

Shawan Jabarin is a Palestinian national and father of four children. Since 2006, Jabarin has been the General Director of Al-Haq, the first human rights organisation in the Arab region.

In 2013, Jabarin was elected Vice President of the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), Paris, and re-elected as FIDH Secretary General in 2019. In 2013, Jabarin was elected as a Commissioner for the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ), Geneva, and re-elected as a member of the ICJ Executive Committee in 2018.

Shawan is a recipient of the Reebok Human Rights Award for his defence of human rights.

According to Amnesty International, Jabarin was the first Palestinian prisoner of conscience. Over several years, Jabarin served various sentences under administrative detention (arrest without charge or trial). For many years, he was banned from travel by the Israeli occupying authorities.

Jabarin received a BA in Sociology from Birzeit University and an LLM in International Human Rights Law from the National University of Ireland, Galway. Jabarin received the Outstanding Student Award from the Irish Centre for Human Rights.

In 1987, Jabarin started his career at Al-Haq as a field researcher, documenting human rights abuses by the Israeli occupying authorities throughout the occupied Palestinian territory. He then shifted to legal research and took over international advocacy.

Jabarin served as a part-time lecturer at Birzeit University, Palestine, towards 2015.

Jabarin participated in many international conferences on International Criminal Law and International Human Rights Law around the world.

Jabarin took part in many advanced academic programmes at the Columbia University, USA, and University of Strasbourg, France.

In 2005, in collaboration with the International Human Rights Network, Jabarin was involved in training Iraqi human rights actors and academics in Jordan, with a focus on documenting war crimes and crimes against humanity.

Jabarin engaged in advanced training to Iraqi human rights activists to document crimes committed by ISIS across Iraq (organised by FIDH in 2016, Lebanon).

Jabarin headed five fact-finding missions on behalf of FIDH and ICJ to Egypt following the August 2013 Rabaa massacre, 2014, and to Pakistan regarding minority rights violations and execution of minors, 2014 and 2018.

Currently, Jabarin is following up on Palestine's case with the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court.