

Palestine Seminar (2024-2025)

Student-led interdisciplinary seminar

Organizers: Youssef El Alaoui (History student), Nicola Brarda (former LILA student), Céline Casali (former Biology student), Neela Cathelain (former LILA student), Bilal Choho (PSE student), Loanne Guérin (PSE student), Damien Leprince (PSL student), and Lorenzo Zolfanelli (SPCI student)

S1 and S2, 18h-20h (ENS Ulm and Jourdan)

Organized by students and former students of ENS-PSL, this seminar includes about twenty sessions throughout the year.



Rehaf Al Batniji, *Gaza Fisherman*, 2017 (photographer's donation)

Presentation

The Palestine seminar is a continuation of the *Thinking with Palestine* seminar created last year. The seminar is imagined as a response to current events, and to the urgent need to “give the right to a space for reflection and construction, to think about what can be described, in the words of Günther Anders, as supraliminal events, meaning events situated beyond the threshold where human beings are able to conceptualize, or even represent to themselves, the effects induced by the use of tools of destruction”.

Our seminar has a double requirement: that of thinking with Palestine in its History and its current state, while recognizing that Palestine acts as a catalyst for transdisciplinary reflection on international law, geopolitics, economics, art, and on our humanity as such.

This reflective seminar must lead to an understanding, within each proposed theme, of the life of Palestinians, within Palestine and in exile, in the political context of the past and of the present. Furthermore, as members of an academic community, it seems essential to us to understand the realities of higher education in Palestine, the lives of students, and the working conditions of teacher-researchers.

The various sessions will give us the opportunity to present the work of researchers working on Palestine, and in particular that of Palestinian colleagues. Their intellectual and scientific production is all the more valuable as it remains hampered, and sometimes made invisible, by the daily realities of the order imposed by the Israeli state on Palestinians in Palestine.

Finally, the seminar is thought of as a methodological toolbox. The contributions of specialists from a variety of different fields will allow us to work with a plurality of methodological approaches: archival studies, field surveys, participant observations, interviews, literary analyses.

In conclusion, we hope with this seminar to understand Palestine, the world, and us.

This transdisciplinary seminar is supported by four departments of the ENS (the departments of Geography, History, Philosophy, ECLA and Cognitive Studies) and its sessions reflect the diversity of the disciplines taught there.

First semester program:

Monday, September 16th

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

Seminar inauguration

Sbeih Sbeih (IREMAM-CNRS), *La condition coloniale en Palestine.*

With **Leïla Vignal** (ENS)

Monday, September 23rd

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

Theme: Intellectuals' Commitment to Palestine

Ziad Majed (American University in Paris), *La Palestine, le monde et nous.*

With **Fatiha Kaouès** (CNRS-EPHE)

Monday, September 30th

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

Theme: International Law

Ardi Imseis (Queen's University), *The United Nations and the Question of Palestine: Rule by Law and the Structure of International Legal Subalternity.*

With **Camille Mansour**

Tuesday, October 1st

Jaurès Amphitheater (Ulm Campus)

Theme: International Law

Ardi Imseis (Queen's University), *Analysis on the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the illegality of Israel's occupation, rendered on 19 July 2024.*

Monday, October 14th

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

Theme: Economy and Industry

Walid Habbas (Palestinian Forum for Israeli Studies), *The Israeli colonial regime in the occupied territories since 1967 - An overview.*

Ismat Quzmar (Palestine Economic Policy Research Institute), *The Palestinian economy under Israeli occupation: economic dependency or colonial subjugation?*

With **Bernard Caillaud** (PSE)

Monday, October 21st

Dussane Room (Ulm Campus)

Theme: International Law

Susan Akram (Boston University), **Ahmed Abofoul** (Al-Haq Organization), **Omar Kamel**

(Sciences-Po), and **Michael Lynk** (Western University), *The implications of the cases from the International Courts in the Palestine-Israel conflict: a roundtable with experts.*

Monday, October 28th

Dussane Room (Ulm Campus)

Theme: Cinema

Screening of the film *Bir'em* (2023) by **Camille Clavel**, in the presence of the director.

With **Charlotte Schwarzing** (EHESS)

Monday, November 4th

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

Theme: Naqba

Arlette Khoury-Tadié, *Une enfance à Gaza.*

With **Régis Koetschet**

Monday, November 18th

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

Theme: Bioethics and Bio-power

Samirah Jarrar (Aix-Marseille University), *Transplantations d'organes en Palestine : Quand les biotechnologies rencontrent le colonialisme de peuplement.*

Khalil Allahham (Ifpo), *Détention des palestiniens comme outil et miroir de l'occupation.*

Friday, November 29th

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

International Day of Support for the Palestinian People

2:00 – 4:00 p.m.: **Ziad Majed, Christiane Chabry-Hessel.**

4:00 - 5:30 p.m.: Interlude (cultural activities)

5:30 - 7:30 p.m.: **Camille Mansour, Xavier Guignard, Omar Kamel**

Session in partnership with **ArabisENS.**

Monday, December 2nd

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

Theme: Education and Research

Maya Wind (UBC), *How Israeli Universities Deny Palestinian Freedom.*

With **Bernard Caillaud** (PSE)

Monday, December 16th

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

Theme: Intellectuals' Commitment to Palestine

Mjriam Abu Samra (Oxford), *Intergenerational Anticolonial Vanguard: The Palestinian Student Movement in Historical Perspective.* With **Myriam Catusse** (Ifpo).

Second semester program:

Friday January 17th

Dussane Room (Ulm Campus)

Raphaël Pitti, *Analyse comparative de la gestion de la crise humanitaire à Gaza et dans d'autres conflits* and **Eric Fiat** (Gustave Eiffel University).

Monday, January 20th

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

Theme: Arts and Literature

Sadia Agsous-Bienstein, *Les intellectuels arabes et la Shoah*.
With **Emmanuel Szurek** (EHESS)

Monday, January 27th

Jaurès Amphitheater (Ulm Campus)

Discussion with **Hala Abou Hassira**, Palestinian ambassador to France, and **Francesca Albanese**, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian Territories occupied since 1967 and **Leïla Vignal** (ENS-PSL).

Monday, February 3rd

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

Theme: Palestine in the Media

Benjamin Ferron (Paris Est Créteil University) and **Omar Kamel** (Sciences Po), *Le traitement médiatique de la question palestinienne*.

Monday February 10th (Collège de France)

Jaurès Amphitheater (Ulm Campus)

Françoise Vergès (UCL), **Sonia Fayman**, and **Maxime Benatouil**, *Antisémitisme et antisionisme*.

With **Frédéric Lordon** (CESSP)

Monday, February 17th (postponed)

Monday, March 3rd (postponed)

Wednesday, March 12th

In collaboration with the Cinéma les 3 Luxembourg (6th)

Theme: Cinema

Screening of the movie **No Other Land** (2025) by **Basel Adra**, **Hamdan Ballal**, **Yuval Abraham** et **Rachel Szor**.

With **Hugo Darroman** (AMU, former ENS-PSL student)

Monday, March 17th

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

Theme: International Law

Lara Elborno (lawyer) and **Emilio Dabed** (Lawyer, Science-Po Aix-IREMAM, Al-Quds University/Bard College, Jerusalem), *The challenges and implications of recognizing the State of Palestine, with the case of France.*

With **Yazid Ben Houdet** (EHESS)

Monday, March 24th

Salle des Actes (Ulm Campus)

Theme: Education and Research

Ibrahim S. Rabaia and **Lourdes Habash** (Birzeit University), *The Hidden War on Higher Education: Unmasking the Educide in Palestine.*

With **Sophie Roux** (ENS).

Thursday, March 27th

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

Theme: Bioethics and Bio-power

Stéphanie Latte-Abdallah (EHESS), *Detention of the living, the dead and necroviolence in Palestine.*

With **Clémence Vendryes** (TELEMMé, Université d'Aix-Marseille).

Monday, March 31st

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

Sami Khatib (BICAR), *Palestine as symptom and cause: A critique of the human rights discourse.*

With **Éric Alliez** (Paris 8) and **Verónica Gago** (Paris 8, TBC).

Monday, April 7th

Jaurès Amphitheater (Ulm Campus)

Theme: Arts and Literature

Najla Nakhlé-Cerruti (IREMAM-CNRS), *Faire du théâtre dans la Palestine contemporaine.*

With **Astrid Chabrat-Kadjan** (Grenoble Alpes University)

Session in partnership with **La Semaine Arabe**, organized by **ArabisENS**.

Monday, April 28th

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

Theme: Environment

Mazin Qumsiyeh (Bethlehem University), *Ecocide versus sustainability of human and natural communities: Palestine and beyond.*

With **Marc Fleurbaey** (PSE)

Monday, May 12th

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

Theme: Environment

Taher Labadi (Ifpo) and **Fadia Panosetti** (CECID-ULB), *L'agriculture palestinienne en contexte colonial.*

With **Noor Abu Khdeir** (Paris I)

Monday, May 26th

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

Rafaëlle Maison (Professor and head of the Master's program at the Institut d'Etudes de Droit Public, Université Paris-Saclay), *UN report on "Israel's systematic use of sexual and reproductive violence" (March 13, 2025).*

With **Insaf Rezegui** (PhD in international law, Univ. Paris-Cité, associate researcher at the Thucydide Center at Assas and Institut français du Proche-Orient) and **Leïla Vignal** (ENS-PSL).

Monday, June 9th (postponed to September 2025!)

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

Chloé Rosner (Centre de recherche français à Jérusalem). *Archéologie et colonisation en Palestine.*

Clémence Vendryes (TELEMMe, Aix-Marseille University), *La fabrique coloniale des espaces funéraires palestiniens.*

With **Youssef El-Alaoui** (ENS)

Tuesday, June 17th

Salle Borel (Ulm)

Noor Nieftagodien (University of Witwatersrand, South Africa), *Re-imagining international campaigns for justice: from the Anti-Apartheid Movement to Palestine solidarity.*

With **Sadia Agsous-Bienstein** (Professor at Sorbonne-nouvelle and researcher in Palestinian and Israeli culture and Arab-Jewish relations) and **Tal Dor** (sociologist and critical educator, Aix Marseille University/IREMAM).

Monday, June 23rd

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

Theme: Arts and Literature

Rehaf Al Batniji and Marion Slitine (Roundtable)