



# General Assembly

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## Human Rights Council

Forty-seventh session

21 June–9 July 2021

Agenda item 7

**Human rights situation in Palestine and other  
occupied Arab territories**

### **Written statement\* submitted by TOBE Foundation for Rights & Freedoms, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status**

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[31 May 2021]

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\* Issued as received, in the language(s) of submission only.



## **Do not let the State of Israel Enjoy Impunity**

The TOBE Foundation for Rights & Freedoms and Women Human Rights Defenders (WHRD) Regional Coalition in the Middle East and North Africa (WHRD MENA Coalition) welcome the adoption of a resolution in which the Human Rights Council established an international commission of inquiry to investigate violations in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in Israel, and calls on the Commission to immediately start investigations, including mainstreaming a gender perspective to look into crimes against WHRDs and women.

The WHRD MENA Coalition documented with its members and partners more than 700 various violations against the Palestinian people by Israeli forces, in addition to various violations against women and WHRDs – not only in the Occupied Palestinian Territory – but in other countries in which WHRDs participated in solidarity actions with the Occupied Palestinian Territory and the attacks against them. Violations included physical assault, death threats, arrest, home raids, fabrication of charges “of incitement through an attempt for the creation of a false image was made that demonstrations in the Occupied Palestinian Territory are ‘anti-semitic’ and racist”, by focusing on the false claim that those arrested were inciting against Jews”. Moreover, WHRDs and Journalists were arrested in Jordan, including the Journalist Heba Abu Taha, who was assaulted, and a 15 years old child, where they both participated in solidarity actions and were released with bail the next day from the Administrative Governor’s office. The Sudan also banned solidarity demonstrations using the claim of the novel Corona virus, COVID-19, and Facebook banned publishing any news or writing associated with the violations taking place against the Palestinian people that equate genocide. Subsequently, the WHRD MENA Coalition and To Be Foundation call for the immediate accountability of Israel for all crimes committed which are not only human rights violations, but are crimes against humanity due to the bombing of homes and killing of women, children and various groups of Palestinian people, which reached – according to the Palestinian Center for Human Rights – in 11 days of continuous bombing, 247 dead including 66 children and 39 women, and 1416 wounded including 277 women and 412 children, in addition to the violations referred to above.

Violations against HRDs, WHRDs and Palestinians can be classified as follows, according to the report of Rights Advocated to Defend the Detainees of Demonstrations | the Terrorization of Israeli Arrests: random arrests, raid of houses and shops, assault and arrest of those who take photographs and document the attacks, physical assault during detention and transfer to detention centers, refusal of medical support and transfer to hospitals for treatment including eye injuries, death threats, collection of fake evidence, crowding numbers of arrestees in small vehicles, violation of children’s rights during investigation by physical assault and psychological violence, violent physical assault in interrogation centers, and attack of lawyers among other violations. Additionally, on May 24, Israeli police announced, in a plan approved by the Minister of Internal Security Amir Ohana and the Commissioner of Israeli Police Kobi Shabtai, that they will arrest hundreds of Palestinian citizens of Israel over the coming days for their participation in recent sit-ins in support of Palestinians in occupied East Jerusalem and the besieged Gaza Strip.

While the Women Human Rights Defenders (WHRD) Regional Coalition and To Be Foundation welcome the adoption of a resolution (A/HRC/S-30/L.1) in which the Human Rights Council established an international commission of inquiry to investigate violations in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in Israel, it calls on this commission to:

Visit prisons and places of detention and meet demonstrators to investigate crimes committed both during interrogation and in detention

Collect evidence on specific torture tactics used against those detained

Collect evidence of weaponry used to commit crimes of genocide against Palestinians

Ensure that settler processes are halted

Mainstream a gender perspective to look into crimes against WHRDs and women, detailing specific measures taken to commit crimes of a gender-based nature.

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Women Human Rights Defenders (WHRD) Regional Coalition in the Middle East and North Africa (WHRD MENA Coalition), NGO(s) without consultative status, also share the views expressed in this statement.