

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

## **NGO Action News**

**19 July 2019**

### **Middle East**

- On 16 July, [Al-Haq](#) reported on its advocacy efforts during the 41st session of the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva (23 June - 12 July), where its efforts were focused on the UN database of businesses involved with Israeli settlements pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 31/36 (2016). The NGO had partnered with the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS) and 11.11.11. Belgium to meet with Member States and urge them to support the release of the database. Al-Haq, Badil Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and CIHRS had also delivered a joint oral intervention under “Item 4: Human Rights situations that require the Council’s attention” which focused on “discriminatory Israeli laws targeting the Palestinian population”.

### **Europe**

- On 18 July, [Amnesty International](#) announced it had joined the legal case brought by Human Rights Watch to challenge the legality of the Israeli government’s decision to revoke the work permit of Human Rights Watch’s Israel and Palestine Director Omar Shakir, calling the expulsion an “unreasonable and disproportionate restriction on the rights to freedom of expression and association” in an amicus curia briefing submitted to the Israeli Supreme Court. The court is scheduled to hear the case on 25 July.
- On 16 July [Amnesty International](#) called on Trip Advisor, AirBnB, Expedia and Booking.com to stop listing properties and tourist attractions in illegal Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territory. It stated that these companies were “sustaining an illegal situation and fuelling human rights violations against Palestinians, by driving tourism to illegal Israeli settlements built on occupied Palestinian land.” The statement made a clear distinction between settlement economy and the Israeli economy and explained that the NGO was not calling for a boycott on Israel.

### **United Nations**

- On 17 July, the [Humanitarian Coordinator Mr. Jamie McGoldrick, the Director of West Bank Operations for UNWRA Ms. Gwyn Lewis and the Head of OHCHR in the occupied Palestinian territory Mr. James Heenan](#) issued a joint statement to call on Israeli authorities to halt plans for demolitions in Sur Bahir (Jerusalem Governorate), describing demolitions and

forces evictions as “some of the multiple pressures generating a risk of forcible transfer for many Palestinians in the West Bank.” They also requested that Israel “implement fair planning policies that allow Palestinian residents of the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, the ability to meet their housing and development needs, in line with its obligations as an occupying power.”

*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>