

## Abstract

Over the years, the United Nations and many international institutions, through many international conferences and conventions, have addressed issues related to women, their rights and their active participation in various aspects of public life. The most important of these were the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, as well as many other international instruments.

One of the most significant topics addressed in these international conferences and instruments is the need to enhance women's political participation and leadership at the national and local levels. Therefore, the international community developed what is called the gender quota system as a mechanism to ensure women's participation in the political sphere, specifically in electoral lists. Palestine is one of these countries that have adopted this system. In fact, the Palestinian legislation demands the presence of women in the decision-making and political processes, which is clearly stated in the Elections Law No. (9) of 2005 and the Local Councils Elections Law No. (10) of 2005.

The study concludes a series of results, the most important of which was the adoption of the women's quota which helped increase the proportion of women in decision-making positions. However, this proportion still needs to be raised further in order to ensure women are able to participate actively and effectively in all important decision-making processes and in the development of policies.

Furthermore, the study shows that the effective participation of women in society would result in positive effects on the state of civil peace, as women possess the ability to resolve disputes. Their active participation in the decision-making processes would also result in public policies that reflect the comprehensive needs of women and various social groups.