

Rula Maayah

Born on August 2, 1970, in Jerusalem, Rula Maayah is a Palestinian politician and public servant known for her commitment to international cooperation, youth engagement, and tourism development. A member of the Fatah political movement, Maayah has built a distinguished career in both national and international arenas.

Education and Early Roles

Maayah holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Birzeit University and a High Diploma in Public Administration from the Catholic University of Milan.

She began her career in the Ministry of Youth and Sports, where she headed the departments of international relations and projects. In this capacity, she was responsible for planning, developing international partnerships, and coordinating youth-related initiatives. Additionally, she worked in strategic planning within the ministry, focusing on policies and long-term development strategies.

She later moved to the Ministry of Justice, where she served as General Director of International Relations. In this role, she represented the ministry in the Justice Sector Working Group with donor countries and continued to lead both the international relations and project planning departments. She also contributed to strategic planning efforts, shaping policies to enhance the ministry's effectiveness and international cooperation.

Minister of Tourism and Antiquities (2012–2024)

From 2012 to 2024, Rula Maayah served as the Minister of Tourism and Antiquities. During her 12-year tenure, she focused on marketing Palestine as a historical and cultural destination, working to build strong relationships with international organizations and tourism counterparts worldwide. She emphasized the importance of tourism as a vital pillar of the Palestinian economy, highlighting its role in job creation, economic resilience, and strengthening national identity through cultural preservation. In this role, Maayah concentrated on strategic planning and policy development to guide the ministry's initiatives and long-term objectives.

Political and International Engagement

Maayah has been actively involved in youth and political organizations since the early stages of her career. She represented Palestine in the International Union of Socialist Youth as a bureau member responsible for international relations and was also a member of the international relations committee of the Fatah Youth Organization.

Appointed by presidential decree, she served as a member of the Higher Council for Childhood and Motherhood, overseeing international relations initiatives. She is currently a member of the Palestinian National Council and the Central Council, continuing her role in shaping national policy.

Regional Representation

Maayah also previously served as a member of the Executive Committee of the Arab Tourism Organization, where she headed the International Relations Committee. In addition, she was a member of the Presidential Committee for Church Affairs, contributing to state-level coordination on church-related matters.

Recognition and Current Roles

In recognition of her contributions to international cooperation, Maayah received the highest decoration of honor from the President of Italy. She is also a member of the Board of Trustees of Al Quds Open University.

Languages

Rula Maayah is fluent in Arabic, English, and French, which has enhanced her ability to engage in international diplomacy and represent Palestine on the global stage.