

In June 2007, Hamas violently took over power in the Gaza Strip. During the armed confrontations, part of the Fatah leadership in the Gaza Strip lost this area of Palestine almost overnight. As a result, Fatah in the Gaza Strip is in a difficult situation. In order to somewhat counter the disorientation and resignation within Fatah in the Gaza Strip, the Gaza branch of the FES organized a two-month training program. The individual seminars were adapted to the needs of the participants, who are members of various Fatah committees. Inter alia, individual seminars were offered for working with volunteers, organizing offices and events, crisis management, and program design. In addition, the goal was to promote joint work on content and techniques of network formation among young leaders, and to strengthen team spirit in the movement. There was a surprisingly large-scale response to the courses on offer. A total of 245 young, selected leadership figures took part in the various units.



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Hamas, which de facto is ruling the Gaza Strip, did not interfere in the training courses, but unfortunately as a result of unacceptable conditions it prevented the final conference from taking place.

Nevertheless, the training was a success and was imitated. Fatah in Rafah and Khan Yunis used the training material developed jointly by

the FES Gaza Bureau and the local Fatah, in order to turn it into training sessions run under its own auspices in the central and southern Gaza Strip as well.

The FES managed to design and run a lively training program for Fatah in the shape of the Al-Yasser Project II, which despite the very difficult political conditions has managed to advance the process of reforming Fatah in the Gaza Strip on the organizational and content level, helping to counter the prevailing atmosphere of political resignation.