



Born in Palestine, Mr Rifat Kassis has long been active in human rights fields on national and international levels. He has been imprisoned several times by Israel for his human rights advocacy and community work.

In 1988, he worked as director for the YMCA (Young Men's Christian Association) rehabilitation programs in Palestine. In 1991, he founded the first independent Palestinian child rights NGO: a national section of Defence for Children International (DCI). He was elected President of DCI movement at the global level in 2005 and re-elected in October 2008. As of November 2008, he is managing DCI/Palestine.

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