

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

NGO Action News

27 April 2023

Middle East

- On 25 April, [Peace Now](#) informed that a hearing was held in the Israeli Supreme Court regarding a petition it submitted demanding that the Settlement Division under the umbrella of the World Zionist Organization, responsible for allocating lands in the occupied West Bank for settlements, settler agricultural farms, and settler agriculture, be required to publish its decisions regarding land allocations in advance and in order to increase transparency. Peace Now added that the Settlement Division receives land from the Custodian of Absentee Properties, but its decisions are made in a non-transparent way. The court decided to allow the state to respond in writing within 60 days and did not issue an order until a decision was made on this petition.
- On 20 April, [Ir Amim](#) informed that the Israeli Civil Administration discussed several road plans that are necessary for actualizing the "Greater Jerusalem" vision, constituting a major step towards de-facto annexation of this area, including the advanced of the E1 settlement plan. The concept entails the expansion of settlements around the periphery of Jerusalem and connecting them to the city to create one large, interconnected network of settlements and metropolitan area.
- On 19 April, [Al Haq](#) informed that the organization delivered a joint oral intervention on 30 March during the 52nd session of the Human Rights Council, underscoring the need to repeal Israel's discriminatory laws and end what it considers to be an apartheid system against the Palestinian people as a whole. In its intervention, Al-Haq highlighted Israel's steps to entrench a hostile agenda against Palestinians, including through the adoption of discriminatory laws. To this end, Al-Haq stressed the importance of UN Member States' mobilization to end Israel's systemic violations, including through supporting the reconstitution of the UN Centre and Special Committee against Apartheid, and called for action to ensure accountability for Israel's crimes committed against the Palestinian people.

Asia and Europe

- On 29 April, Al Quds University Human Rights Clinic and [Law for Palestine](#) will organize an event for the launch of the book "Protecting Human Rights in Occupied Palestine: Working Through the United Nations." The joint book of Prof. John Dugard, Prof. Richard Falk, and Prof. Michael Lynk, former UN Rapporteurs, highlights both the positive role

played by the UN in a politically controversial area and its blockage by geopolitical forces preventing it from securing the implementation of international law.

- On 26 April, the [European Coordination of Committees and Associations for Palestine](#) (ECCP) informed that the European Parliament's Committee on Petitions (PETI) debated a petition on a proposed ban on EU trade with illegal settlements. According to ECCP, the petition calls on the Commission to propose legal acts to prevent EU legal entities from both importing products originating in illegal settlements in occupied territories and exporting to such territories.
- On 23 April, [Law for Palestine](#) informed it has joined more than 100 human rights and civil rights organizations, including [Human Rights Watch](#) and [Americans for Peace Now](#), to an open letter to Secretary-General António Guterres and High Representative for the UN Alliance of Civilizations, Miguel Ángel Moratinos. In that letter, the organizations urged the United Nations not to endorse or adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) definition of anti-Semitism, arguing that this definition has been used to falsely label some criticism of Israeli government policies or advocacy for Palestinian rights as antisemitic.
- On 20 April, [Association France Palestine Solidarité](#) (AFPS) published an article (in French) informing that on 4 May the French Parliament will debate a proposed resolution calling for the recognition of a "situation of apartheid" against the Palestinian people. AFPS added that this situation had already been acknowledged by several prominent civil society organizations and called on the public to contact their elected representatives to raise this issue.

North America

- On 5 May, [The Jerusalem Fund](#) will organize the event "Our Palestine – A Discussion with Professor Mohammad Ghosheh." Professor Mohammad H. Ghosheh, a renowned historian, architect, and author, will share insights from his extensive work in archiving Palestinian history and culture, including his 24-volume "Encyclopedia Palestinnica." In addition, Prof. Ghosheh will discuss his forthcoming series Our Palestine, a groundbreaking academic project that includes 30,000 historical maps of Palestine, organized into ten historical, geographical, and topographical atlases
- On 2 May, the Arab Center Washington DC and the [Foundation for Middle East Peace](#) will be hosting a half-day conference to discuss the implications of the Abraham Accords for human rights and democracy across the region, as well as for US policies and priorities, regional and global alliances, and the future of both peace and Palestinian human rights. The conference panels will also include an examination of the diplomatic, economic, military, and technological components of these newly established relations, the motivations of each of the countries involved, and an overall assessment of the future of the Abraham Accords.

United Nations

- On 15 May, the [UN Committee for the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People](#) (CEIRPP) will commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Nakba at UN Headquarters in New York. For the first time in the history of the UN, this anniversary will be commemorated pursuant to the mandate by the General Assembly (A/RES/77/23 of 30 November 2022). The CEIRPP will organize a High-Level Special Meeting on 15 May 2023, from 10 am to 12.30 pm (NY Time) in Conference Room 4. A Special Commemorative Event will be held in the General Assembly Hall from 6 pm to 8 pm (NY Time). The event will bring to life the Palestinian journey and will aim at creating an immersive experience of the Nakba through live music, photos, videos, and personal testimonies. To register, please follow this [link](#).
- On 3 May, the [UN Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People](#) will convene a Committee Meeting in Conference Room 2 at UNHQ in New York. The meeting agenda includes the election of officer, the accreditation of CSOs and briefing on the guidelines and procedures for Member States to submit statements to the Court on the International Court of Justice Opinion.
- On 25 April, the [Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process](#), Tor Wennesland, briefed the Security Council meeting on the Situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question. Wennesland expressed concern over recent incidents of violence at the Holy Sites and tensions across the Occupied Palestinian Territory and in Israel, which he attributed to provocative calls and incitement by Israelis. He emphasized that he was deeply worried by the violence and inflammatory actions over the past weeks, particularly the violent confrontations inside Al-Aqsa Mosque and high risk of escalation. Wennesland urged respect for the status quo at the Holy Sites in Jerusalem, in accordance with the special role of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. During this Security Council debate, the Chair of the [UN Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People](#) reiterated calls for a halt to all settlement activities, condemned the violence at the Holy Sites in Jerusalem and called on the Security Council to take measures to protect Palestinian people.

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>