

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

## NGO Action News

22 June 2023

### Middle East

- On 24 June, the [Institute for Palestine Studies](#) will host a seminar titled “The Rise of the Far Right and the Populist Right in Israel: A Reading of Causes, Meanings and Projections.” The full-day event will take place at Birzeit University and will focus on multiple dimensions of the rise of the far right in Israel and its repercussions on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.
- On 21 June, [B’Tselem](#) published an article on a rising wave of settlers’ riots across the West Bank, most recently in Turmusaya and Huwarah. [Agence Média Palestine](#) also published an article on these attacks, noting that they are part of an attempt to accelerate the annexation of the West Bank.
- On 20 June, the [Palestinian Centre for Human Rights](#) (PCHR) issued a statement condemning escalating attacks by the Israeli Occupation Forces in the West Bank that resulted in the deaths of Palestinian civilians in Bethlehem and in Jenin. PCHR warned of further deterioration in the situation in the West Bank amid the Israeli government’s threats to launch a widescale military operation and urged the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC) to act on the situation of Palestine. [Agence Média Palestine](#) published an article providing details on the violence in Jenin.
- On 20 June, [Al-Shabaka](#) issued its annual report covering its work and accomplishments from Spring 2022 - Spring 2023. The report also presents a new strategy for the organization for the next three years.
- On 20 June, [Adalah](#) published a report with in-depth analysis of the actions by the Israeli law enforcement system during and following the events of May 2021, commonly referred to by Palestinians as “The Unity Intifada” or the “Uprising of Dignity.” The report argues that excessive use of force by Israeli police against Palestinian protestors, and the politicized detentions and indictments that followed, are indicative of a two-tiered system of law enforcement: one for Palestinian citizens of Israel and one for Jewish Israelis.
- On 19 June, [Peace Now](#) published an article noting that on 26 June, the Higher Planning Council of the Civil Administration in the West Bank will hold a discussion regarding the promotion of 4,799 housing units through 28 plans for 18 settlements, including the authorization of an outpost. The announcement was published on 18 June, the same day the government decided to transfer exclusive responsibility and authority for approving settlement plans in the West Bank from the Minister of Defense to a Minister within the

Ministry of Defense. The [Association for the Civil Rights in Israel \(ACRI\)](#) wrote an article highlighting the implications of this decision on the process for establishing and expanding settlements. It argues that the purpose of the decision is to eliminate the need for approvals from the political level throughout the various stages of the planning and approval process for establishing and expanding settlements, hence reducing oversight.

- On 12 June, [Gisha Legal Center for Freedom of Movement](#) launched two animated videos highlighting the impact of Israel's policy of minimizing Palestinian travel between Gaza, the West Bank and Israel on Palestinian families and society.

### **Asia and Europe**

- The [Australia Palestine Advocacy Network](#) announced that on 27 June, a book titled “The Palestine Laboratory” by Antony Lowenstein will be launched at an event in Victoria. The book describes how Israel uses its oppression of Palestinian people to enhance its military and security industries.
- From 2 to 18 June, the [Association France Palestine Solidarité](#) supported the Festival Ciné-Palestine held at various locations in Paris, Seine-Saint-Denis, and Marseille. The focus of this year's festival was “On this land” and films looked at the environmental and climatic impacts of colonization, as well as the interweaving of ecological issues and the struggle for the liberation of Palestine.

### **North America**

- On 29 June, [Americans for Peace Now](#) (APN) will hold a webinar with US Special Representative for Palestinian Affairs Hady Amr to discuss U.S. relations with the Palestinian Authority and the Palestinian people. On 21 June, APN issued a [statement](#) condemning the Israeli Government and settlers' reaction to the West Bank Terror attack and urging the Biden administration to react strongly. On 20 June, it also issued a [statement](#) calling on US President Joe Biden to shift from words to action in response to Israel's settlement policies.
- On 28 June, the Executive Director of [Friends of Sabeel North America](#), Jonathan Kuttab, will launch his new book titled “The Truth Shall Set You Free: The Story of a Palestinian Human Rights Lawyer Working for Peace and Justice in Palestine/Israel” during an online event via Zoom.
- On 25 June, [Churches for Middle East Peace](#) will host a film screening and discussion with the director and co-producer of the film “Two Kids a Day” via Zoom. The film looks into the arrest and interrogation of Palestinian children by Israeli forces.
- On 20 June, [J Street](#) issued a statement expressing concern over the escalating violence in Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territory. It condemned the terror attack near the

settlement of Eli in which four Israelis were killed, as well as the violence in Jenin, which reportedly included the use of improvised explosive devices.

- On 20 June, [Human Rights Watch](#) gave an oral statement at the 53<sup>rd</sup> Session of the UN Human Rights Council, warning that Palestinian civil society groups face an “existential threat.” It called on the international community to act before it was too late, noting that “tepid statements” wouldn’t stop Israel’s repression.
- On 20 June, [The Jerusalem Fund](#) marked the 56th anniversary of the Six Day War by hosting a discussion with author and activist Miko Peled about his book “The General’s Son.” In the book, Peled portrays the war as a brutal assault by the well-prepared Israeli army against its Arab neighbours.

### **United Nations**

- On 21 June, the [UN Secretary-General](#) issued a statement expressing deep concern over recent events in Jenin and the continued violence and loss of life in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. He condemned all acts of violence against civilians, including acts of terror, and called for parties to reduce tensions and prevent further escalation. The [UN Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process](#) also issued a statement, while the [Chair of the UN Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People](#) issued several tweets on the situation.
- On 21 June, [UNRWA](#) announced the Republic of Korea’s contribution of US\$1.7 million towards its work, a tenfold increase in core budget support compared to the previous year.
- On 18 June, [OCHA](#) published its latest report on Protection of Civilians, covering the period from 30 May to 12 June 2023.
- On 16 June, the [UN Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices](#) issued an end-of-mission statement after concluding its annual visit to the region. The Committee went to Egypt and Jordan, since Israel has not granted them access to Israel, the occupied Palestinian territory, or the occupied Syrian Golan since the Committee’s establishment in 1968. In its statement, the Special Committee noted that this year it was presented with the clearest evidence it has seen that Israeli policies systematically violate the human rights of the Palestinian people, in a manner many interlocutors see as akin to apartheid.
- On 8 June, [UNISPAL](#) released a brief animation on the history of the question of Palestine which is available on its website as well as social media channels.

*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>