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

#### **NGO Action News**

### 5 August 2021

## **Middle East**

- On 5 August, Al-Haq published a statement by the Palestinian Human Rights Council (PHROC) "International Community's Silence Incentivises Israel's Continued Shrinking of Palestinian Civil Society Space", in which it "calls upon the international community to finally align itself with its legal obligations, and to urge Israel to [...] cease any and all practices and policies intended to intimidate and silence human rights defenders and civil society organisations." PHROC and Al-Haq also "urge the international community to recognise and address silencing efforts as part of Israel's settler-colonial and apartheid regime imposed over the Palestinian people as a whole, and to take meaningful and effective steps to ensure international justice and accountability for Palestinian victims without further delay."
- On 3 August, <u>B'Tselem</u> issued the press release "Video footage proves Israeli soldiers shot and killed Palestinian 11-year-old Muhammad Abu Sarah (al-'Alami) had no reason to open fire" in which it argues that "[t]he choice to open fire at the car, in the heart of a populated residential area, was unjustified, as none of the passengers posed a risk to the soldiers or to any other person" and that the killing "demonstrates, yet again, how low the value of Palestinians' lives is in the eyes of the soldiers, their commanders and the policymakers who are responsible for the military's lethal open-fire policy."
- On 29 July, <u>Defense for Children International (DCIP)</u> informed that Israeli security forces had raided its Palestine headquarters in Al-Bireh in the occupied West Bank in the early morning and had seized computers and files, without providing any information on the reason for the raid. "This latest act by Israeli authorities pushes forward an ongoing campaign to silence and eliminate Palestinian civil society and human rights organizations like DCIP," said a DCIP representative. "Israeli authorities must immediately end efforts aimed at delegitimizing and criminalizing Palestinian human rights defenders and civil society organizations, and the international community must hold Israeli authorities accountable."
- On 29 July, <u>PeaceNow</u> issued the report "The Ministry of Agriculture admits: we fund associations that work in illegal outposts" in which the NGO outlines how the Israeli government has been funding a Jewish settler association in the occupied West Bank "despite the fact that the association works in illegal outposts, on tens of thousands of acres with no rights to the land."

## **United Nations**

• On 3 August, the <u>Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian</u>
<u>People</u> held closed consultations with civil society organisations as a virtual engagement with
CSO representatives from Palestine, Israel and the international community with a special
focus on the situations in East Jerusalem and Gaza and on advocacy in the United States.

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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