

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

## NGO Action News

30 June 2022

### Middle East

- On 27 June, [7amleh](#) released a new survey titled “Survey of Attitudes towards Privacy and Data Protection in the Palestinian Context” which aims to illustrate and analyse the level of awareness and understanding among Palestinian society in the Occupied Palestinian Territory regarding a number of aspects relating to the right to privacy and data protection and how it is approached in the local context. The survey analyzes the attitudes of a sample of 509 Palestinians from various governorates in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, examining the extent to which participants are aware of and understand issues of privacy and data protection and their real-life experiences in this regard.
- On 24 June, [Badil](#) informed it submitted a written statement entitled “Israel’s Colonial-Apartheid Policies and Practices Against Palestinian Education” for the consideration of the United Nations Human Rights Council in its 50th regular session. In this statement Badil highlighted Israel’s attacks against Palestinian education that violate the right to education and what it considers to be amounting to colonization and apartheid policies. These policies and practices serve to undermine the Palestinian identity and deny the Palestinian right to self-determination. In addition, BADIL contributed an oral statement in the interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on Education.
- On 23 June, [Peace Now](#) published an article informing that the Jewish National Fund (JNF) issued a tender for providing real estate files analysis services. Peace Now stated that this step means that a process will soon begin to take over large-scale land within Israel, the West Bank and East Jerusalem. JNF has about 530 property files and about 2,050 files in East Jerusalem in which there may be documents that indicate purchase transactions and properties that can be realized if they undergo a suitable bureaucratic and legal procedure. The tender is designed to select the people who will carry out the bureaucratic procedures required for the realization of potential assets. According to Peace Now, the Jewish National Fund is becoming the Settlers’ National Fund. The registration procedures in the Occupied Territories and in East Jerusalem could bring to massive dispossession of Palestinians, like in Sheikh Jarrah and Silwan, and expansion of the settlements.
- On 23 June, [ACRI](#) published an article responding to several questions on the display of the Palestinian Flag in Israel. Among its answers to frequently asked questions, ACRI informed that there is no law in Israel that prohibits the Palestinian flag from being waved. ACRI further informed that the organization petitioned the Police Commissioner and the Jerusalem District Commander in February 2022 to order them to bring an end to systematic police harassment of the Palestinian flag and those who wave it. In this petition, the High Court of Justice was

asked to order the police to cease this illegal practice of confiscating Palestinian flags from demonstrators, and rule that waving the flag in practice does not constitute a threat to public peace. ACRI also demanded that opening investigations due to incidents sparked by waving the Palestinian flag or resistance to confiscation, be conditional on the Attorney General's approval, as with new investigations of further offenses regarding freedom of expression.

### Europe

- On 24 June, the [European Coordination of Committees and Associations for Palestine](#) reported that on June 14th, a cross party hearing was held at the European Parliament, under the title "15 years of Gaza blockade: what's the role of the EU?". Members of the European Parliament and participants received recommendations from civil society and call for actions. Francesca Albanese, recently appointed UN Special Rapporteur on Palestine, and Michael Lynk, former UN Special Rapporteur on Palestine, and representatives of civil society participated in the event.

### North America

- On 27 June, the [Jerusalem Fund](#) published the article "Israeli Ethnic Cleansing of Palestinians: Any Listeners?". This article stated that the open calls for the ethnic cleansing of Palestinians by Israeli legislators and policymakers continue unabated, as well the determined refusal of the US administration to acknowledge, address or challenge Israel. The author further stressed that the US must put in place accountability measures immediately, that assurances are needed that Israel stop and reverse its policies, including settlements, the siege on the Gaza Strip, the forced transfer of the Palestinian population in Jerusalem, Masafer Yatta, the Jordan Valley, and others.
- On 23 June, [J Street](#) issued a statement welcoming Senator Chris Van Hollen's letter, signed by 24 Democratic Senators, calling for an independent US investigation into the killing of Palestinian-American journalist Shireen Abu Akleh to be led by the US State Department and Federal Bureau of Investigation. With 24 out of 50 Senate Democrats adding their name, the signers constitute nearly half of the Senate Democratic caucus. The Senate letter follows a May House letter led by Congressmen Carson, Correa, and Pascrell and signed by 57 representatives, which also called for an independent US investigation. In addition, Senators Jon Ossoff and Mitt Romney have issued their own call for a "full and transparent investigation."
- On 22 June, [Foundation for Middle East Peace](#) (FMEP) published the podcast "The Imperative of Accountability for Shireen Abu Akleh's Killing". In this episode of Occupied Thoughts, FMEP spoke with preeminent journalist Dalia Hatuqa about the killing of her friend and fellow journalist Shireen Abu Akleh on May 11, 2022, the myriad investigations that have been carried out, and the imperative of getting justice, which requires accountability.

## United Nations

- On 27 June, the [UN Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process](#), Tor Wennesland, briefed the Security Council on the Situation in the Middle East following the Secretary-General's report on the implementation of Security Council Resolution 2334 (2016) that covers the period between 19 March and 16 June 2022. Tor Wennesland expressed alarm over the levels of violence, including violence against civilians, witnessed in the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and in Israel over the past months. He added that it is crucial that all parties take immediate steps to lower tensions and reverse negative trends that undermine prospects for a peaceful two-State resolution of the conflict, with a contiguous, independent, viable and sovereign Palestinian State. The Special Coordinator further called on the Government of Israel to cease the advancement of all settlement activity immediately and to end the demolition and seizure of Palestinian-owned property.
- On 24 June, [UNRWA](#) published a press release reaffirming that the Agency is fully committed to upholding United Nations principles and values and has a zero tolerance to hate speech and incitement to discrimination, hostility, or violence. This release was issued in response to an attempt by a politically motivated organization to deliberately delegitimize the work of the Agency. UNRWA added that the Agency's legal framework provides a process to investigate and act on potential cases of hate speech, incitement to discrimination, hostility, or violence, in line with the UN values and principles.
- On 23 June, [UNRWA](#) held a pledging conference at the UN General Assembly, in the presence of UN Secretary-General. UNRWA Commissioner-General Philippe Lazzarini said that as of June 2022, UNRWA has received only \$313 million out of a total \$817 million it needs for critical services including education, health and social protection for Palestine refugees this calendar year.

*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.*



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