



Mapping of initiatives addressing human rights violations during armed conflicts in Lebanon

forumZFD

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As part of their programme area 'Dealing with the Past' forum Civil Peace Service (*forumZFD*) launched a project under the title "Mapping of Initiatives Addressing Human Rights Violations during Armed Conflicts in Lebanon" in 2015. The project was conducted in collaboration with the organisation Lebanon Support. The overall objective has been to produce a mapping of governmental and non-governmental initiatives dealing with the past, as well as initiatives responding to contexts of present armed conflict. Therefore, it provides an online catalogue that hosts a mapping of initiatives directly/indirectly addressing past and present-day armed conflicts in Lebanon.

Lebanon Support developed a search engine for the catalogue that gives users and readers of the catalogue the opportunity to search and filter same-type initiatives according to their codes, such as the overall paradigm, type of activity, type of implementing organisation, or target groups. The type of institutions and organisations covered in this mapping include the Lebanese Government, political parties, local Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), International NGOs as well as cultural and community-based associations (i.e. of NGOs, artists, etc.). However, the mapping does not cover specific materials (e.g. books, handbooks, manuals, etc.).

The mapping presents various types of post-war initiatives ranging from state reparations to non-governmental commemoration and truth-telling initiatives. Each initiative is presented with 12 codes/tags (defined in the search engine) alongside a brief summary that describe the nature of the initiative, its overall objective, and the general paradigm adopted to deal with past and present-day political violence in Lebanon. In addition, each initiative is associated with related links to resources and materials. The titles used in the catalogue are only meant to represent the content of the initiatives and do not necessarily reflect the actual subproject names used by the implementing organisations.



The coding framework being used to identify the several initiatives covered in this mapping was not developed according to a standard normative conception of transitional justice. It has rather been designed and gradually developed to reflect the major frequent paradigms of local initiatives in addressing human rights violations related to armed-conflict in Lebanon. This grounded methodological approach allowed *forumZFD* not to alienate or exclude local perspectives and paradigms. Initiatives are classified under three overall paradigms: truth and reconciliation; compensation; disarmament and amnesty. The paradigms' titles were chosen to reflect organisations' approaches to address human rights violations in armed conflict in Lebanon.

This mapping covers a relatively large sample of initiatives but cannot be considered comprehensive as data collection was limited to 30 interviews and an online review. Nonetheless, to address this limitation, the *forumZFD* decided to publish the mapping in the form of an online catalogue which will allow continuous updating of the mapping. It is intended to establish a permanent database for initiatives of this kind by allowing users to develop and continuously update the catalogue by filling out [the form on the mapping's page](#) and sending it to lebanon@forumzfd.de. Given that the initiative fulfils the main selection criteria (i.e. addressing the Lebanese civil war, or responding to contexts of present armed conflict), *forumZFD* will follow up on the initiative, collect data from the latter organisation and update the database accordingly. Furthermore, we appreciate your general feedback and remarks on this online catalogue, which you can share through the contact formula as well.