

Israeli-Palestinian Peace Process

*NATO and the New Kids on the Block:
Finding Common Cause in the Age of Global Security*

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The Role of Media and Politics

- Mediatic generations
- Soft power applied to the societal level
- Media are barometers of attitudes, reflect public opinion and media affect public opinion

A Chronicle of Gaza, in Kitsch Form

November 11, 2009, NYT

- “I can offer you a discount on the headbands,” said Tareq Abu Dayyeh, souvenir-store owner. “They’re just like the kind used by suicide bombers.”
- He was making a sales pitch at his Chairman Arafat Shop, one of Gaza’s oddest commercial outlets.

A Chronicle of Gaza, in Kitsch Form (Cont.)

- When the store opened, it was called the PLO Flag Shop, and the souvenirs reflected hope. Yasir Arafat, the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization, had returned from exile to take control of parts of Gaza and the West Bank. Peace seemed to be on the horizon and in tribute the shop displayed little crossed Israeli and Palestinian flag pins and key chains, Israeli flags and menorahs, the candelabra that is a symbol of Judaism.

A Chronicle of Gaza, in Kitsch Form (Cont.)

- A portrait of the Hamas prime minister, Ismail Haniya, replaced a poster of Mahmoud Abbas, president of the Palestinian Authority, at the back of the store in 2007, when Hamas's militia defeated forces loyal to Mr. Abbas.
- “Hamas people told us to take Abbas down,” Mr. Abu Dayyeh said. “The customer is always right!”

Filming Israel's trouble spots Samira Shackle New Statesman

- film is a non-violent way for Palestinians to resist occupation by documenting the violation of their human rights, and using technology such as YouTube to distribute it. As Sarit Michaeli, Communications Director of B'Tselem, says, “The Israeli public and authorities don't trust Palestinian witnesses when they say what they have been through. They are more likely to believe this.”

The Middle East Conflict on PC: *Alfred Hackensberger Qantara.de*

- In "Under Siege", the backdrop for entertainment is the "liberation struggle of the Palestinian people." The Uzis rattle, the hand grenades explode, and the Israeli soldiers behind the high barricades of their military posts exude a deep "ahhhh" as they die. Simultaneously, the points quickly rise on the scoreboard.

The Middle East Conflict on PC (cont.)

- "We are attempting to provide a new sort of digital dignity," says Radwan Kasmiya, the manager of Afkar Media. Under Siege is meant to be an answer to popular selling games from the USA, such as Delta Force or America's Army, which, for the most part, present Arabs in terms of clichés and stereotypes.

"Our game isn't about killing. We tell a story," stresses Kasmiya, who began programming at the age of 13.

Videoclips

- <http://www.memritv.org/clip/en/0/0/0/0/0/0/0/1858.htm>
- <http://www.memritv.org/clip/en/0/0/0/0/0/0/0/1540.htm>
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KUXSFsJV084>
- Farfour

Results

- Ehud Olmert, Prime Minister, said in 2007 of the 'sharmuta' tape that “I saw the tape and was ashamed ... such arrogance and brutality cannot be tolerated. I felt awful that a soldier was present and did not intervene.”

Further Reading

- **NATO Security through Science Series - E:
Human and Societal Dynamics**
- Volume 17, 2007
- **The Media: The Terrorists' Battlefield**
*Edited by NATO Centre of Excellence Defence
Against Terrorism, Ankara, Turkey*
- ISBN 978-1-58603-730-7
- [http://www.booksonline.iospress.nl/Content/
View.aspx?piid=5666](http://www.booksonline.iospress.nl/Content/View.aspx?piid=5666)