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# Seminar on Empowerment of Youth Organizations and Youth led civil society initiatives in the South-Mediterranean Framework

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Stop the oppression of women in  
the Islamic world: [www.ishr.org](http://www.ishr.org)























and the world could not get enough of it...



and we tried to show our solidarity...



and we often felt helpless...



and we were...inspired...





and we were... empowered...



one year on...?















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- academic
- youth & community worker
- educator
- activist
- learner

- social justice
- freedom
- equity
- democratic processes



















- education is political, politics is educational
- social change is a movement through the masses, culturally and politically
- every individual is a 'philosopher' engaged in the historical process, in other words, an active agent and capable of action
- Antonio Gramsci

- education as a project of freedom, creating the conditions for self and collective reflection and direction, and the promise of critical agency
- all individuals are subjects and 'knowers' of their world, their own experiences serve as the basis of an emancipatory process
- the production of knowledge is related to the political and to defining subjectivity.
- Paulo Freire



- *'No Westerner...knows very much about the Islamic world. Its out there, it's mainly desert, a lot of sheep, camels, people with knives between their teeth, terrorists, etc. The cultural heritage, the novels and other books that appear in English, are never paid attention to. There's nothing to prevent people here from saying what they wish...*

- *...the myths about America and the West in the Arab world are equally cliched: all Americans are oversexed and they have large feet and they eat too much. The result is that where there should be exchange and dialogue and communication, there's a debased kind of non-exchange' (Said, 2004:239)*



- *‘all representation is misrepresentation of one sort or another...’* (Said, 2004:237)



- engage with the 'other'
- critical listening
- critical dialogue
- intersectionality
- trust
- transnational/advocacy
- network building
- alliances
- praxis
- transformative action
- confrontation

mass consumerism ... critical mass



transnational solidarity...



transcending borders



- seeds of civil society
- research
- engage with civil society actors in Libya
- explore potential avenues for collaboration with NGOs and youth groups in Malta



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thank you

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