

Annual Report 2024

July 2025

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ABOUT ELBARLAMENT

Elbarlament¹ is a peacebuilding and democracy support organisation, with a special focus on empowering women and youth. We implement democracy support and peacebuilding projects in four thematic fields: Arts & Culture; Civic Education; Environment & Climate Change; Women, Peace and Security. We support parliaments, governments, civil society actors and international institutions, implementing projects and delivering consulting services in German, English, French and Arabic. Our international and multilingual team is based in Berlin and Iraq.

We believe in the transformative power of culture and the arts as well as inclusive dialogue, especially in contexts of state fragility. Through our work we aim to:

- Promote peaceful coexistence between all groups in society
- Foster democratic norms and practices
- Support dialogue between civil society and political decision makers
- Increase environmental awareness and contribute to mitigating climate change-related conflicts

We follow an integrated approach in supporting locally-owned reform agendas, combining arts-based tools for peacebuilding and civic education with more classical tools like technical assistance.

Our services:

- Training and events
 - Civic education and leadership training
 - Technical assistance for governments and parliaments
 - Multi-stakeholder dialogue
 - Conferences and panel discussions
 - Creative writing and filmmaking training
 - Study trips
- Research
 - Baseline studies
 - Policy papers
 - Research publications
- Consulting work
 - Programme design
 - Conceptual advice

¹ This report covers our two legal identities (elbarlament GmbH and elbarlament e.V.).

PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED BY ELBARLAMENT E.V.

Women Talking Peace (concluded)

- **Country:** Iraq
- **Duration of the project:** August 2020 to February 2024
- **Project objective:** For women to perform leading roles in organisations, institutions or peace processes in politics and society in Iraq, and in general to strengthen the role of women in reconstruction and in peace processes
- **Main activities in 2024:**
 - Regional meeting in February 2024 in Erbil, Iraq



Funded by: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)

More information:

- [Women Talking Peace platform](#)
- Social media channels: [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) (in Arabic)
- Perspectives on Peace (available in [English](#) and [Arabic](#))
- Success stories of the ToT-participants: [Sahar](#), [Haifaa](#), [Manaar](#), [Heleen](#)

Mosul Tells – Restoring Community Links Through Art and Oral History (concluded)

- **Country:** Iraq
- **Project duration:** September 2022 – December 2024
- **Project objective:** The project aimed to contribute to the re-establishment of social cohesion through oral history and art and to make the cultural diversity of Mosul visible.
- **Main activities in 2024:**
 - Puppet theatre performances
 - Exhibition in several different cities in Iraq
 - Published animations on youtube
 - Published graphic novel
 - Panel discussion “Peacebuilding: what art can do” in Berlin together with Creative expression through films project referenced below



- **Funded by:** German Federal Foreign Office and Art+



The project started in September 2022, with Paia Agency as our Iraqi project partner.

More information:

- [Mosul Tells website](#)
- Social media channels on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)
- [Playlist](#) with documentary, animation videos and puppet show on Youtube channel
- [Graphic novel](#)

Towards enhancing the resilience of women human rights defenders in Yemen to advocate for women's and children's rights

- **Country:** Yemen
- **Duration of the project:** March 2022 to July 2024
- **Project objective:** To contribute to enhancing the resilience of women human rights defenders in Yemen to defend human rights, in particular women's and children's rights
- **Main activities in 2024:**
 - Psycho-social support to human rights defenders: one-on-one counseling sessions, group therapy, stress management workshops, and resilience-building activities
 - Participation at the 55th session of the UN Human Rights Council on women Human Rights Defenders
 - Organisation of the convening “Fragile to Fragile” regional knowledge exchange on Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV)”
 - Publications of a [self-referral service guide for Yemeni women human rights defenders](#)
 - Publication of the [Resilient Leadership: A Training Manual for Women Human Rights Defenders in Yemen.](#)
- **Official project partners:** Peace Track Initiative and To Be Foundation for Rights and Freedoms
- **Funded by:** European Union



More information:

- Project [page](#) on elbarlament site
- [Self-referral service guide for Yemeni women human rights defenders](#)
- [Resilient Leadership: A Training Manual for Women Human Rights Defenders in Yemen](#)

Civil society and democratic experiences for Ukrainian women (concluded)

- **Country:** Germany
- **Project duration:** December 2023 – May 2024
- **Project objective:** To promote the political and societal participation of Ukrainian refugee women and encourage them to become active through their own initiatives
- **Main activities in 2024:**
 - Workshops for 40 Ukrainian women on the political system, current parliamentary situation and policy-making and organs of power in Germany

- Final networking meeting in June
- Shadowing programme at the German Bundestag in the fall
- **Funded by:** Bundeszentrale für politische Bildung (bpb)



One of the participants

More information:

- [Project page](#) on the elbarlament website
- Social media channels of the project: [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) (Ukrainian & English)
- [Video](#) about the project

Creative expression through films (concluded)

- **Country:** Lebanon
- **Project duration:** February 2023 – December 2024
- **Project objective:** The project comprised a series of independent video/film workshops that aimed to motivate people from all regions of Lebanon to express their ideas and desires in a creative way and thus participate in the public discourse on Lebanon's political, social, cultural and economic development.
- **Main activities in 2024:**
 - Six filmmaking workshops in Tripoli, Hammana, Mtein, Kobayat, Ehden, Jbeil
 - Film screening in Beirut in August
 - Panel discussion "Peacebuilding: what art can do" in Berlin together with Mosul tells project referenced above

- Two films with compilations of some of the video diaries created during the workshops. [Video #1](#), [Video #2](#)
- **Funded by:** German Foreign Office



Creative expression through films was a socio-cultural project with a series of ten independent workshops in Lebanon. These workshops use film expression to transform education, equip people with the tools to communicate, think critically, auto-reflect or sometimes (re)build self-confidence by (re)connecting with their inner self. Selected video diaries produced in the workshops were screened publicly in 2024.

More information:

- [Project page](#) on the elbarlament website
- Social media channels of the project: [Facebook](#)
- Diaries on our youtube channel, [part 1](#) and [part 2](#)

Democracy needs civic education: a civic education platform in Iraq

- **Country:** Iraq
- **Project duration:** February 2023 – February 2025
- **Project objective:** To contribute to a democratic, cohesive and peaceful Iraqi society through an increased social and political engagement of civil society, especially youth, at the local, regional and national level.

- **Main activities in 2024:**

- Launch of digital platform [Ouraq](#)
- Training activities for citizens in Kirkuk (April 2024) and Muthana Dhi Qar (May 2024) on civic education and climate change.
- Three “Climate Change and Civic Education” workshops in Muthana, Basra, and Nasiriyah in June
- Networking event in Al-Basra
- **Funded by:** German Federal Foreign Office



Civic education is used to describe the democratic competencies of citizens to participate in social and political processes. It is a way to promote peaceful nation-building and reconciliation, including dialogue between Iraqis of different tribes, religions, ethnicity, etc. The project's key component was the creation of a coherent political education offer in the form of a **digital civic education platform**. The Ouraq platform provides interested Iraqis and others access to a range of resources, including articles, videos, and

interactive materials designed to facilitate learning and engagement. The platform also promotes the visibility of Iraqi organisations active in the field of civic education.

More information:

- [Project page](#) on the elbarlament website
- Digital Platform [Ouraq](#)
- Social media channels of the project: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [X \(Twitter\)](#)
- Youtube [playlist](#) of all videos produced

Women Taking the Lead

- **Country:** Iraq
- **Project duration:** November 2024 – March 2026
- **Project objective:** Empower women-led civil society organisations to engage in policy dialogue and advocacy, ensuring that women's voices are heard in shaping the future of Iraq. Part of SPACE.
- **Main activities in 2024:**
 - Project set-up
- **Funded by:** Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)

More information:

- [Project page](#) on the elbarlament website
- Social media channels of the project: [Facebook](#)

Women and Youth in Democracy (WYDE) Civic Engagement

- **Country:** Sub-Saharan countries
- **Project duration:** January 2022 – December 2026
- **Project objective:** To improve the enfranchisement, empowerment, and inclusion of youth in all levels of democratic participation at the national, regional and global scales.
- **Main activities in 2023:**
 - Series of online training workshops and mentoring support for youth CSOs from Africa
- **Funded by:** European Union

From 2022 – 2026 elbarlament will be implementing activities within the EU funded WYDE Civic Engagement project as a member of the [EPD network](#). WYDE Civic Engagement aims to improve the enfranchisement, empowerment, and inclusion of youth in all levels of democratic participation at the national, regional and global scales. WYDE Civic Engagement's approach is informed by the need for

youth engagement and inclusion not only at national level, but beyond and above it. With half of the world's population being under 30, the continued survival of democracy is highly dependent on buy-in and support among its youth. The overall objective of the WYDE project is therefore to fund and implement national and transnational projects in support of youth civic engagement and participation in the decision-making processes across the Sub-Saharan Countries.

More information:

- [Project page](#) on the elbarlament website
- [EPD page](#) on the project

Quality and Effectiveness in Dialogue and Participation in Iraq (concluded)

- **Country:** Iraq
- **Project duration:** October 2023 – March 2024
- **Project objective:** To advance and improve the results and processes of previous and ongoing dialogues and to prepare future dialogue and participation (D&P) processes with enhanced governmental ownership in Iraq.
- **Main activities in 2024:**
 - Two roundtable discussions in Baghdad, Iraq with stakeholders from governmental bodies and civil society organisations on a) complaint mechanisms between civil society and governmental stakeholders and b) climate change and water management in February
 - Dialogue sessions addressing the impacts of climate change in Iraq in May
 - Focus groups for local civil society organisations and high ranking decision makers from different ministries and governmental levels
 - Development and publication of a Toolkit for dialogue and participation in Iraq
- **Funded by:** Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Elbarlament contributed to GIZ's PDP project with the project "Quality and Effectiveness in Dialogue and Participation in Iraq", with the aim to advance and improve the processes and results of existing and ongoing dialogue and participation processes as well as prepare future processes with enhanced governmental ownership.

More information:

- [Project page](#) on the elbarlament website
- [Toolkit for dialogue and participation in Iraq](#)

- [Playlist](#) on elbarlament's Youtube channel with impressions from the workshops

CONSULTANCIES IMPLEMENTED BY ELBARLAMENT GMBH

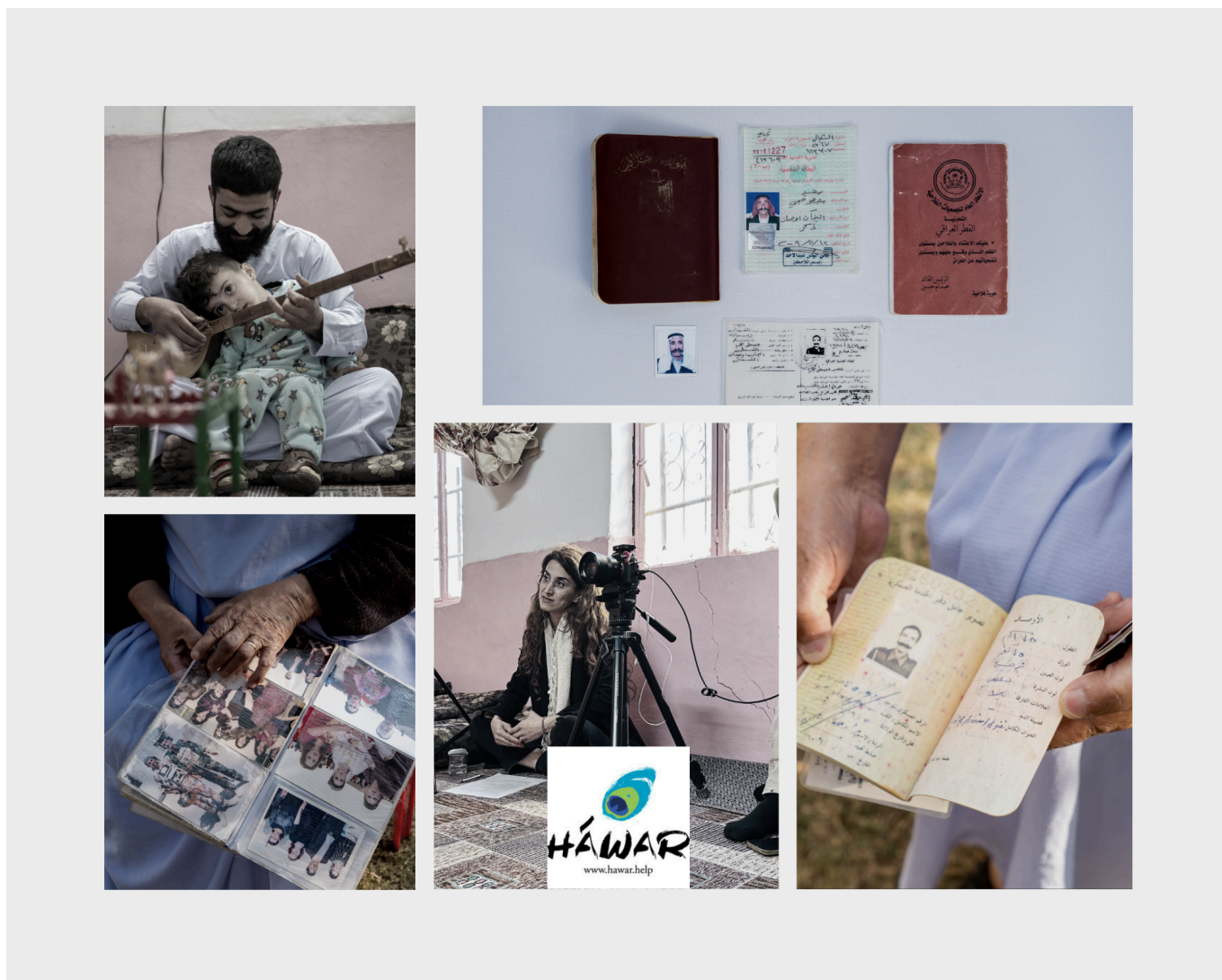
Policy briefs for “Women4Peace” GIZ project

- **Country:** Iraq, Yemen, Syria, Libya
- **Project duration:** November 2024 – May 2025
- **Project objective:** Write policy briefs for Iraq, Yemen, Syria and Libya informing policy makers and partners alike about gaps in the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 (Women, Peace and Security Agenda).
- **Main activities in 2024:**
 - Developing a research concept and desk research
- **Commissioned by:** Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Archiving the Yezidi culture

- **Country:** Iraq
- **Project duration:** December 2024 – March 2025
- **Project objective:** Support the organisation Hawar.help in building an archive for Yezidi culture
- **Main activities in 2024:**
 - Research on site in Iraq: interviews, video and photo documentation

- **Funded by:** German Federal Foreign Office



Artistic expression for violence and extremism prevention

- **Country:** Kyrgyzstan
- **Project duration:** March – October 2024
- **Project objective:** Engaging youth in filmmaking promote trust and contribute to reconciliation, especially where groups of participants comprise young people from different ethnic backgrounds
- **Main activities in 2024:**
 - Conducting training workshops for youth, during which they produce short films and learned how to facilitate workshops on participatory film/videomaking (ToT approach)

- Supervision (online) of follow up workshops conducted by the trained youths
- Conducting a videomaking workshop with youths
- Production of a documentary film about the workshops
- **Commissioned by:** The project was part of the GIZ programme 'Preventing violent extremism in central Asia', funded by the German Federal Foreign Office.

Mousanada 2: Strengthening Institutions and Public Policies for Good Governance in Libya - Advisory services (concluded)

- **Country:** Libya
- **Project duration:** June - December 2024
- **Project objective:** To support the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) with drafting an application for co-funding by the European Union for the second phase of the project *Mousanada*
- **Main activities in 2024:**
 - Drafting of project documents (Description of the Action, logframe) for submission to the European Union
- **Commissioned by:** Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH