

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

NGO Action News

14 July 2022

Middle East

- On 13 July, [Al Haq](#) informed that the organization sent letters to several corporations which are highlighted in Al-Haq's upcoming report on corporate complicity in denying Palestinian's access to and pillaging of water resources in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT), in violation of Palestinians' right to self-determination and permanent sovereignty over natural resources. Al-Haq called upon all corporate actors doing business in the OPT, to act with due diligence to avoid further involvement in serious human rights violations and war crimes. Al-Haq called on the corporations involved to comply with their responsibilities under international law, including disengagement.
- On 12 July, [Gisha](#) published an article alerting that Gaza residents, 59 per cent of whom live in poverty, have been particularly hard-hit by the global rise in costs of basic commodities. Decades of movement and access restrictions, including the past 15 years of closure and "economic warfare" by Israel, have left Gaza residents particularly exposed to a global spike in the price of food and basic necessities. According to the quarterly Labor Force Survey conducted by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, in the first quarter of 2022 (January-March), unemployment in Gaza reached 46.6 per cent, a roughly 2 per cent increase compared to the last quarter of 2021. Among women in Gaza, unemployment rose to 65.6 per cent in the first quarter of 2022, compared to 61 per cent in the previous quarter.
- On 12 July, [Physicians for Human Rights Israel](#) (PHRI) informed that it had reached out to the World Medical Association requesting it to prompt the Israel Medical Association (IMA) to follow medical ethics with regard to severe and systemic violations of human rights that fall under its jurisdiction in relation to Palestinians' right to health. PHRI highlighted the severe restrictions on access to health care via the "permit regime", the harm inflicted on Palestinian medical crews and institutions, and the support by IMA to violations of international humanitarian law by legitimizing illegal settlements, which are known to have a significant impact on access to health care.
- On 7 July, [Adalah](#) and [Al Mezan](#) published articles on the 5 July decision in which a three-justice panel of the Israeli Supreme Court rejected an appeal demanding that the State of Israel pay tort compensation damages for the Israeli military's shooting and serious injury of 15-year-old Palestinian in November 2014. The two organizations stated that this ruling means that all Gaza residents are banned from any redress and remedy in Israel, regardless of circumstances during "acts of war" or the severity of the injury or damages claimed. The organizations further stated that this decision justifies an immediate ICC investigation.

- On 7 July, the [Palestinian Center for Human Rights](#) (PCHR) informed that it testified on 6 July before the United Nations Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting Human Rights of Palestinian People and Other Arabs of Territories Occupied in 1967. PCHR’s testimony reviewed the violations committed by Israeli Forces against the Palestinian people and the ongoing deterioration of the human rights situation and international humanitarian law in the OPT. PCHR particularly highlighted the living conditions of Palestinian prisoners in the Israeli jails and Israeli-imposed closure policy on the Gaza Strip. PCHR stated that this policy constitutes collective punishment against the civilian population and urged the international community to uphold its moral and legal responsibilities and seek redress for victims.
- On 7 July, [Palestinian Center for Human Rights](#) (PCHR) issued a press statement, following the death of a cancer patient from the Gaza Strip, condemning the Israeli authorities’ ongoing ban on Gaza Strip’s patients traveling for treatment to Palestinian hospitals in the West Bank, including in East Jerusalem, as well as to Israeli hospitals. According to PCHR, the Israeli authorities prevented the travel of 2,900 patients from the Gaza Strip since the beginning of 2022 for treatment abroad, causing the death of 3 patients. [Al Mezan](#) also issued a press release on this issue.
- On 6 July, [BADIL](#), in partnership with the European Network on Statelessness, published the report “Palestinians and the Search for Protection as Refugees and Stateless Persons” to raise awareness among European stakeholders involved in processing Palestinian asylum cases. The research examines the jurisprudence of the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) and domestic member states’ domestic courts concerning their interpretation of Article 1D of the 1951 Refugee Convention and its application to Palestinian refugees seeking protection due to secondary displacement and transfer. Additionally, the research explores the possibility of statelessness status vis-à-vis Palestinians as a means for protection.

Europe

- On 12 July, the Foreign Ministries of Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain and Sweden issued a [Joint statement](#) on the designation of Palestinian civil society organizations as terrorist entities: The statement clarified that “No substantial information was received from Israel that would justify reviewing our policy towards the six Palestinian NGOs on the basis of the Israeli decision to designate these NGOs as ‘terrorist organizations’”. In the absence of such evidence, the signatories will continue their cooperation and strong support for the civil society in the OPT.
- On 12 July, the [Norwegian Refugee Council](#) (NRC) published an article urging US President Joe Biden to put Israel’s continued violations against Palestinians at the top of his agenda as he visits Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territory on 13 and 14 July. Recent analysis by NRC shows that, for each day President Biden spent in office since January 2021, Israel has displaced an average of three Palestinians. This is a total of 1,657 people displaced as a result

of the demolition of 1,269 structures in the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem, according to UN OCHA. NRC called on the President to demand that Israel issue a moratorium on the expulsion and forcible transfer of Palestinians as well as on the expansion of settlements.

- On 8 July, [Association France Palestine Solidarité](#) (AFPS) published an article (in French) calling for public support against the potential displacement of Palestinians in Masafer Yatta, south of Hebron. AFPS listed a series of initiatives and activities aiming at supporting the campaign “#SauvonsMasaferYatta”.

North America

- On 12 July, the [Jerusalem Fund](#) published an article informing that the Presbyterian Church (USA), the largest Presbyterian denomination in the United States with over 1,190,000 active members at the end of 2021, approved a resolution titled “On Recognition That Israel’s Laws, Policies, and Practices Constitute Apartheid against the Palestinian People”. The resolution claims that the government of Israel meets the international definition of apartheid in several ways: establishing two sets of laws, one benefiting Israeli Jews and another oppressing the Palestinian people; seizing of Palestinian land and water resources diverted to Jewish-only settlements; denying the right to freedom of residence and the right to a nationality to Palestinians; and dividing the population along racial lines
- On 11 July, the [Foundation for Middle East Peace](#) (FMEP) published the podcast “Mr. Biden Goes to the Middle East”. US-based experts Peter Beinart (CUNY), Dana El Kurd (University of Richmond), Lara Friedman (FMEP), and Trita Parsi (Quincy) discussed the visit of US President Biden, his first to Israel and the Persian Gulf as President of the United States. Among other topics, panellists discussed what this visit could mean for Palestinians.
- On 8 July, the [U.S. Campaign for Palestinian Rights](#) (USCPR) published an article to mobilize public support against the potential forced transfer by the Israeli authorities of 1,300 Palestinian people in Masafer Yatta from their homes, the largest expulsion since 1967. USCPR called for the public to express solidarity through the campaign “#DefendMasaferYatta!”, during President Biden’s visit to the Middle East, by contacting Congress and advocating on social media. [J Street](#) also published an article urging the US President to denounce during his visit the forcible transfer of Palestinian from Masafer Yatta and the expansion of settlements. In addition, [Churches for Middle East Peace](#) issued a statement calling for supporters to write to President Biden to ask him to address violence against Palestinians, settlement expansion and the killing of Palestinian-American journalist Shireen Abu Akleh.

United Nations

- On 20 July, the [Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People \(CEIRPP\)](#) will convene a virtual [event](#) on the Question of Jerusalem, with the support of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC). The conference will focus on "Palestinian Youth in East Jerusalem under Occupation". The event will be held virtually from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. (New York Time) and it will be streamed live on UN Web TV. To register click [here](#).
- On 13 July, the [Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People](#) held its [407th meeting](#) to consider progress in the implementation of its 2022 programme of work. The Permanent Observer Mission of the State of Palestine updated the Committee on the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. Committee members and Observers made interventions calling – among other issues – to increase support for UNRWA. The Committee approved the accreditation of the following three CSOs recommended by the Committee Bureau., i.e., Leonard Education Organization (L.E.O.) (United States); Law for Palestine (L4P) (Sweden); and Hebron Rehabilitation Committee (H.R.C.) (State of Palestine).
- On 8 July, [the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugees in the Near East](#) (UNRWA) issued a public statement reaffirming its commitment to strict adherence to UN values in educating Palestine refugee children. The statement reads that a recently released report makes allegations regarding UNRWA educational materials - purportedly used by the Agency in Gaza - that do not comply with UN values. The materials in question are published on a non-UNRWA website. UNRWA further stated that the Agency has zero tolerance for hate speech and incitement to discrimination, hostility, or violence. UNRWA added that it explicitly incorporates human rights education into its school curricula through its Human Rights, Conflict Resolution, and Tolerance education.
- On 6 July, the [UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs](#) (OCHA) published the fact sheet “Masafar Yatta communities at risk of forcible transfer”, detailing the timeline of the situation in Masafar Yatta. OCHA also stated that the residents of Masafar Yatta are among the most vulnerable in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT) and are dependent on humanitarian aid, due to a restrictive and discriminatory planning regime. OCHA further recalled that the forcible transfer of civilians from, or within, the OPT is absolutely prohibited under international humanitarian Law, adding that Israeli authorities should halt all coercive measures including planned evictions, demolitions, and military training in residential areas.
- On 11 July, the [annual report of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict](#) was issued. In para 93., the Secretary-General refers to the number of children killed and maimed by Israeli forces during hostilities, in air strikes on densely populated areas and through the use of live ammunition during law enforcement operations, and by the persistent lack of accountability for these violations.

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.



<http://www.facebook.com/UN.palestinianrights>



<http://www.twitter.com/UNISPAL>