



# ACTIONS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

The growing role of civil societies in all spheres of life demonstrates that young people and women are the main actors of change. In a globalized and interconnected world, AIM carries the vision of a democratic, tolerant, just and egalitarian society, in order to influence and impact the decision-making processes.





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## General objectives

1. Supporting democratization processes
2. Working for human rights, women's rights and individual freedom
3. Promoting cohesion, social justice and co-living as principles that structure life
4. Building and/or strengthening connections between people at various levels

## Specific Goals

- Promote dialogue, tolerance, critical thinking and the exchange of experiences
- Tackling stereotypes and all forms of limiting beliefs
- Promoting the political participation of women and young people in societies
- Positively impact the co-living



## AIM' Strategy

Building and/or strengthening the capacity of women and young people through training modules combining theory and practice

Calling for a participative model and involving beneficiaries in the construction of the project based on common values

Allowing our publics to confront themselves with the field and its complex realities

Providing tools for critical reflection based on a multidisciplinary pedagogical approach in order to deconstruct self-limitation through patterns

Promoting the exchange of experience between actors from civil societies, political worlds, medias at the local, regional and international level



# Our projects



**ISRAEL PALESTINE: FOR A BETTER UNDERSTANDING - YOUTH (IPPMC)**



**ISRAEL PALESTINE: FOR A BETTER UNDERSTANDING - ADULTS (IMPACT)**



**WOMEN LEADERS OF TOMORROW (FLD)**





# IPPMC-Youth

Each year since 2014, IPPMC program has gathered around 45 Brussels high school students from 3 to 4 schools with different socio-economic and cultural backgrounds.

The students are engaged during **2 years in a training module** that takes the Israeli Palestinian conflict as a study case, as a major complex subject of our modern history and society. **Through confrontation with the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, by analyzing the history, the geography, intercultural topics and mass medias' coverage of the issue, the youngster are led to understand the complexities behind our societies.** At the same time, they are led to the discovery of the Other, their Belgium pairs, but also Palestinian and Israeli youngster, and by consequence, to the deconstruction of certain stereotypes that can be present amongst people of different communities.

Following the training process, the belgian high school students travel to Israel Palestine for one week to meet different organizations, youth groups, civil society representatives, but also to travel through all the regions and knowing its different communities.

During the second year of the project, our students become **Ambassadors of Nuance** in order to share their experiences, to debate with their peers in Belgium about the Israeli Palestinian conflict and its impact here in Europe, and to promote the development of critical opinion of events. Therefore, **AIM strengthens the abilities of young people to play a positive role in their surroundings and among their peers, but also to engage in a citizenship process.**

## Process

**Phase 1.**  
**Preparation and training process with the students and their teachers**

**Phase 2.**  
**The encounter with the field and its complex realities**

**Phase 3.**  
**The Ambassadors of Nuance program**



## Phase 1. Preparation and training process with the students and their teachers

The training process lasts around 4 months and it is divided in 3 main key subjects in relation to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict:

- the historical/geographical dimension
- the stereotypes' deconstruction about other communities, and more precisely linked to the conflict through an intercultural approach
- the analysis of the position and role of the International community, the study of human rights conventions and their application on the ground.

At the same time, the cultural pedagogical component is included in the training. The students participated in cultural activities linked to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict or to any sub-topics seen during the training, in order for the youth to develop questions and create discussions with other actors of the civil society.

## Phase 2. The encounter with the field and its complex realities

After the training process, a one-week trip to Israel-Palestine for the students and their teachers in order to meet with high school students on site, getting to know NGOs working on the field, Israeli and Palestinian civil society organisations, visiting important touristic, cultural sites and cities such as Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Jenin etc.

## Phase 3. The Ambassadors of Nuances program

The following years, the students who participated in Phase 1 are trained to express themselves, to develop their skills into debates. Then, they meet their peers in many schools and youth organizations in Belgium (mainly Brussels and Wallonia) to present the movie that had been filmed during their journey, to share their experience, and to debate.

The positive influence of those encounters can be felt also on the schools peers as often by watching the movies and discussing with our young group, they realized the poor knowledge they have about what is really happening on the field in Israel-Palestine compare to what they can read or watch through the medias.

## Learning Goals

- Phases 1 and 2 positively impact the cohesion and living together between the students of different horizons in Brussels. Through our program, participants get to know each other, by confronting also to other realities. This allows them to better comprehend the complexity of our multicultural societies and to abandon their own view of the world and their own stereotypes. They find themselves analyzing and acting within a more open-minded and nuanced perspective.

They learn more about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and the complex contests resulting on the ground and they take distances from dichotomic approaches to the situation.

They develop their creativity and work on interpersonal and intrapersonal skills.

They adopt a more questioning position, tend to confront their ideas and no longer with judgment.

They acquire specific and concrete tools to play a positive and constructive role in their surroundings and with their peers.



## Communication

For each edition of the project IPPMC, AIM has produced a movie that presents the different activities of the participants, in Brussels and the study trip to Israel-Palestine.

This communication tool is our best business card and our best way to communicate about the project, but it is also a tool to work and share the "Ambassadors of Nuances"'s experience when they visit various schools or youth organizations.

Hereunder are the links to the movies we produced during the 5 previous editions of the program. The 2015 and 2016 movies have English, Arabis and Hebrew subtitles.

- [2015](#)
- [2016](#)
- [2017](#)
- [2018](#)



From last year, our project integrated **artistic workshop** in order for the students to have the possibilities to express about their experience through different means.

For example, the young group of the 6th edition could follow **theatre workshops, photography lessons and cartooning session**. At the same time, during the journey in Israel-Palestine our group met different artistic associations and artistic workshops had been organized in partnership with schools in Israel and in Palestine.

With their artistic trainers, the students will create a photo/cartooning brochure about their trip and a theatre show to play at the public events about our project.

To compensate for the interruption due to the explosion of the Covid 19 pandemic, the AIM team has developed an online platform in order to share several educational tools with students. Through the platform, AIM also organise virtual group events, whether it is a discussion meeting with an external speaker on a theme related to the project or a discussion following the screening of a film (fiction or documentary). Thanks to the online platform, AIM has succeeded in maintaining the link with the students and their involvement in the follow-up of the programme.

The platform also presents a discussion forum and a suggestion box so that young people can propose topics and interact with each other and with the team.



## Our partners :





# IPPMC-Adults

In a parallel approach based on the experience accumulated during the first 4 editions of the "Israel Palestine: for a better understanding" project and following its achievements, AIM has developed a specific program for teachers, future teachers and youth facilitators. We have therefore set up a training program for these groups (3 editions to date, bringing together each time more than 20 participants, for a total of 70 participants).

## Process

### **Phase 1.**

As with our youth program, the training consists of a series of encounters around cultural activities or analysis on themes related to the conflict. Also, the participants attend a training weekend focused on understanding the various historical, geographical, economic and political issues linked with the conflict, but also to follow workshops about interculturality and learning how to deconstruct these stereotypes with their youth groups.

### **Phase 2.**

Following the training period, the participants leave for a one- week trip to Israel and Palestine with the goal of knowing civil societies organizations, but especially of meeting with teachers and facilitators working in Israeli and Palestinian schools.

### **Phase 3.**

After the journey, the participants create a common portfolio where they assemble different tools such as pedagogical material, photos, boarding notes about their journey and then share it with their colleagues and professionals working with the youth.



## Learning Goals

An in-depth understanding of an extremely complex conflict in order to be able to pass on the knowledge gained to the young people with whom they are in daily contact;

A trip to Israel-Palestine to meet civil society representatives and actors in the same field of work such as teachers, facilitators and animators;

To be able to recognise manifestations of antisemitism **and Islamophobia among Belgian youth and to provide youth workers with pedagogic tools to respond to them in an appropriate manner;**

To help youth workers to respond to any limiting thoughts of young people such as self-victimisation or community withdrawal;

To understand the impact of education and narrative in general, and in particular in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, through meetings with several schools and teachers on the spot, but also in Brussels, a world city with more than 180 nationalities;

A broader vision of the different themes that the Israeli-Palestinian subject brings such as citizenship, understanding of the Other, respect for international law, the democratic system and much more;

To bring together professionals from the socio-educational sector in Brussels who would probably never have met in a completely different context and to allow an exchange of practices.

## Outlook for 2021

- Tend to develop an Alumni network
- Above all, move to a complementary online learning model to meet the Covid crisis
- Adapt our activities to the circumstances that limit face-to-face activities with the young people
- To further develop our communication via networks
- Continuing to feed the platform of the Ambassadors of Nuance

# Women Leaders of Tomorrow (FLD) | Tunisia

Since 2011, the “Arab Spring” has highlighted the role of women and young people in democratization processes. In this context, the Women Leaders of Tomorrow - Tunisia program, launched in 2017, promotes the political participation of women in Tunisia within a coherent and comprehensive process of strengthening their capacities through various activities such as trainings on a wide range of issues (gender, social media, communication, etc.), coaching, networking, exchange of experiences, meetings with women leaders, debates and consulting expertise support to their projects and initiatives.

On a long-term perspective, the WLT-Tunisia program is aiming at combatting paternalistic stereotypes and discrimination which prevent women to believe in themselves confining them to a traditional role. Therefore, the WLT program is contributing at anchoring a deep and positive self-image into building a strong feminine leadership. WLT participants are accompanied alongside a transformative path impacting women's fight for equal rights into a collective movement promoting solidarities and universal values.

## Process

In 2018, in preparation for the first democratic Tunisian municipal elections, with horizontal and vertical parity, AIM accompanied 34 effective candidates coming from the majority the country's regions and running on lists from political parties or as independent candidates with the objective of preparing them to run for their campaign.

In collaboration with our local partner associations, two training sessions combining theory and practice were led in Tunis by a team of Maghreb and European coaches. Working sessions have focused mainly on personal development, feminine leadership, gender, political violence, public speech, designing and running a successful female campaign, communication, and the acquisition of key knowledge related to the political and legal environment.

In addition, participants exchanged with Tunisian and European women role models.

In early September 2019, AIM organized in Tunis a 5 day training course for a group of 23 women candidates to the legislative elections of the 6th of October 2019, bearing in mind that only vertical parity was legally imposed by law. Adapted to the context and the needs of the participants, the training program offered a variety of lively actions workshops designed at empowering them to campaign: building a powerful communication strategy and an action plan, tackling political violence towards women, teaching how to negotiate and influence and to strategically fight against women's exclusion in politics and ensuring that their voices are heard.

Following this training session, AIM accompanied women candidates in the field during their campaign, in order to document this experience and provide them with coaching and communication support. This film is in the process of being finalised.



## Achievements

13 participants have been elected, including 3 Mayors, 3 Vice-Mayors and 4 Committee chairs

●  
Contributing to a transformative process which has led participants to overcome a lot of obstacles at all levels in their private and public life, impacting women's political participation in Tunisia and influencing public debate

●  
Building a strong community of women leaders fully aware of their role in the whole society as an actor of change

●  
Sensitizing a wide range of institutional actors and decision makers on the necessity to foster international support to strengthening the capacities of Tunisian women in acting and mobilizing against all forms of violence

●  
Promoting exchange between women at all levels in the society based on a solidarity approach with no geographical, ideological, cultural nor socio-economic restrictions.



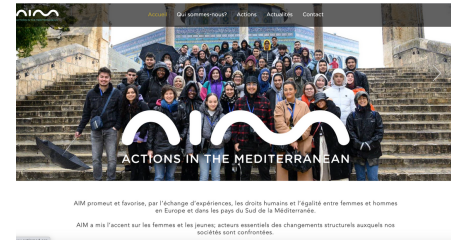
## Outlook for 2021

- Pursuing and enlarging the empowerment process of women based on their needs and their context in view of being ready to next political momentum and/or to support them in their projects;
- The WLT movie is being presented at a regional and European level, creating meaningful debates and impacting at different levels;
- Sensitizing the EU and international bodies on the necessity to foster the support of Tunisian society. 80 % of WLT participants won a seat, at different levels of power, or achieved new steps in their leadership building process;
- The Tunisian WLT community is leading a process of women exchange at a regional and Euro-Mediterranean levels;
- Extending the WLT program towards a regional dimension including countries such as Morocco, Algeria, Libya and Palestine;
- The WLT program is recognized as a European project;
- The organization of an awareness campaign to promote women's political participation and capacity building programs at the European Union and Maghreb levels influence policy makers and institutions.

# Overall communication

## Website

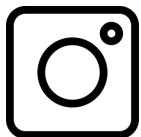
AIM has created a website where you can find all the activities developed by the association, the different training courses it offers, the videos it has created and recent news.



## Social Media



Publication of all the news related to the association as well as the different contents created.



Publication of the follow up of ours activities, the latest events and news about AIM.



Publication of our vidéos, created in collaboration with our different partners.

### Liens :

[https://www.facebook.com/ActionsIntheMediterranean/?ref=br\\_rs](https://www.facebook.com/ActionsIntheMediterranean/?ref=br_rs)

<https://vimeo.com/236076431>

<https://www.instagram.com/actinmed/>



## Team



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## Our projects are supported by :



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