

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

## NGO Action News

4 August 2022

### Middle East

- On 2 August, [al Shabaka](#) published an article titled “The Prison Intifada: Supporting Palestinian Administrative Detainees.” Al Shabaka informed that administrative detention is central to Israel’s attempts to suppress Palestinian mobilization, adding that Palestinian administrative detainees have continuously resisted this policy and demanded an end to its widespread and arbitrary use. The article offers recommendations to Palestinian civil society organizations, national stakeholders, and solidarity groups for how to support what al Shabaka called “the ongoing Palestinian prison intifada”.
- On 28 July, [Gisha](#) published testimonies of Palestinian residents of Gaza attesting to the bureaucratic violence inherent in Israel’s permit regime. Gisha highlighted that under the permit regime, Palestinians in Gaza are only eligible to apply for a travel permit in a rigid and narrow set of circumstances. Israel’s criteria are purposefully strict to deprive the vast majority of the Palestinian population from even being considered for travel, hence denying their right to freedom of movement, and their ability to make choices and control their own lives. Gisha further reported on the collection of testimonies, published recently by [Breaking the Silence](#), in which Israeli soldiers who served in the unit of the Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories (COGAT) shared their perspective as enforcers of the permit regime.
- On 28 July, [BADIL](#) published an article commending UNRWA for rejecting IMPACT-se’s allegations that the Agency “knowingly utilizes educational materials outside of UN values.” BADIL stated that IMPACT-se serves to advance Israel’s overall campaign to weaken Palestinians’ right to education, and exclude the Palestinian narrative from educational materials in order to limit political awareness.
- On 27 July, [Addameer](#) submitted an input to the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967 to contribute to a larger thematic report focusing on the status of the right of self-determination for the Palestinian people. Specifically, Addameer’s submission touched on the role and development of Israeli legal and judicial systems as tools to limit Palestinian rights; the criminalization of Palestinian daily life through a network of military orders, allowing Israel to incarcerate, detain, and/or deport people from all swaths of Palestinian society; Israel's abuse of administrative detention and its widespread violations of international human rights

and humanitarian law; and the inhumane conditions of confinement within Israel's prisons, constituting a public health and human rights crisis.

- On 27 July, [7amleh](#) published the report “Monitoring and Analysis of the Second Phase of the Palestinian Local Elections.” This study was conducted in April 2022 to monitor the electoral behaviour of Palestinians during local elections as well as the electoral campaigns and debates in digital platforms. The study highlights trends, indicators, and monitors digital interactive engagement - whether through posts, comments, and participation, on the electoral process.
- On 26 July, [Gisha](#) and the Gaza Community Mental Health Programme (GCMHP) hosted a webinar to discuss the findings of a focus group of mental health professionals working in the Strip to discuss the impact of Israel’s closure on mental health, the challenges therapists and care professionals face as residents living under closure in Gaza, and possible interventions in this difficult reality. The webinar discussed trends in mental health over the past 15 years in Gaza, the additional impact of COVID-19, as well as how socio-economic hardship undermines mental and physical wellbeing in Gaza and the unique struggle of women and children.

### **North America**

- On 28 July, the [Foundation for Middle East Peace](#) (FMEP) organized the webinar “Israeli Supreme Court Opens Door to ‘Legalized’ Ethnic Cleansing Inside the Green Line”. FMEP President Lara Friedman spoke with Dr. Lana Tatour about the fragile status of Israel’s Palestinian citizens following a recent Israeli Supreme Court decision that opens a legal path for the Israeli government to revoke citizenship of Palestinian citizens of Israel.
- On 27 July, the [Jerusalem Fund](#) published the article “Israeli Settlements; Illegal but Still Subsidized by the American Taxpayer.” This article addressed the beneficial tax incentives given to US donors supporting the illegal settlements in the West Bank and East Jerusalem. It recalled that numerous resolutions passed in the United Nations General Assembly and Security Council mentioned that Israeli settlements built in the Occupied Palestinian Territory are illegal. It added that, nevertheless, US citizens are openly encouraged to donate to the development of the settlements and re-location expenses for the settlers. Pro-settler groups defend their tax-exempt status by describing their work as humanitarian, not political, but this argument does not hold true as the intentions of the settler groups are to profit from exploitation of Palestinian land.
- On 26 July, [Friends of Sabeel North America](#) (FOSNA) started the campaign “UEFA, kick out apartheid.” FOSNA stated that FIFA (International Federation of Association Football) has failed to address the Palestinian Football Association’s documented complaints about the Israeli Football Association (IFA) breach of FIFA’s statutes on human rights, anti-discrimination, and equality. FOSNA accused FIFA and UEFA (Union of European Football Associations) of using double standards regarding justice for Palestinian football. On a

related topic, [Association France Palestine Solidarité](#) published an article on 29 July stating that French football should not whitewash Israel's crime towards Palestinians, following the organization of the annual French champions trophy in a Tel Aviv stadium.

- On 23 July, [Law For Palestine](#) published a PhD thesis presentation and review on “The United Nations and the Question of Palestine: A Study in International Legal Subalternity.” The thesis’ author, Ardi Imseis, investigated the oscillation between international law requirements and the position of the UN concerning Palestine and concludes the UN’s failure to meet the prevailing legal framework, arguing that the actions of the UN throughout the quest for a “just and lasting peace” between Israelis and Palestinians have positioned Palestine and its people in a state of International Legal Subalternity.
- The [Palestinian Return Centre](#) (PRC) on 7 July delivered an oral statement to the UN Human Rights Council’s session on racism. entitled “Discrimination on a Religious Basis”. “The religious-based discrimination from Israeli authorities towards Palestinian Muslims and Christians has increasingly heightened in recent weeks. Israeli forces have been limiting Palestinians’ access to Al-Aqsa Mosque through enforcing age bans that do not allow any Palestinian under 50 to pray at Al Aqsa Mosque”, said PRC. PRC said Israeli forces simultaneously allow Jewish settlers of all ages to enter the Al Aqsa Mosque compound.

### **United Nations**

- On 28 July, the [United Nations Population Fund and the Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process](#), with support of the EU and Denmark, launched in Bethlehem the Youth Advisory Panel (YAP) in Palestine. The YAP is a group of 18 young Palestinians from across the West Bank, including East Jerusalem and Gaza with different backgrounds. They were selected by a committee which included members of the United Nations and the Palestinian Authority’s Higher Council for Youth and Sport based not only on their experience but because of their dedication to ensuring daily challenges of young Palestinians are considered by the international community and Palestinian society. Sixty per cent of the Palestinian population is under the age of 24. Their civic participation, engagement in socio-political activities and leadership across local communities is needed to build a future generation which will enjoy sustainable humanitarian development in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.
- On 28 July, the World Health Organization’s released June 2022 Monthly Report “[Health Access: Barriers for Patients in the OPT](#)” covering the period of June 2022. According to the report, the Palestinian Ministry of Health (MoH) issued 9,888 referrals to health care services delivered by non-MoH providers, which is 19 per cent higher than the monthly average for 2021. The report further highlights that 62 per cent of the patient applications to cross Beit Hanoun/Erez in June 2022 were approved, a decrease of 4 per cent from the average approval for the first quarter of the year. The approval rate of patient permit applications varies by sex and age of patients. For instance, men aged 18 to 40 had an approval rate of 43 per cent, while women over 60 had an approval rate of 76 per cent. In addition, WHO documented 88 attacks against health care facilities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory in the first half of

2022. Of these, 85 were in the West Bank, including 60 in East Jerusalem, while three were documented in the Gaza Strip.

*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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