

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

NGO Action News

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Middle East

- On 15 November, [Ir Amim](#) informed that the Jerusalem Local Planning Committee is scheduled to discuss a plan on November 23 for the construction of 100 new housing units and 275 hotel rooms at the entrance to the Palestinian neighbourhood of Jabal Mukabber, in East Jerusalem. The area designated for this construction is adjacent to the existing Nof Zion settlement in the heart of Jabal Mukabber. Ir Amim informed that the plan would transform Nof Zion from an isolated settler enclave to the largest settlement in the heart of a Palestinian neighbourhood in East Jerusalem.
- On 13 November, [B'Tselem](#) published an article informing that Israel's discriminatory policy toward Palestinians prevent thousands of Palestinian families, in which one spouse is from the West Bank and the other is from the Gaza Strip, from living together as a family in the West Bank. The main victims of this Israeli policy are women from the Gaza Strip who married residents of the West Bank. These families are forced to make an impossible choice between living together in Gaza – at the cost of separating from family in the West Bank and enduring the harsh living conditions and financial hardships in Gaza – or living apart. The ban is part of Israel's separation policy, designed to isolate the Gaza Strip and implemented since the 1990s.
- On 13 November, [Al Mezan](#) published the report “Gaza Water Desalination Plants Fact sheet: Health and Environmental Impact”. This factsheet discusses the conditions of private water desalination plants in the Gaza Strip and their impact on human rights, including the rights to health, water and sanitation, and a healthy environment. Although the entire Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT) faces a perennial water shortage issue due to over five decades of Israel's occupation, this factsheet focuses on the Gaza Strip—where the realization of the right to water faces some uniquely serious challenges, with its more than two million residents lacking access to safe drinking water.
- On 10 November, [Adalah](#) and the Center for Constitutional Rights in New York sent an urgent letter to US Secretary of State Antony Blinken and the US Ambassador to Israel, Thomas R. Nides, calling on the Biden Administration to immediately cancel the plan for the new US Embassy Compound in Jerusalem. The letter was sent on behalf of several Palestinian heirs to the land on which the new US Embassy Compound is to be built. Adalah informed that the letter follows the advancement of a plan to build the new US Embassy Compound on land which was illegally confiscated from Palestinians.

- On 10 November, [Addameer](#) submitted the report “Illegal and Arbitrary: The Deprivation of Liberty of Palestinians in Occupied Territories” to the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in the Palestinian Territory Occupied Since 1967. Addameer analyzed Israel’s use of arbitrary detention policies and practices to repress Palestinians’ struggle for self-determination and liberty. The submission concludes that the increased systematic practice of arbitrary detention undertaken by the Israeli forces is upheld by what it considers an Israeli settler-colonial and apartheid regime.
- On 9 November, the [Palestinian Centre for Human Rights](#) organized a workshop titled: “The Right of Gaza Strip’s Patients to Access Treatment Abroad”. Speakers representing the Palestinian Ministry of Health, private organizations from the health sector, civil society organizations, and media discussed the repercussions of the Israeli authorities’ obstruction of the travel of Gaza Strip’s patients referred for treatment abroad. Participants recommended to exert pressure on and compel Israel to allow all patients to travel and reach their treatment in the hospitals immediately, stressed the need to issue long-term permits for cancer patients and patients with incurable diseases from the Gaza Strip, and to allow the import of medical devices and medicines.

Asia and Europe

- On 15 November, [Amnesty International](#) published an article asking for the Israeli military to be held accountable for the killing of Palestinians, including Shireen Abu Akleh. Amnesty International declared that Shireen Abu Akleh’s death was not an isolated incident as she is among 125 Palestinians who have been killed by Israeli authorities in the West Bank so far this year. According to Amnesty International, these killings, which mostly took place in the context of police operations and raids, are part of a system of apartheid which thrives on violent oppression and crimes under international law. The organization further called on all states, including the US, to support the International Criminal Court’s investigation into the situation in Palestine.

North America

- On 22 November, [Americans for Peace Now](#) (APN) will organize a webinar with journalist and historian Eric Alterman to discuss his new book “We Are Not One: A History of America’s Fight Over Israel.” APN informed that this book reveals how America’s consensus on Israel and Palestine emerged and why it is fracturing now.
- On 16 November, the [Foundation for Middle East Peace](#) (FMEP) organized the webinar, co-sponsored by several partner organizations, to launch the publication of the new report “Funding Freedom: Philanthropy and the Palestinian Freedom Movement”. The report, authored by Rebecca Vilkomerson, looks at the obstacles and opportunities to meet the urgent need to create the conditions for individual donors, foundations, and funding networks to increase ongoing and sustainable giving in support of Palestinians.

- On 15 November, [J Street](#) issued a statement welcoming the US Justice Department opening of a formal FBI investigation into the killing of renowned Palestinian-American journalist Shireen Abu Akleh. The statement further reads that this is a critically important and necessary step toward conclusively determining exactly how and why Abu Akleh was killed and to holding those responsible fully accountable. J Street added that it was deeply disappointing that leaders of the outgoing Israeli government had already stated that they would refuse to cooperate with the US investigation. [Americans for Peace Now](#) also issued a statement in support to this investigation.
- On 14 November, the [Jerusalem Fund](#) published an article on the Palestinian citizens of Israel's disillusionment with the Israeli political system. The article argues that such Palestinians have long been systemically treated as second-class citizens, with their agency and views structurally and categorically excluded from the Israeli political system. The Jerusalem Fund added that voter turnout among Palestinians with Israeli citizenship has been low for years and that many Palestinians have been unmotivated to vote in the elections of a State that does not view them as equals.

United Nations

- On 29 November, the [Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People](#) (CEIRPP) will mark the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People (Solidarity Day) with a Special Meeting. The event will take place in person at the ECOSOC Chamber, UNHQ - New York, on Tuesday, 29 November from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (EST) and will be livestreamed on [UN WebTV](#). The International Day of Solidarity provides an opportunity for the international community to focus its attention on the unresolved question of Palestine, and express solidarity with the Palestinian people through messages by Heads of State and Government.
- On 14 November, the [UNRWA](#) Commissioner-General Philippe Lazzarini addressed the UNRWA Advisory Commission meeting in Amman, Jordan. The Commissioner-General welcomed the strong support for the Agency by the General Assembly's Fourth Committee members, adding that this support stems from the deep belief by most UN Member States that UNRWA is irreplaceable for the wellbeing and the fulfilment of the human rights of Palestine refugees. Philippe Lazzarini further emphasized that the Agency's mandate renewal will be put to a vote at the UN General Assembly later this year but that this mandate comes with a responsibility to provide necessary resources to allow UNRWA to implement its mandate. He stressed that it was becoming urgent to agree on ways to equip the Agency with a sustainable funding base. The Advisory Commission also discussed the urgent need to ramp up funding for the Agency amid an increased dependence of Palestine refugees on aid.
- On 11 November, the [UNGA Fourth Committee](#) (Special Political and Decolonization), approved six draft resolutions plus one draft decision, including texts that would renew the mandate of UNRWA and request an advisory opinion from the International Court of Justice on Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territory. It approved the draft resolution titled "Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the Palestinian people in the Occupied

Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem”. By its terms, the Assembly would demand that Israel cease all measures that violate the human rights of the Palestinian people, including the killing and injuring of civilians, the arbitrary detention and imprisonment of civilians, the forced displacement of civilians and the transfer of its own population into the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. It would also have the Assembly decide to request the International Court of Justice to render urgently an advisory opinion on the legal consequences arising from the ongoing violation by Israel of the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, from its prolonged occupation, settlement and annexation of the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967.

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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