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Ramallah Office

PRESS RELEASE
2018/13
Gaza City, 9-11 October, 2018

Jazz Journey in Palestine: Let Music Speak



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Gaza City, 9- 11 October 2018 – On Wednesday 10 October, within the framework of UNESCO's 2005 *Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions* and the EU-funded project *Networks of Mediterranean Youth* (NET-MED Youth), UNESCO organized the first Jazz Concert in Gaza in years, gathering musicians from Europe and from Gaza (Samir Al Borno, Wassem Ali, Fares Anbar, Heidi Caviezel, Said Fadel, Philipp Kienberger, Lukas Leitner, Lukas Schiemer, Hamada Nasrallah, Majd Antar and Mohammed Zohod). The event offered a platform for musicians and youth associations in Gaza to engage with professional musicians from Europe. This is of particular importance in the current dire situation in Gaza, preventing youth to access such opportunities for recreation and cultural exchange.

This "Jazz Journey" consisted of different activities, including a policy discussion session between musicians from Austria, Finland and Switzerland and from Gaza, exchanging views on policies, challenges and opportunities of music as both a

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performing art and as a creative industry, with a potential as income-generator in the Gaza Strip. The outcome of these discussions and consultations will further feed into the preparation of tailored nation-wide policies to better support creative industries in Palestine.

More than 500 participants, from Gazan youth and families and from national and international organizations attended the concert and enjoyed the music performance. Furthermore, as part of UNESCO's promotion of non-formal and extra-curricular activities in early childhood development, UNESCO together with the musicians visited the Al Buraq School in Gaza, for a joint musical session with kids and school staff.

For more information on UNESCO's activities in Palestine, please visit www.unesco.org/ramallah and visit us on : UNESCO National Office Ramallah Office

For more information on UNESCO's 2005 Convention, please visit: https://en.unesco.org/creativity/

For more information on this event, please contact: Majd Beltaji, Public Information Officer of the UNESCO Ramallah Office, at m.beltaji@unesco.org

If interested in accessing more photo's of the event, please visit: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1_xW7Gjb2ZpdVbisXA-YdAYtVCAaj1Cap?ogsrc=32