

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

NGO Action News

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Middle East

- During the reporting period, many organizations published statements condemning the widescale violence and retaliatory acts against Palestinians conducted on 26 February by hundreds of Israeli settlers in several villages in Nablus, north of the West Bank. Among them, the [Palestinian Center for Human Rights](#) (PCHR) issued a press release stating that these widescale attacks come amid the Israeli “official” support to settlers’ violence by allowing them to carry and use weapons against Palestinians without any accountability. PCHR called on the international community and the UN bodies to assume their legal and moral responsibilities, take immediate action against those crimes, and provide protection for Palestinians. [Al Haq](#) issued an article as well, and [Physicians for Human Rights Israel](#) published a statement signed by civil society organizations active in Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT), denouncing the recent violence. Furthermore, many organizations around the world issued statements on this incident, including [Association Belgo-Palestinienne](#), [Association France Palestine Solidarité](#), and [Jewish Voice for Peace](#), among others.
- On 23 February, [al Haq](#) informed that 35 Palestinian civil society organisations sent a letter to the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court requesting him to expedite the investigation into the situation in Palestine and urgently issue a preventive statement to deter more crimes being perpetrated by the Israeli authorities against Palestinians. According to al Haq, this letter was sent in light of Israel’s recent military attacks and escalation of widespread and systematic violations against the Palestinian people.
- On 23 February, [Addameer](#) informed that the Palestinian Human Rights Organizations Council (PHROC), the Commission of Detainees and Ex-Detainees Affairs, and the Palestinian Prisoners’ Society sent a joint urgent appeal to the United Nations Special Procedures on collective punishment and arbitrary measures implemented by the Israeli Prison Services (IPS) against Palestinian prisoners and detainees. Among other measures, the organizations urged the UN Special Procedures to demand Israel, the Occupying Power, and the IPS to ensure and uphold Palestinian political prisoners’ right to life and the highest attainable standard of health and mental health, and to avoid and end all forms of arbitrary, retaliatory, and collective punishment imposed against Palestinian political prisoners.

Asia and Europe

- On 27 February, the [European Coordination of Committees and Associations for Palestine](#) (ECCP) released a statement to condemn the Israel Security Forces operation in Nablus on 22 February. ECCP stated that this operation was the deadliest in over 20 years; at least 11 Palestinians were killed, including a 16-year-old child and a 72-year-old man. Moreover, at least 102 people were injured, including 82 being hit by live ammunition. ECCP added that the rise in both state and settler violence, the de facto and increasingly de jure annexation of Palestinian lands, demolition of Palestinian structures and expansion of Israeli settlements is extremely worrying and requires urgent action from EU and European officials.

North America

- On 8 March, [Foundation for Middle East Peace](#) (FMEP) and Al Shabaka will organize the event “Allyship & the Fight for Palestinian Liberation”, with Saleh Hijazi (BDS Movement) and Nadya Tannous (Palestinian Youth Movement) in conversation with Tariq Kenney-Shawa (Al Shabaka). In this last webinar episode in FMEP and Al Shabaka’s four-part series, Learning and Unlearning Palestine, the panellists will explore what allyship and solidarity with the Palestinian liberation struggle has looked like, and what it can and should look like moving forward.
- On 8 March, the [Jerusalem Fund](#) will commemorate International Women’s Day by holding a virtual discussion with Asmaa Abu Mezied, an expert in gender and economic justice, on the current realities facing Palestinian women. The event will shed light on how Palestinian women and civil society are dealing with Israel’s ever-escalating occupation, how Israel’s attacks on Palestinian civil society organizations affect the implementation of the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) Agenda and on the role of the international community.
- On 2 March, [Just Vision](#), the Institute for Middle East Understanding and Jewish Currents will organize a webinar discussion with the plaintiffs of the movie BOYCOTT: Alan Leveritt (publisher of the Arkansas Times), Bahia Amawi (speech therapist from Texas) and Mikkel Jordahl (attorney from Arizona), together with ACLU attorney Brian Hauss. Julia Bacha (Creative Director at Just Vision and BOYCOTT Director), Dima Khalidi (Executive Director of Palestine Legal), Lara Friedman (President of the Foundation for Middle East Peace), and Suhad Babaa (Just Vision's Executive Director and Producer of Boycott) will also join the event.
- On 27 February, [Foundation for Middle East Peace](#) and Al Shabaka organized the webinar “Normalizing and Peacemaking as Discourses of Violence”. Panellists Inès Abdel Razek (Palestine Institute for Public Diplomacy), Yara Hawari (Al Shabaka) and Maha Nassar (University of Arizona) discussed how the “dialogue discourse” has been used to undermine the Palestinian liberation movement, including through the insistence to engage in peace projects.
- On 24 February, [Institute for Palestine Studies](#)-USA informed that it is organizing a writing workshop that centers Nakba stories told by descendants of its survivors. Organized to commemorate 75 years of the Nakba, this workshop is open for registration and co-sponsored

by the United Palestinian Appeal and the Center for Contemporary Arab Studies at Georgetown University. Five virtual sessions will be organised between 20 March and 15 April.

United Nations

- On 28 February, the [Division for Palestinian Rights](#) (DPR) held its annual Briefing for New Delegates at UN Headquarters on the mandate and work of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People. Over a dozen new UN delegates and representatives of relevant UN entities attended the briefing, which was opened by the Committee Chair, Ambassador Cheikh Niang. The Division for Palestinian Rights (DPR) briefed about the Committee's mandate and activities, by including international conferences, outreach to member states, capacity building, liaison with NGOs, social media outreach and information disseminations. The Department of Global Communications briefed about its Special Information Programme on the Question of Palestine. Ambassador Feda Abdelhady, Deputy Permanent Observer of State of Palestine to the UN delivered closing remarks.
- On 24 February, the Bureau of the United Nations [Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People](#) (CEIRPP) issued a statement condemning the Israeli forces' raid in Nablus in the occupied West Bank that killed 11 Palestinians, including an elderly man and a minor, and injured 100 Palestinians at the date. The Bureau expressed its deep concerns about the deadly cycles of violence and the senseless loss of civilian lives, mainly Palestinians, which keep growing. The Bureau stressed the need for accountability for all illegal Israeli policies and measures in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. The Bureau appealed for urgent Security Council and international action to protect the Palestinian people. Similarly, on 22 February, speakers at the 410th session of the [Committee](#) appealed for an immediate end to the deadly cycle of violence. The [UN Secretary-General](#) António Guterres warned that the situation in OPT was "at its most combustible" in years. In addition, the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Tor Wennesland, issued statements condemning the violence in the OPT on [22 February](#) and on [27 February](#).

This newsletter informs about recent and upcoming activities of Civil Society Organizations affiliated with or reported to 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 endorse nor accept responsibility for the accuracy or reliability of the information contained in the websites linked in the newsletter.



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