

## ERASMUS+ Project Communication Leaflet

<b>University Name</b>	Al-Istiqlal University
<b>City and Country</b>	Jericho, Palestine (PS)
<b>PIC Number</b>	932474484 - HEA\2007\0815
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<b>Project Title</b>	Forensic Science Labs at AL-Istiqlal University (PASS)
<b>Key Action</b>	Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices
<b>Scope</b>	Capacity building in the field of higher education
<b>Working LANGUAGES</b>	English

### General Overview of the Project

Forensic Science is the study and Application of all Physical and Applied Sciences for the Purpose of justice. The role and scope of forensic science is wide and varied. Forensic science of the today covers almost every aspect of the day to day life. However, use of forensic in Palestine has remained rather rudimentary and low. Al-Istiqlal University had consistently viewed this situation with concern as it has a direct impact on the quality of criminal investigations as well as criminal justice. Keeping in view the importance of Forensic Sciences in Criminal investigations and Criminal justice, Al-Istiqlal University established a Forensic Science Facility at Jericho under the project titled *"Establishment of Forensic Science Laboratory at Al-Istiqlal University"*. This project is landmark and unique in its character. It is a part of the projects being undertaken by Al-Istiqlal University for the establishment of a modern and unified Forensic Science Faculty in Al-Istiqlal University. The overall purpose of this project was to establish an international standard, well quipped, state of the art, full service forensic science laboratory at Al-Istiqlal University. On its operation, the laboratory will support criminal investigations by providing forensic analysis in the following fields of forensic investigations (i) Toxicology, (ii) Narcotics, (iii) DNA and Serology, (iv) Fire Arms & Tool Marks, (v) Questioned Documents, (vi) Latent Finger Prints, (vii) Pathology / Histology, (viii) Forensic Photography, (ix) Trace Chemistry, (x) Crime Scene Specialist, (xi) Death Scene Investigation, (xii) Computer Forensic, (xiii) Polygraph, (xiv) Audiovisual, (xv) Forensic Training and (xvi) Forensic Data Base Development. It will also assist the legal matters of interest.

The establishment of governing institutions in Palestine and the improvement and

strengthening of their work is one of the priorities that have been approved by all national plans issued by the Palestinian National Authority since 1994. Palestinian Institutions have reached an advanced level in the provision of services and that Palestine had surpassed the minimum level required for the state's development.

There is an interdependent link between security and justice in that just as security cannot be achieved without justice; justice cannot be achieved without security.

The overriding goal of the project is to provide Palestine with high quality and reliable forensic services. Forensic science and forensic medicine services play an integral part in the administration of justice by providing reliable and probative evidence regarding criminal activity. The model for all services will be based upon internationally accepted best practices. Upon completion, the university; the ministries and the Palestinian people will have access to reliable, sustainable and transparent forensic services.

The forensic science project will strengthen the justice sector and will safeguard human dignity and good governance. The project focuses on governance, including implementation of quality management systems, strong leadership and full transparency of results, in addition to operational forensic service delivery. The program in the fight against terrorism, drugs and the promotion of social justice services in providing technical support and training programs in the pursuit of justice and respect for human rights.

In Al- Istiqlal university, this project has been a key focus within our comprehensive strategy and we strive for cooperation and integration with our partners in the Justice Sector. We believe this project to be fundamental in achieving progress in the Security Sector in both a professional and an efficient manner. In addition to this is the necessity of fulfilling the primary responsibility of our state that strives to develop. We have devoted and will continue to devote our efforts to well thought out strategies in order to develop our state. We have fulfilled many accomplishments, which are of great concern to our people, in our Justice and Security Systems. Justice and democracy have motivated us to prioritize our community on the basis of achieving social justice, putting an end to crime and corruption and being

dedicated to the principles of the rule of law and of justice.

### What are we looking for?

The project will include the following results:

- Supplement of Palestinian security services and the judiciary in graduated and trained cadres in forensic science.
- Improvement institutional capacity to manage forensic services.
- Enhancement knowledge, skills and competencies of forensic scientists.
- Enhancement research in forensic science field.
- Improvement the application of scientific methods and techniques to the investigation of crimes in Palestine.
- To establishment training institute for capacity building of sister organizations and Human Resource Development.
- Strengthen the foundations of and operational tools for modern forensic science services in Palestine.
- Investment in training future leaders in the field through building their administrative and management skills.
- Strengthen existing forensic medicine institutes. Emphasis will also be placed on the expansion of clinical forensic medicine services, especially with regard to sexual assault and family violence.