



PASSIA SEMINAR ON

**IRELAND AND PALESTINE – DIVIDED COUNTRIES
UNITED BY HISTORY**

10-14 OCTOBER 2004

Draft Programme

DAY ONE: 10 October 2004

- 9.30-10.00 Welcoming Address / Opening Remarks
Dr. Mahdi Abdul Hadi, *Head of PASSIA, Jerusalem*
- 10.00-11.15 Modern History of Ireland (1)
- Ireland during the period between 1912 and 1922
- The Easter Rising in Dublin in 1916, the evolution of Irish Republicanism and the War of Independence 1919-21
- The creation of Northern Ireland in 1920, the Treaty negotiations of 1921 and the subsequent Civil War of 1922-23.
- 11.15-11.30 Break
- 11.30-12.30 Modern History of Ireland (1) *contd.*
- 12.30-13.30 Lunch
- 13.30-15:00 Modern History of Ireland (2)
- Self-government and constitutional development in the new Irish Free State and the political opposition to it led by Eamon de Valera
- The Fianna Fáil governments under de Valera between 1932 and 1948
- The emergence of the modern Irish state in the 1950s and 1960s up to the outbreak of sectarian violence in Northern Ireland.
- 15.00-15.15 Break
- 15:15-16.30 Summary: Political actors, constituencies and party development in the Republic of Ireland.

DAY TWO: 11 October 2004

- 9.15-10.45 History of Northern Ireland
- Northern Ireland from its foundation (the Government of Ireland Act, 1920) up to the suspension of Stormont in 1972: political actors, parties and loyalties.
- 10.45-11.00 Break

- 11.00-12.30 'The Troubles' (1968-1995): Three decades of unrest
- 12.30-13.30 Lunch
- 13.30-16.00 Film: *Michael Collins*

DAY THREE: 12 October 2004

- 9.15-10.45 British policy and rule in Northern Ireland
- 10.45-11.00 Break
- 11.00-12.30 The Dynamics of Conflict in Northern Ireland – Nationalists and Unionists
- 12.30-13.30 Lunch
- 13.30-14.45 The origins of the 'Peace Process' in the early 1990s
- 1994 Downing Street Declaration
- 1996 Mitchell Report
- 14.45-15.00 Break
- 15.00-16.30 Continuous negotiations – achievements and setbacks
- 1998 Good Friday Agreement
- Omagh bomb attack
- 1999 Hillsborough Agreement
- Weapons decommissioning
- End to British direct rule and its re-introduction in 2000
- The continuing struggle for dominance between the two extremes of the political spectrum (Sinn Fein and Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionists)

DAY FOUR: 13 October 2004

- 9.15-10.45 Continuous negotiations – achievements and setbacks, *contd.*
and the current state of affairs of the negotiations in Northern Ireland
- 10.45-11.00 Break
- 11.00-12.30 Analysis: The roles and influence of the international community (especially US, EU and UN) in the peace process
- 12.30-13.30 Lunch
- 13.30-15.00 Analysis: Lessons learned from the Northern Ireland experience for conflict resolution in general and for the Palestinian-Israeli conflict in particular

15.00-15.15 Break

15.15-16.30 Discussion (with NSU people?) on the similarities and differences of the conflicts in Northern Ireland and Palestine-Israel

DAY FIVE: 14 October 2004

9.15-10.45 Contemporary Society in both parts of Ireland (religion, ethnicity, classes, etc.)

10.45-11.00 Break

11.00-12.30 Recent economic developments in both parts of Ireland

12.30-13.30 Lunch

13.30-15.00 International relations and foreign policy in both parts of Ireland (with focus on the Middle East)

15.00-15.15 Break

15.15-16.00 Final Discussion and Wrap-up