



‘Good’ Governance and State Formation in Palestine: Governance without ‘Real’ Government and Aid for ‘Phantom’ Authority

Alaa Adel Tartir, Development Studies Institute-DESTIN--(A.Tartir@lse.ac.uk)

Supervisors: Prof. Mary Kaldor and Dr. Denisa Kostovicova

Research Objective

The objective of this research is to analyze the failure of state formation in Palestine in the past seventeen years, through pursuing a ‘good governance approach’, and examining the interrelationship between ‘good’ governance and development in Palestine within the high level of aid dependency and the absence of a real state or government.

Research Methodology

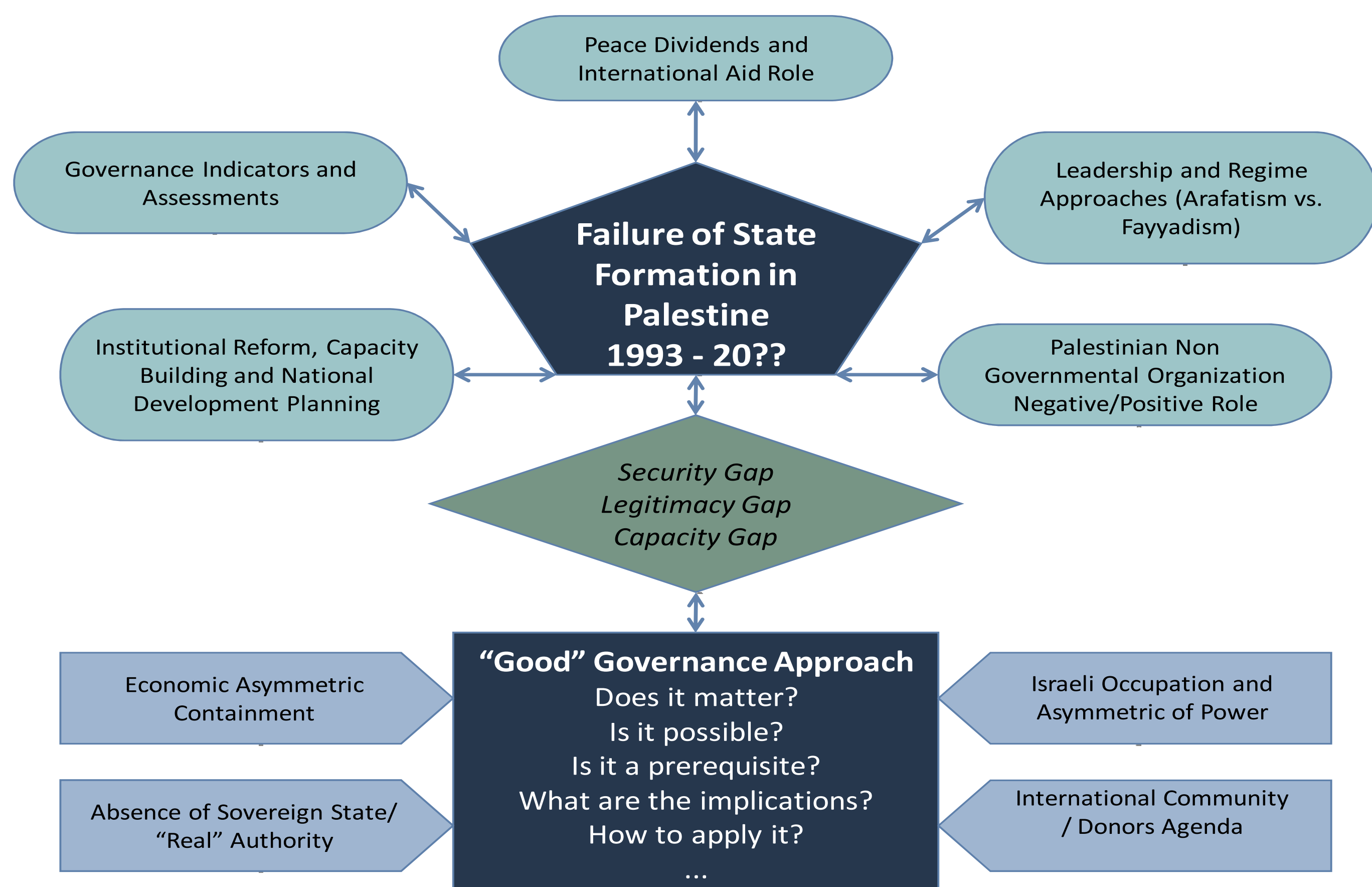
- National Expert Survey: 120 expert from twelve sectors.
- Two mini-questionnaires for 50 donor representative and the 50 Palestinian NGOs working in governance.
- Semi-structured interviews, case studies, and observations from the field: This research may witness the birth of the Palestinian state!



Research Questions

- Does governance really matter for Palestine and is the good governance a pre-requisite to the state formation in Palestine?
- Is ‘good’ governance viable under occupation, and with the absence of ‘real’ state?
- Why the Arafatism approach failed? And why the neo-liberal Fayyadism approach seems to be successful in promoting good governance, fighting corruption, building institutions and the state, although of the widening in the authority’s legitimacy gap?
- Does aid dependency and donors intervention ‘hinder’ the quality of governance in Palestine?
- To what extent does the non-governmental organizations working in the good governance realm, play an ‘influential’ role in promoting good governance and building the state?
- To what extent does the current governance indicators are suitable to be used in evaluating governance in Palestine? And what are the ‘missing’ aspects?

The Research General Framework...The Story of State Building in Palestine



This research aims to:

- Analyze the leadership approaches and compare between the Arafatism and Fayyadism.
- Examine the role of international aid in governance and state failure/building, and inspect the potential impact of aid dependency on the quality of governance.
- Study the role, impact, and effectiveness of the Palestinian NGOs working in good governance realm on stimulating a better governance culture and helping in state building.
- Investigate the institutional reform and development plans since the Palestinian Authority establishment with special focus on the Palestinian Reform and Development Plan, PRDP I, II and the 13th government plan.
- Come up with a national measurement and assessment of the governance status, according to international best practices, considering the particularity of the Palestinian case.

