Palestinian Youth's Opinions on the Palestinian National Project:

Its Nature, Means of Realization, and the Role of Palestinian Parties

October 2026



You must recognize Israel... then lay down your arms... and then to your Lord you shall return.
(Caricature by Naji al-Ali)

Why this poll?

Profound political transformations coupled with the diverging views regarding the national project necessitate exploration of the perspectives of Palestinian youth and their engagement in discussions concerning the future of the Palestinian struggle and the nature, priorities, mechanisms and roles of various stakeholders in the realization of the Palestinian national project.



Most important key findings of this youth opinion poll:

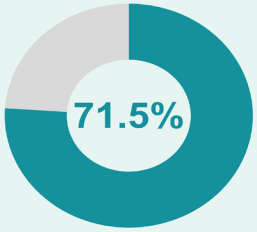
1. "Palestine" refers to historic Palestine within its mandatory borders (from the river to the sea).
2. The "Palestinian people" consist of everyone of Palestinian origin and their descendants, regardless of their current nationality or residence.
3. The liberation of historic Palestine from the river to the sea and the return of Palestinian refugees.
4. The preferred means for realizing the Palestinian national project are resistance, self-reliance and civil disobedience, rather than negotiation strategies that rely on states and international bodies.
5. Global grassroots solidarity was identified as both highly impactful and significant effective factor in the success of the Palestinian struggle.
6. There is an urgent need for radical, comprehensive transformation of the Palestinian political system and the strategy for navigating national liberation.

❖ The Palestinian National Project and its Components

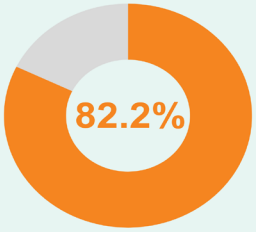
What is the Palestinian National Project?

The liberation of historic Palestine (from the river to the sea),

the return of refugees, and the establishment of a democratic Palestinian state



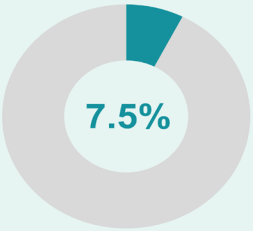
in-person sample



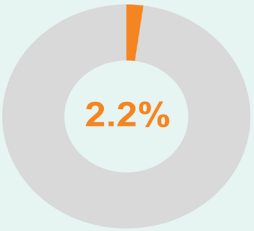
online sample

The establishment of an independent Palestinian state within the 1967 borders

along with an agreed-upon solution to the refugee issue



in-person sample



online sample

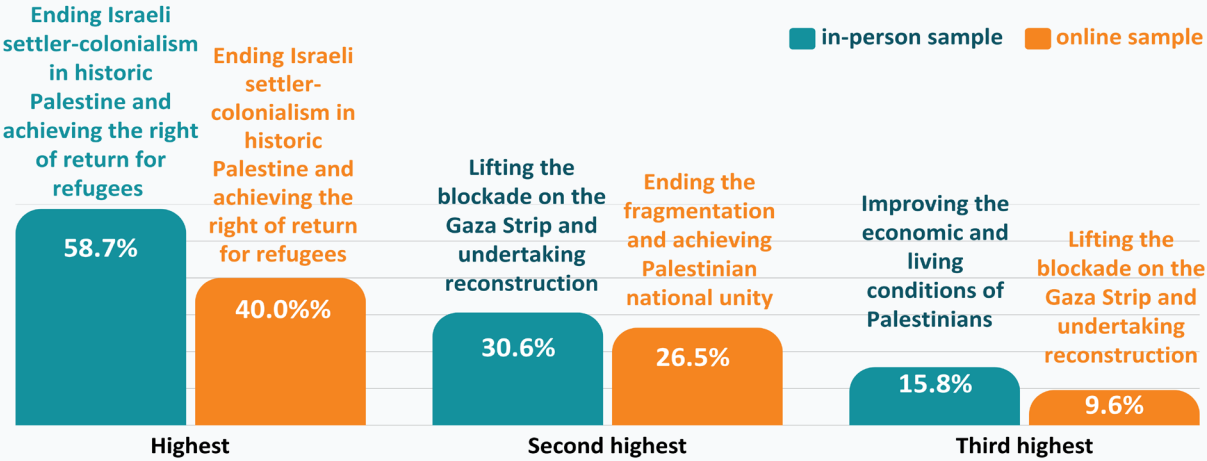
The results reflect the level of awareness of among Palestinian youth as well as the divergence in perceptions between them and the official Palestinian and international discourse on the components and scope of the Palestinian national project.

- "**Palestine**" is identified as historic Palestine (from the river to the sea) – not the Palestine defined by the 1967 borders - by 82.2% of the youth in the in-person sample and 95.2% of the online sample.

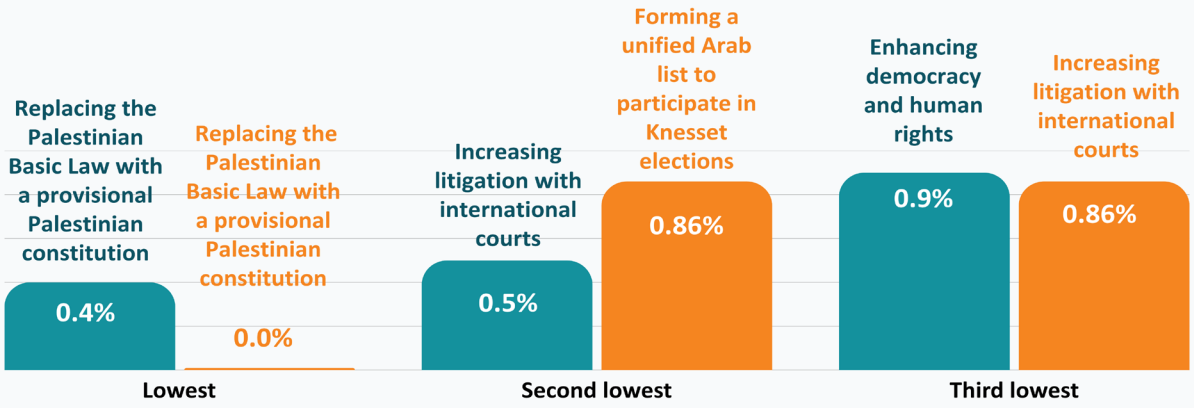
- The "**Palestinian people**" comprise all those of Palestinian origin and their descendants regardless of their current citizenship or place of residence, as well as any Palestinian who wishes to return by 81.4% of the in-person sample and 97% of the online sample.

❖ National Priorities

The highest 3 priorities from 19 given options



The lowest 3 priorities amon 19 given options



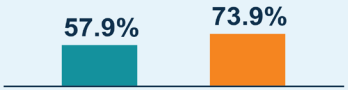
It is evident that there is a very wide gap between how Palestinian youth perceive national priorities and the perspectives held by the official Palestinian discourse and leadership.

❖ Means and Tools for Liberation

Most Effective Means

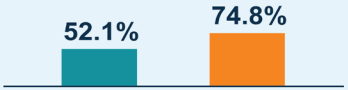
Mass and comprehensive civil disobedience

Defiance of and refusal to comply with all colonial laws and measures



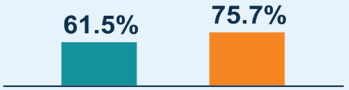
Popular resistance

All non-armed confrontations involving broad segments of the public



Grassroots resistance

in all its forms



Least Effective Means

Participation in Knesset elections



Not responding to Israeli forces and colonizers' violations

under the pretext of not giving them excuses/opportunities to escalate



Legal action with/through the international courts



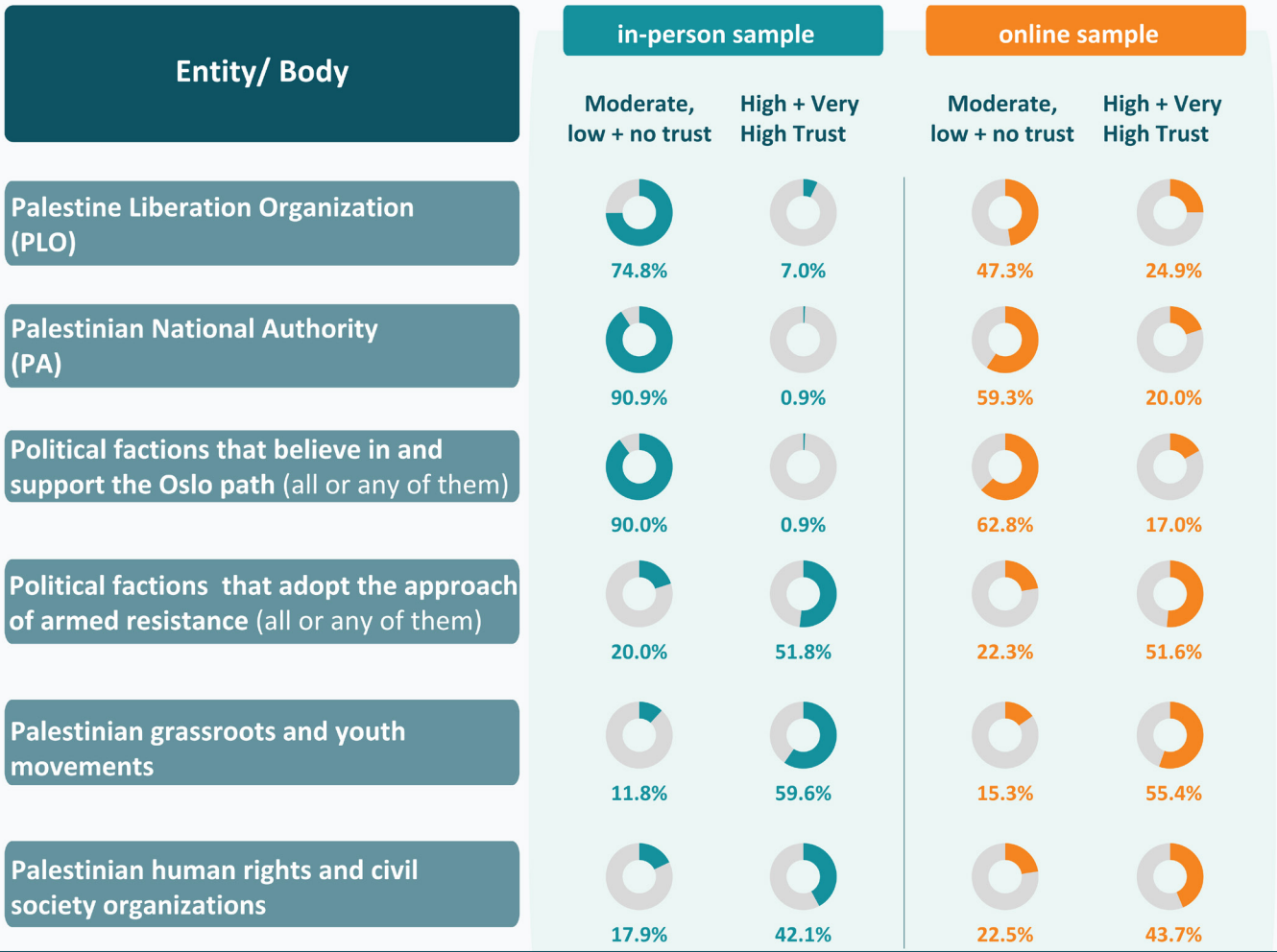
in-person sample online sample

Youth's support for resistance and defiance approaches are significantly higher than those for the approaches favored by the official Palestinian leadership.

These findings reflect the youth's belief in the necessity to change governments' policies through practical measures and sanctions against the Israeli colonial-apartheid regime.

❖ Trust in existing Palestinian leadership, political parties, and representative bodies

To what extent do you trust the ability of the following Palestinian entities/bodies to defend Palestinian rights and achieve national progress?



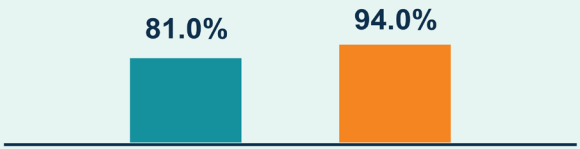
❖ The Role of Youth and Political Paralysis/Inaction

To what extent do the following factors influence the success of the Palestinian struggle in general?

in-person sample online sample

Palestinian political life needs a renewal of leadership and political structures

Needs it to a very great extent or
Needs comprehensive, radical change



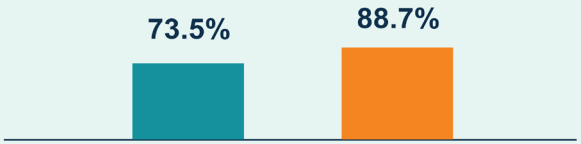
Emergence of new Palestinian political parties

Effective to large and a very large extent



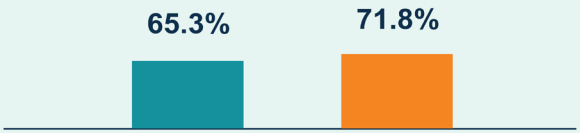
Political Participation of Palestinian youth

Effective to large and a very large extent



Palestinian youth are capable of developing new and more effective tools and methods of resistance

Effective to large and a very large extent



The results indicate a significant desire for radical and comprehensive renewal of Palestinian political systems, encouraging the emergence of new political factions, fostering youth engagement, and developing the tools of struggle.

The results of this survey highlight the gap between the convictions of Palestinian youth and those of their leadership. They reflect voices, aspirations, and questions that deserve to be heard, discussed, and incorporated into the development of an inclusive, national, liberation-oriented strategy.

Explore the full findings and read the analysis in "Palestinian Youth's Opinions on the Palestinian National Project: Its Nature, Means of Realization, and the Role of Palestinian Parties"

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