



**Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People**  
**COMMEMORATION OF THE 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE NAKBA**

Monday, 15 May 2023, UN Headquarters, New York



This year marks the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the mass displacement of Palestinians known as “the Nakba” or “the Catastrophe,” which saw over half of the Palestinian population turned into refugees. This anniversary puts the spotlight on the world’s longest-standing [protracted refugee crisis](#) and is a reminder that the population of over 5.9 million Palestine refugees registered with [UNRWA](#) continue to live amidst conflict, violence, and occupation and aspire to a just

and lasting solution to their plight.

The [UN Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People](#) (CEIRPP) assisted by the Division for Palestinian Rights of DPPA, will [commemorate](#) the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Nakba at UNHQ in New York. For the first time in the history of the UN, this anniversary will be commemorated pursuant to the mandate given by the UNGA (resolution [A/RES/77/23](#) of 30 November 2022).

This anniversary will be marked in UN Headquarters with two events, co-organized by the Committee and the Observer Mission of Palestine to the United Nations.

*First*, in the morning of 15 May, the CEIRPP will organize a **High-Level Special Meeting from 10 AM to 12.30 PM** (NY Time) in Conference Room 4, UNHQ New York.

The High-Level event will be presided over by the Chair of the Committee, Ambassador Cheikh Niang. It will include a keynote address by the President of the State of Palestine, H.E. Mahmoud Abbas, and statements by Rosemary A. DiCarlo, Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, UNRWA’s Commissioner-General, representatives of Regional Groups and civil society.

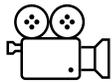
A **Special Event and Concert** in the **UN General Assembly Hall, 6-8 PM** (NY Time).

The event will aim at creating an immersive experience of the Nakba through photos, videos, testimonies, and music.

The commemoration will have an Opening Ceremony and then feature a performance by Palestinian singer Sanaa Moussa, “an Ambassador of Palestinian heritage.”

Naseem Alatrash, a Grammy-nominated cellist and composer, accompanied by the New York Arabic Orchestra directed by Eugene Friesen, a four-time Grammy Award Winner, will perform an adapted version of Alatrash’s composition about the Nakba entitled *Bright Colors on a Dark Canvas*. These performances will be accompanied by audio-visual material.

All United Nations Members and Observers have been invited to attend the events. Intergovernmental and civil society organizations as well as the public have also been invited to attend.



The High-Level event will be conducted in the six official languages.

Both events will be open to the media and will be live-streamed on UN Web TV:

[High-level event to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Nakba | UN Web TV](#)

[Special Commemorative event on the 75th anniversary of the Nakba | UN Web TV](#)



Updates, including on the programme of the event and messages received in connection with the commemoration, will be posted online at <https://www.un.org/unispal/nakba75/>



For further information, please contact the Division for Palestinian Rights at

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