



Following an invitation from the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, selected members of the Baader Youth Network went on a political study trip to Berlin. The purpose of the trip was to give the students insights into the political and economic system of the Federal Republic of Germany. By this, the students shall be encouraged to question the political system back home and strengthen the democratic structures there. The program comprised meetings with politicians, scientists and Near-East experts, as well as visits in important German institutions like the German Bundestag, the Federal Foreign Office and, ARD (first German TV broadcasting station). Furthermore, the participants met with representatives of organizations that address the needs of immigrants from Arabic countries in Germany. Cultural activities completed the trip. The study trip was a great success. The participants held intense dialogues with all conversation partners, listened carefully to all presentations and asked many questions. Without exception, the students assessed the trip as enriching, providing them with new insights and perspectives in many fields. Back home, the participants will organize workshops on their own initiative in order to share their experiences with the other members of the Baade Youth Network. The Baader Youth Network is an initiative by Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung in cooperation with the International Peace and Cooperation Center in Jerusalem. Every year, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung conducts a trip with selected participants to Germany. These trips contribute in training young professionals, who will support the Palestinian state building process with a democratic understanding. Despite the need of such trips to strengthen Palestinian political knowledge and expertise, opportunities for extracurricular education are very limited for Palestinians, mainly due to the political situation. Moreover, the implementation of such trips is often impeded which also applied in the current case: Instead of thirteen participants only twelve were able to go to Germany because Israeli Security Forces denied exit to one participant without specification of the reasons.