



Consolato Generale d'Italia
Gerusalemme

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Press Release: Conference on “State of play and exchange of good practices. Draft Law for the Protection of the Family from Violence”

Today, the Vice Minister of Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation H.E. LapoPistelli, currently visiting Jerusalem and Palestine, participated to the conference “State of play and exchange of good practices. Draft Law for the Protection of the Family from Violence (LPFV)” organized under the auspices of the Prime Minister H.E. Rami Hamdallah in the framework of an initiative funded by the Italian Development Cooperation.

The Conference was opened by the Minister of Justice H.E. Salim Al-Saqqa and the Consul General of Italy Davide La Cecilia in the presence of the Minister of Social Affairs H.E. Shawqi al-Issa, the President of the High Judicial Council H.E Ali Muhanna, and the Head of Mission of EUPOL COPPS Mr. RodolpheMauget and Mr ‘Abd el-Ghani al-Wiwi of the Office of the Public Prosecutor.

The conference convened Palestinian and European stakeholders to promote a discussion about fostering the respect of human rights, with reference to the drafting of the law to prevent domestic violence.

Vice Minister of Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation H.E. LapoPistelli, said *“Over the last decade, Italy has invested more than 11 Million Euros for women’s empowerment and to combat gender based violence through the Women’s Empowerment and Local Development (WELOD 3) programme funded by the Italian Development Cooperation.*

Moreover, Italy actively contributed to this Draft Law by promoting a wide consultation process in the 11 Palestinian Governorates through the Tawasol Centers involving civil society players specialized in gender based violence”.

Further, he added that *“Italy is strongly convinced that combating all forms of discrimination and violence against women, girls and children is a moral imperative that countries undertook by signing the CEDAW”.*

“Italy is the European Lead Donor for gender equality in Palestine and we are proud to promote a debate” said the Consul General of Italy Davide La Cecilia *“on the way Palestinian legislation can comply with the international covenants it signed”.*