

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

NGO Action News

22 Sept 2022

Middle East

- On 20 September, [al-Haq](#) informed that the International Federation of Journalists, International Centre of Justice for Palestinians, and Palestinian Journalists Syndicate delivered a new legal complaint to the International Criminal Court on the killing of the Palestinian journalist Shireen Abu Aqleh and the shooting of Palestinian journalist Ali Samoudi, on behalf of Abu Aqleh's family and Samoudi. [Al-Haq](#) prepared a legal brief to support this legal complaint, highlighting that the Israeli Forces intentional targeting of journalists, including Shireen Abu Aqleh, is in violation of international humanitarian law and international human rights law.
- On 20 September, the [Palestinian Centre for Human Rights](#) (PCHR) issued a statement condemning the Israeli decision to impose what PCHR considers a distorted curriculum in schools in occupied East Jerusalem that contains alterations of the Palestinian national and societal concepts and values. According to PCHR, Palestinian schools in occupied East Jerusalem received a decision from the Israeli Ministry of Education to prohibit teaching the Palestinian curriculum and threatened to revoke licenses from the non-compliant educational institutions. PCHR stated that the new Israeli measures aim to eliminate the Palestinian identity and deprive Jerusalemite students of being part of their social and cultural fabric and exercising their right to education.
- On 14 September, [HaMoked](#) informed it sent a letter to the Israeli Minister of Defense, the Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories (COGAT), and the Military's Legal Advisor of the West Bank demanding they revise the "Procedure for Entry and Residence of Foreigners in the Judea and Samaria Area" (West Bank) and postpone its entry into effect until they make such revisions. In its letter, HaMoked reasserted that the new procedure is highly restrictive and needlessly hampers the entry of foreign passport holders to the OPT and their ability to stay there without interruption. The procedure would harm thousands of families where one of the spouses is a foreign national, as well as disrupt their participation in education and academic institutions, or working, volunteering or studying in the OPT. [Al-Haq](#) and [Al Mezan](#) also published a statement issued by the Palestinian Human Rights Organizations Council calling on the international community to take prompt and concrete measures to halt this Israel's new procedure.

Europe

- On 15 September, the [Palestinian Return Centre](#) (PRC) addressed the UN Human Rights Council over the water scarcity for Palestinians in the West Bank, where they suffer from severe water shortages. PRC stated that Israeli authorities refused to grant the necessary licenses to Palestinian water authorities to operate freely in the areas classified as Area C. Israel directly controls over 85% of water resources in the West Bank and has a final say in how the rest is distributed. PRC appealed to the members of the Human Rights Council to call on the state of Israel to adhere to Article 11 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural rights which states ‘Access to safe drinking water and sanitation are internationally recognised human rights.’
- On 14 September, [Law For Palestine](#) informed that Researcher Yousef T. Jabareen published a study in the [Journal of Law and Social Change](#) titled: “Linguistic Rights for Minorities and the Quest for Equality: The Case of Arab-Palestinians in Israel.” This study emphasizes the importance of language when it comes to marginalized groups. Through ensuring the right to use native languages in public spaces minorities are granted the opportunity to access their rights and services. The author argues that the inferior status of Arabic corresponds with the inferior legal and socioeconomic status of Arab-Palestinian citizens in Israel.

North America

- On 30 September, the [Center for Palestine Studies](#) (CPS) at Columbia University and the Institute for the Study of Human Rights will organize a conversation with Maurice Ebileeni and Joseph Slaughter in celebration of Ebileeni’s new work “Being There, Being Here”. which explores how the Palestinian homeland is being imagined in multiple languages from a variety of positions both locally and globally. The book poses unsettling questions about this current situation and also looks to the future to speculate about how a Palestinian nation might still embody the notion of home for an increasingly diverse Palestinian population.
- On 29 September, the [Jerusalem Fund](#) will organize the lecture “Silencing Palestinian Voices: Symposium on Human Rights”. Panellists will include Jennifer Zacharia, an attorney and writer, and Shireen Abu Akleh’s first cousin; and Said Arikat, Member of the Palestine Center Committee, and the Washington bureau chief for the Palestinian newspaper al-Quds, a daily for which he is a writer, columnist, and analyst.
- On 18 September, the [Center for Palestine Studies](#) at Columbia University published its “Biannual Report 2020-2022”, which stresses that most of CPS’ activity on Palestine over the past two academic years has been online. This transformation has helped to build a far larger global audience and to forge more sustained working relationships with colleagues in Palestine and elsewhere. The report highlights CPS’s main activities during the last two years, including the lectures, panel discussions, book talks, and interactive media screenings on Palestinian issues.
- On 15 September, [Americans for Peace Now](#) (APN) published an article calling for the US Congress to address an anti-Palestinian bias in Israeli-Palestinian peace education. APN informed that the House Foreign Affairs Committee met on 14 September to consider the

Peace and Tolerance in Palestinian Education Act. APN considers this legislation as an attempt to de-legitimize the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA) and demonize the teaching of the Palestinian narrative, adding that issues such as the absence of the Green Line on maps and in textbooks has also been identified in Israeli education materials, without this issue being mentioned in Congress.

- On 15 September, [Friends of Sabeel North America](#) (FOSNA) published an article criticizing the release of the results of the Israeli investigation into the killing of Palestinian-American journalist Shireen Abu Akleh. FOSNA highlighted that the report claimed that this was a case of “mistaken identity” and that no Israeli soldier was going to be disciplined or tried for the killing. FOSNA argued this investigation shows that the root cause of Israel’s policies is the moral refusal to acknowledge the humanity of Palestinians, much less their equality.

United Nations

- On 19 September, [UNRWA](#) published an article informing that more than 550,000 Palestine refugee students went back to learning in Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, the Gaza Strip, and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, in 706 UNRWA schools during the month of September. Palestine refugee children across the region have to often learn in overcrowded conditions with more than 50 children in a classroom. Other challenges include insufficient number of teachers, lack of learning space and funding and psychological distress. UNRWA added that the Agency’s provision of inclusive and equitable quality education contributes to social and political stability in the region and provides skills and well-being to Palestine refugee children. [UNRWA](#) also informed that the Agency is organizing a UN General Assembly side event on 22 September co-hosted by Jordan and Sweden to promote the Agency’s financial stability.
- On 16 September, the office of the [United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process](#) (UNSCO) published a report for the upcoming meeting of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee (AHLC) on 22 September 2022. UNSCO warned of the growing gap between the stalled political path and negative trajectory on the ground, and of the Palestinian Authority’s (PA) funding which is reaching the point of unsustainability. It called for giving urgent priority to ensuring the readiness of the PA for statehood. The report also warned of the current fragmentation of the OPT, which is limiting the growth of the Palestinian economy, fuelling humanitarian needs and conflict, and undermining the viability of a future Palestinian State. It outlined steps to further ease access restrictions in the West Bank and Gaza and improve Palestinian access to land and resources, better link the economies of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and address the internal Palestinian divide. The [Office of the Quartet](#) also published a report ahead of the AHLC meeting, focussing on identifying progress achieved and the critical next steps required in order to meet the short, medium and long-term objectives.

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>