palestine for Gender Equality | SHE\_GE

A partnership between the Palestinian Territories and Austria

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Following an invitation by the Islamic University Gaza (IUG), the Department of Sociology at the University of Graz (Uni Graz) began Academic Partnership with the overall objective to enhance women's empowerment and gender equality in Gaza. The objective will be achieved through educational, research and institutional capacity development, aiming at the establishment of Women's & Gender Studies Centre at IUG. The Centre will provide a knowledge and material resource base to create pre-conditions for an MA programme in Women's & Gender Studies and to mediate outreach to the non-university community. Key project activities include:

- Staff development by means of a one-year online postgraduate module in Interdisciplinary Gender Studies for IUG students and faculty. The IUG participants will meet Uni Graz students in a virtual classroom.
- Curriculum development, including a) MA courses in Women's and Gender Studies at IUG; b) an English and Arabic-language reference library; c) a reform of the IUG course "Human Rights".
- Research cooperation on "Mirror MA theses". Students from IUG and Uni Graz will work parallel to each other on similar topics, but with different approaches and disciplinary backgrounds.
- Establishment of a Women's and Gender Studies Centre as a resource hub for the university and extra-university communities.
- Community outreach focused on capacity building. The Centre will include higher education actors and women's organizations in Gaza in its activities and offer training modules.
- Public lectures at IUG and Uni Graz aimed at women's groups, higher education institutions, government administration and the general public.

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**AUSTRIAN  
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### Coordinating Institution

Islamic University Gaza, Department of Psychology (Prof. Sanaa Aboudagga)

### Partner Institution

University of Graz, Department of Sociology (Prof. Libora Oates-Indruchová)

### Project Duration

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