

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

NGO Action News

15 June 2023

Middle East

- On 13 June, the [Palestinian Center for Human Rights](#) (PCHR) testified before the United Nations Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting Human Rights of Palestinian People and Other Arabs of Territories Occupied in 1967. PCHR stated that its testimony comes a month after the latest Israeli operation on the Gaza Strip in which 33 Palestinians were killed, and 150 others were injured, in addition to causing extensive destruction to civilian property, including residential houses. During the testimony, PCHR reviewed the Israeli forces' violations against the Palestinian people, highlighting the ongoing deterioration of the human rights situation and international humanitarian law.
- On 8 June, [Adalah](#) published the position paper "The Acceleration of the Annexation of the West Bank under the 37th Israeli Government led by Prime Minister Netanyahu." The position paper encompasses a legal analysis of measures taken to move towards annexation since the latest iteration of the Netanyahu government was seated in December 2022. This position paper analyzes several of the Israeli government's grave actions to annex the West Bank. Analyses include institutional changes and transfer of spheres of operation to government offices; legalization of outposts and expansion of settlements; and direct application of Israeli domestic law in the occupied West Bank. The position paper also includes Adalah's legal appeals to the Israeli authorities in regard to these actions and responses it received from officials.
- On 7 June, [Yesh Din](#) published an article to highlight that for 45 years Israel has denied residents of the Palestinian village Burqa, in the West Bank, access to their privately-owned land where the Israeli settlement of Homesh once stood. The private Palestinian lands were expropriated in 1978 through a military seizure order for 'security' needs and two years later the settlement of Homesh was erected there. Several dozen Israeli families lived in the settlement until Israel evacuated Homesh in 2005 as part of the disengagement plan. Yesh Din stated that, as a relocation plan of this settlement is being discussed by Israeli authorities, the Palestinian landowners will not be able to access their lands safely and the violation of their rights will continue as long as there is an Israeli presence in the area.
- [BADIL](#) announced the release of the first working paper in a series of five papers on "Decolonization: The Case of Palestine." According to BADIL, the Series is prompted by the recent shifting discourse on Palestine, which is moving away from the national conflict and conflict resolution approach and is instead adopting the colonization and apartheid frameworks. The Series will outline a comprehensive approach for rights-based

decolonization over all of Mandatory Palestine. The first Working Paper (no. 30), the Introduction, establishes the framework for decolonization in Palestine, the subsequent papers will include an in-depth exploration of the required actions, processes, and means for achieving complete decolonization in Mandatory Palestine.

Asia and Europe

- On 13 June, [Amnesty International](#) published an article on potential war crimes committed during Israel's latest military assault on the Gaza Strip. The assault began on 9 May 2023 with the targeted killing of three high-ranking commanders of Al-Quds Brigades, the armed wing of Palestinian Islamic Jihad. According to Amnesty International, on that first night of bombing, 10 Palestinian civilians were killed and over 20 were injured, a high toll that could and should have been avoided by those planning, ordering and authorizing the attack. During the five-day offensive, which ended on 13 May, Amnesty International documented the killing by Israeli forces of 31 Palestinians, including 11 civilians, as well as substantial destruction and damage to Palestinian property. Amnesty International also documented the killing by rockets fired by Palestinian armed groups of three Palestinian civilians in the Gaza Strip and two civilians in Israel. [B'Tselem](#) published an article on this issue as well, calling for the responsibility of Israeli officials who ordered strikes that killed civilians.
- On 12 June, [Association France Palestine Solidarité](#) (AFPS) issued a statement (in French) calling for the protection of Palestinian civilians. AFPS reported on the death of two-year-old Palestinian, Mohammed Tamimi, shot in the head by an Israeli soldier in the West Bank. AFPS also informed that Israeli forces entered the child's village during the funerals, injuring Palestinians.

North America

- On 15 June, [Americans for Peace Now](#) will organize the webinar "Harnessing Diaspora Communities for Justice in Israel-Palestine" with Mira Sucharov and Omar Dajani. Omar Dajani is a Palestinian-American law professor and former legal adviser to the Palestinian negotiating team in peace talks with Israel. Mira Sucharov is a Canadian Jewish political scientist who specializes in Israeli-Palestinian politics. They will discuss ways in which diaspora communities can empathetically and creatively help forge a vision for justice and equality across Israel-Palestine.
- On 12 June, [Foundation for Middle East Peace](#) (FMEP) published the webinar "How IHRA Antisemitism Definition Suppresses Palestinian Rights Advocacy in EU/UK: Insight from ELSC." FMEP President Lara Friedman spoke with the European Legal Support Center (ELSC) Director Giovanni Fassina and ELSC Manager of Communication and Advocacy Strategies and Campaigns Alice Garcia about ELSC's new report, "Suppressing Palestinian Rights Advocacy through the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism – Violating the Rights to Freedom of Expression and Assembly in the European Union and the UK." According to FMEP, this report is the first case-based account of human rights violations

resulting from the institutionalization and application of the controversial IHRA definition by the EU and the UK.

- On 9 June, [Law For Palestine](#) informed that it organized, in collaboration with the Palestinian General Delegation to Canada and Canadian Members of Parliament, an event titled “Embracing Responsibility: Canada’s obligation towards Palestine under international law.” Bringing together notable speakers, the hybrid event gathered a diverse audience of over 150 officials, civil society activists, and researchers, who joined either in person or online. The event was held at the Parliament Hill in Ottawa with the aim of addressing the prolonged Israeli occupation of Palestinian Territory and Canada’s role in addressing this critical issue.

United Nations

- On 14 June, [UNISPAL](#) published the May 2023 Monthly Bulletin on Action by the United Nations System and Intergovernmental Organizations Relevant to the Question of Palestine.
- On 6 June, the [World Health Organization](#) held an event in Gaza to engage partners on mobilizing action to address the key findings and recommendations of two reports on the “Right to Health: Barriers to Health Access and Attacks on Health Care 2019 to 2021” and “Palestinian Voices 2022 to 2023.” The reports outline how fragmentation of the Palestinian people, implementation of a permit regime, physical obstacles to movement, and protection gaps cause health inequities and create substantial barriers to health care provision and health access in the occupied West Bank, including east Jerusalem, and Gaza Strip.

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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