

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

NGO Action News

27 September 2019

Middle East

- On 25 September, the [Palestinian Human Rights Organizations Council \(PHROC\)](#) met with representatives of embassies, international and local organizations to discuss the Israeli targeting of Palestinian civil society organizations. PHROC members spoke about the arbitrary administrative detention of NGO staff, travel bans, defamation and de-funding attempts, among others. PHROC requested States to address this ongoing situation under their obligation of Third State Responsibility.
- On 25 September, [B'Tselem](#) issued a new report "[Playing the Security Card: Israeli Policy in Hebron as Means to Effect Forcible Transfer of Local Palestinians](#)". In the latter, B'Tselem denounces Israel's open policy of segregation in the centre of Hebron in order to protect Israeli settlers, living in "the middle of a bustling Palestinian city." According to the report, Israel's policy of creating a network of checkpoints and obstructions in the city affects all Palestinians living in, or accessing the area, preventing them from going about their daily affairs in a reasonable manner. The limited movement options and need to walk long distances have cut Palestinian residents off from families, while economic activity has shrunk to several grocery stores and traditional workshops in the city centre.
- On 25 September, [Al-Mezan Centre for Human Rights](#) welcomed the Israeli High Court of Justice's decision that Gazans could no longer be denied medical treatment in Israel solely on the pretext of "having relatives dwelling in the West Bank without permit." Previously, the NGO had, jointly with Physicians for Human Rights, submitted a petition to the Court.
- On 23 September, [Al-Haq](#) issued a new report "[Occupying Jerusalem's Old City: Israeli Policies of Isolation, Intimidation and Transformation](#)". The report seeks to highlight the widespread and systematic policies that Israel uses to deepen its control over the Old City, resulting in the forcible displacement of Palestinians.

Europe

- On 24 September, the [Palestinian Return Centre \(PRC\)](#) held a side-event in the margins of the 42nd session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva on "Accountability for the ongoing annexation and colonization of Palestine". PRC denounced the targeting of civil society organizations by the Israeli Government and also raised the issue of the Israeli use of

excessive force including live ammunition against Palestinian protestors, despite the recommendations of UN Independent Commission of Inquiry on the 2018 Gaza protests.

- On 23 September, [Al-Haq, BADIL, Palestinian Centre for Human Rights \(PCHR\), Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies and Habitat International Coalition - Housing and Land Rights Network](#) organized a film screening of “Gaza 2020: Unhabitable” in Geneva. The event was organized on the margins of the 42nd regular session of the UN Human Rights Council.

United Nations

- On 23 September, [the Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process](#) issued a report on the “Urgent need to resolve the PA’s fiscal crisis and Support the fragile Palestinian economy”. The report also calls for increased attention on Gaza’s health system. It stressed that no amount of humanitarian and economic support could substitute for a negotiated two-State solution, which is the only way to meet the legitimate aspiration and security needs of both Israelis and Palestinians.
- On 20 September, [UN Special Coordinator Mladenov](#) briefed the Security Council on the implementation of Security Council Resolution 2334 (2016). He underlined the ongoing tensions in Jerusalem’s Old City at the Holy sites with the coinciding of Muslim Eid Al-Adha and the Jewish commemoration of Tisha B’Av, as well as the continuing demolitions and seizures of Palestinian-owned structures by Israeli authorities across the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem. Among the observations shared with the Security Council, he reiterated the absence of legal validity of the expansion of settlements, the Secretary-General’s concern over statements regarding the annexation of the West Bank areas of the Jordan Valley and northern Dead Sea shore.

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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