

All participants agreed on this point in the Roundtable event with Inge Wettig-Danielmeier and Palestinian female political leaders, including two members of the Palestinian Legislative Council, on "Political Participation of Women in Germany and the Palestinian Territories" in Ramallah on May 28th 2007.

Although there is a quota for women in Germany and the Palestinian Territories, the participants were in agreement that this is not enough to ensure adequate representation of women in politics in each country. Inge Wettig-Danielmeier emphasized the necessity of not becoming complacent with this achievement alone. Today, there is more of a need than ever for "stronger and angrier" women who can resume or continue the equal rights movement.



*Inge Wettig-Danielmeier with
Amal Sadou*

The broad situation in the Palestinian Territories, according to many Palestinian participants, suffers in many ways from a lack of participation on the part of qualified women. Moreover, women in the Palestinian Territories are susceptible to national religious currents such as Hamas which place an emphasis on support in child rearing and health care sectors from which women largely benefit. Women must, therefore, be strengthened in political perception as well as independence in order to further propel women to participation in Palestinian democracy and offer alternatives to radicalization. The work of the FES seeks to contribute to this movement.