

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

## **NGO Action News**

**08 Sept 2022**

### **Middle East**

- On 7 September, [Addameer](#) informed that the Palestinian Prime Minister, Mohammad Shtayyeh, the EU Head of Delegation, Sven Kuehn von Burgsdorff, and representatives of some 16 EU countries visited Addameer's offices in Ramallah in defiance of the Israeli recent military raid and closure of seven Palestinian Civil Society Organizations. Addameer reported that the representative of the EU further affirmed his condemnation of the "terrorist" designation by Israel, military raid of the offices two weeks earlier and confiscation of properties and files of those seven organizations.
- On 5 September, [B'Tselem](#) issued a press release criticizing the Israeli military's announcement that one of its soldiers might have killed journalist Shireen Abu Akleh, but without taking any responsibility for her death. B'Tselem stated that the killing of Abu Akleh is the predictable result of Israel's open fire policy in the OPT, a policy which claims more and more victims.
- On 3 September, [al-Haq](#) informed that the six prominent Palestinian civil society organizations designated as "terrorist organizations" by Israel sent a letter to US President Biden, calling on him and his Administration to condemn Israel's latest actions aimed at delegitimizing and criminalizing Palestinian human rights defenders and civil society organizations. The letter further demands that the Biden Administration should reject the Israeli government's unsubstantiated allegations against the Palestinian civil society organizations and demand that Israel rescind the designations under both Israeli civilian law and military law.
- On 2 September, [Ir Amim](#) informed that Israeli authorities are poised to advance Givat HaShaked and E1 settlement plans over the next 10 days. According to Ir Amim, both plans join a spate of other settlement plans in and around Jerusalem, including Givat Hamatos, Atarot, the Lower Aqueduct, and Har Gilo West, which were advanced under the Bennett-Lapid government. This is despite the fact that the current Israeli Government committed to refrain from new settlement construction. Ir Amim argued that, instead, settlement activity intensified during the government's tenure, accelerating steps towards de-facto annexation of "Greater Jerusalem" and imperilling any remaining prospect of a negotiated resolution to the conflict.
- On 29 August, the [Palestinian Centre for Human Rights](#) (PCHR) informed that it had concluded the second training course in 2022 on "Human Rights and Mechanisms to

Promote Right to Health”, with the participation of 24 medical laboratory specialists and in coordination with the Medical Technology Syndicate in the Gaza Strip. The training course was held from 22 to 25 August 2022 in Gaza City. The project aims to improve access to healthcare, legal counselling, and legal assistance for Palestinian patients; to mainstream the culture of international human rights and humanitarian law, particularly the right to health, by building the capacities of those working in the health sector; and to promote improved monitoring, documenting, and reporting of violations of the right to health.

### **Europe**

- On 2 September, the [Norwegian Refugee Council](#) published a letter sent to the US Secretary of State Blinken by five humanitarian organizations. The letter calls on the US to demand that Israel end its targeting of Palestinian civil society and rescind its designation of human rights and civil society groups as ‘terrorist’ organizations. The letter further calls on the US to publicly reject these unsubstantiated designations and to not restrict the ability of these CSOs to continue their operations.

### **North America**

- On 6 September, [Foundation for Middle East Peace](#) published the podcast “A Settler Tool & a Catch-22 for Palestinians: Land Registration in East Jerusalem”. On this episode of “Occupied Thoughts”, FMEP’s Kristin McCarthy discussed with Amy Cohen of Ir Amim the threat that land registration poses to Palestinians. A complex and bureaucratic process, it is one of most pressing modes of dispossession facing Palestinians living in East Jerusalem, according to Ir Amim. Panellists stressed that Israel is cynically exploiting land registration to expand settlements, expropriate more land, and push Palestinians out of the city.
- On 2 September, [Human Rights Watch](#) published a joint letter signed by US-based and international organizations to President Biden calling for immediate action following Israeli Government's attacks on Palestinian civil society. The signatories called on President Biden to condemn the Israeli government’s repressive tactics and escalating campaign of criminalization and intimidation against Palestinian civil society organizations and their staff and boards, and to reject the Israeli government’s unsubstantiated accusations levied against these organizations and that demand Israeli authorities rescind the “terrorist” designations, among other demands.
- On 1 September, [Americans for Peace Now](#) informed that the organization sent a letter signed by over 400 activists to Secretary of State Antony Blinken demanding that the administration fulfil its duty and conduct an independent and transparent investigation into the killing of Palestinian journalist Shireen Abu-Akleh, an American citizen covering the West Bank for Al-Jazeera TV. The letter reaffirms the need articulated by both President Biden and Secretary Blinken for a “full and transparent accounting” and an “independent, credible investigation” and urges the administration to fulfil its obligation by ensuring this occurs.

## United Nations

- On 6 September, [UNRWA](#) published the statement of its Commissioner-General, Philippe Lazzarini, to the 158th Session of the League of Arab States Council. The Commissioner-General recalled that over half a million girls and boys went back to UNRWA schools recently, highlighting that education is for most Palestine refugees the only passport to a better life. Philippe Lazzarini added that the chronic underfunding of UNRWA is felt in every Palestine refugee household, as UNRWA requires adequate resources to implement its mandate. He added that political support, without matching financial resources, will not cover the cost of education for more than half a million girls and boys, access to more than 140 health centres, as well as food and cash assistance for over two million poor and conflict-affected Palestine refugees across the region.
- On 2 September, [OCHA](#) published the Protection of Civilians Report covering the period 16-29 August 2022. According to OCHA, 2 Palestinians were killed and 248 others, including at least 42 children, were injured by Israeli forces in the OPT during this period. Furthermore, the Israeli authorities demolished, confiscated, or forced people to demolish 55 Palestinian-owned structures in East Jerusalem and Area C of the West Bank, citing the lack of Israeli-issued building permits; ten of the structures were funded by donors. As a result, 61 people, including 31 children, were displaced, and the livelihoods of about 200 others were affected.

*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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