

## **Mervat Rishmawi**

Mervat Rishmawi is a Palestinian human rights activist who has obtained her LLM degree from the University of Essex in 1994. She worked with the International Secretariat of Amnesty International for approximately 12 years, most of which as the Legal Advisor to the Middle East and North Africa Region (MENA). As such, she was one of 5-member regional legal advisor's team, each responsible for one region in the world. She also worked as Deputy Director for the MENA Program. During her work with Amnesty International, Mervat Rishmawi developed most of the organisation's work in relation to the League of Arab States. She has also provided legal advice to research teams, ensuring accuracy of legal analyses pertaining to international human rights and humanitarian law. She maintained contacts with a large number of officials and human rights activists in the MENA region. She also provided training to human rights activists, judges, lawyers, etc

Mervat has left her work with Amnesty International at the end of March 2010, and is now self-employed as a human rights consultant. She is aiming to carry out projects and training to strengthen organisations across the MENA region, as well as further her work on the League of Arab States.

Mervat Rishmawi has authored a number of reports for Amnesty International, including many on the human rights mechanisms of the League of Arab States. She has also published in academic journals and text books.

She is a Fellow at the Human Rights Centre of the University of Essex as well as being a Fellow with the Human Rights Law Centre at the University of Nottingham.