# United Nations Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

#### **NGO Action News**

#### 1 March 2019

#### **Middle East**

- On 28 February, Al-Haq and 200 Palestinian NGOs sent a letter to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights urging her to release the UN Database of businesses engaged in activities related to Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank.
- On 28 February, <u>B'Tselem</u> reiterated its call for immediate change of the rules of engagement for Israeli forces after the international independent Commission of Inquiry mandated to, inter alia, investigate all alleged violations and abuses of international humanitarian law and international human rights law in the Occupied Palestinian Territory announced that it is unlawful to fire at unarmed protesters who are not posing a threat to anyone.
- On 28 February, the <u>Palestine Solidarity Campaign</u> (PSC) urged the UK government in a statement to uphold its legal obligation to enforce international law as a third party state, including holding Israel accountable for crimes committed against Palestinians, and ending UK complicity in supplying Israel with weaponry.
- On 28 February, <u>Adalah The Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel</u> commended
  the international independent Commission of Inquiry for adopting in its report the analysis
  that Adalah and other human rights organizations provided, its rejection of the Israeli
  Supreme Court's decision that allows the use of lethal force against Palestinian civilian
  protesters in Gaza, and the analysis that Israeli government has not meaningfully investigated
  and prosecuted Israeli commanders and soldiers.

### **Europe**

• On 20 February, the <u>Association of International Development Agencies</u> (AIDA) expressed grave concern over the imminent risk of forcible transfer of a Palestinian family in Sheikh Jarrah, in occupied East Jerusalem and called on Israel to immediately halt the transfer and other eviction efforts in the occupied Palestinian territory. AIDA also urged the international community, the EU, and the United States to demand that Israel as occupying power complies with its obligations under the international law.

## **North America**

- On 25 February, <u>Americans for Peace Now</u> called on the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) to condemn Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu for his electoral alliance with an ultra-nationalist Israeli party and to disinvite him from its annual policy conference.
- On 5, 12, and 28 March, the <u>Columbia University Center for Palestine Studies</u> will hold events on "Companions in Conflict: Animals in Occupied Palestine", "Affective Archives: An Evening of Experimental Palestinian Film", and "Cracks In The Wall: Beyond Apartheid Palestine/Israel".

#### **United Nations**

- On 7 March, on the margins of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and the Permanent Observer Mission of the State of Palestine will organize a side event at UNHQ featuring the screening of a Just Vision documentary film titled "Naila and the Uprising". The film focuses on the role of Palestinian women during the non-violent "First Intifada" (uprising). This screening will be followed by a discussion with filmmaker, Julia Bacha, producer, Rula Salameh, and protagonist, Zahira Kamal. REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED by 4 March through the online form on the UNISPAL webpage.
- On 25 February, the international independent Commission of Inquiry established by the Human Rights Council resolution S-28/1 (2018) issued a report on its findings. The Commission is mandated to, inter alia, investigate all alleged violations and abuses of international humanitarian law and international human rights law in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, particularly in the occupied Gaza Strip, in the context of the military assaults on the large-scale civilian protests that began on 30 March 2018.

This newsletter informs about recent and upcoming activities of Civil Society Organizations affiliated with the United Nations Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People. The Committee and the Division for Palestinian Rights of the UN Secretariat provide the information "as is" without warranty of any kind, and do not accept any responsibility or liability for the accuracy, or reliability of the information contained in the websites linked in the newsletter.