

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

NGO Action News

2 November 2023

Middle East

- On 1 November, [7amleh – The Arab Centre for the Advancement of Social Media](#) published a briefing paper (in Arabic) on "The Reality of Palestinian Digital Rights since October 7, 2023," documenting worrying trends on digital platforms, including the unprecedented rise in hate speech, the spread of misinformation, and the silencing of voices in support of the Palestinian cause.
- On 31 October, the [Institute for Palestine Studies](#) published an article titled “Denying Motherhood in Gaza,” which highlights the experiences of women in Gaza during the ongoing war, shedding light on the unseen and untold suffering they are enduring.
- On 30 October, [Al-Haq](#), [Al Mezan Center for Human Rights](#), and the Palestinian Centre for Human Rights issued a statement welcoming the visit of the International Criminal Court’s Prosecutor, Karim A. A. Khan KC, to the Rafah crossing between Gaza and Egypt on 29 October and called on him to investigate and prosecute international crimes by the Israeli authorities and military since 7 October.
- On 30 October, Al-Shabaka shared a [podcast](#) discussing the crackdown on pro-Palestine solidarity across the US and Europe and how organizations are working to resist state repression against activists.
- On 30 October, [Addameer Prisoner Support and Human Rights Association](#) sent a letter to the International Committee of the Red Cross, including the names of 85 Palestinians from Gaza who have been missing since 7th October and are suspected to be detained by Israel, asking that their fate and whereabouts be revealed.
- On 29 October, [B’Tselem](#), [The Association for Civil Rights in Israel](#), [Physicians for Human Rights](#), and other human rights and civil society NGOs in Israel issued a joint statement noting the escalation of settler violence and forcible transfer of Palestinian communities in the West Bank and calling on the international community to stop it. The statement notes that since 7 October, at least 13 communities have been displaced.
- On 29 October, [Gisha](#) published an article highlighting the urgent need for fuel in Gaza, as the amount of aid entering from Egypt falls far short of meeting the needs of Gaza's civilian population, which have been compounded by weeks of bombardment, blockade and electricity blackout.

- On 29 October, [Adalah – The Legal Centre for Arab Minority Rights in Israel](#) issued a press release informing that it had sent a letter to Israel's Attorney General, the Prime Minister, and to the Justice Minister demanding the immediate cancellation of new emergency regulations that extend the period in which detainees suspected of “security offenses” can be denied access to their legal counsel.

Asia and Europe

- On 1 November, the [Association Belgo-Palestinienne](#) issued a statement (in French) listing several measures that Belgium should take to translate into concrete action the UN General Assembly's call for a ceasefire in Gaza and the protection of the civilian population. Such measures could include imposing an arms embargo as well as commercial sanctions against Israel, supporting the opening of an investigation by the ICC and ensuring the provision of humanitarian aid into Gaza.
- On 31 October, [Agence Media Palestine](#) shared a letter (in French) written by the Palestinian Journalists' Syndicate to members of the European Parliament on 27 October, calling on them to speak out against the killings of Palestinian journalists in Gaza and to protect Palestinian journalists and freedom of the press by demanding that international journalists, multimedia equipment and protective equipment for journalists be allowed into Gaza.
- On 30 October, the [Palestinian Return Centre](#) released a report on Israeli state-manufactured disinformation propagated since 7 October, which it claims is being used as a smoke screen to distract the international community from Israeli war crimes.
- On 28 October, the [Association France Palestine Solidarité](#) issued a press release (in French) condemning the “massacre behind closed doors” taking place in Gaza and expressing shame at France’s complicity in the atrocities.
- On 27 October, Jan Egeland, Secretary General of the [Norwegian Refugee Council](#), issued a statement urging world leaders to call for an immediate ceasefire.
- On 27 October, [Amnesty International](#) (AI) issued a statement calling on social media companies to urgently address online hate and racism against Palestinian and Jewish communities, noting a growth in harmful content against both groups. AI also noted that content posted by Palestinians and advocates of Palestinian rights were being subject to potentially discriminatory content moderation by some social media platforms.

North America

- On 4 November, the [US Campaign for Palestinian Rights](#) and over 300 other organizations will hold a march on Washington DC to demand an immediate ceasefire and lifting of the siege on Gaza, as well as an end to all U.S. military funding to Israel.

- On 3 November, the [Foundation for Middle East Peace](#) will hold a webinar titled “Gaza, Israel and the 2023 War: Are there any red lines?” which will discuss the human, moral, political and diplomatic costs of the current war, and the legal and moral obligations of the U.S. and international community.
- On 3 November, [Friends of Sabeel North America](#) will hold a virtual theological discussion and reflection on the current situation in Palestine, titled “Faith, Justice, and the Struggle for Change.”
- On 2 November, [The People’s Forum](#) will hold a teach-in sponsored by healthcare workers for Palestine titled “Do No Harm: Healthcare under siege and apartheid” on the current healthcare crisis in Palestine. All ticket sales for the in-person and online event will be donated to healthcare workers on the ground in Gaza.
- On 2 November, [Americans for Peace Now](#) will hold a webinar titled “Gaza War: What is next?” which will feature award-winning Israeli journalist, Tal Schneider, and Daniel Seidemann, an Israeli attorney specializing in Israeli-Palestinian relations.
- On 1 November, [Human Rights Watch](#) issued a press release highlighting the devastating impact of the Israeli government’s bombardment, blockade, and ground offensive in Gaza on Palestinian civilians with disabilities, as they face greater difficulties fleeing attacks and accessing humanitarian aid.
- On 30 October, [Jewish Voice for Peace](#) published an article noting widespread media coverage of its demonstration on 27 October in New York City to demand a ceasefire in Gaza which gathered more than 1,000 people and shut down the main terminal at Grand Central Station.
- On 26 October, [Churches for Middle East Peace](#) (CMEP) issued a statement calling for an immediate ceasefire and a rapid and substantial increase in the delivery of humanitarian aid to Gaza. CMEP also called on Hamas to release all hostages and on the international community, including the United States, to stop supporting further militarization.

United Nations

- On 1 November, the Bureau of the [Committee for the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People](#) issued a statement renewing its call for an immediate ceasefire in the Gaza Strip.
- On 1 November, [OCHA](#) published an article noting that while the world’s eyes are on Gaza, settlers are advancing on West Bank herders. The article highlights that nearly 2,000 Palestinians have been displaced amid settler violence since 2022, 43% of them since 7 October 2023.

- On 31 October, [Secretary-General](#) António Guterres issued a statement expressing alarm over the intensification of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other Palestinian armed groups in Gaza and reiterating his call for an immediate humanitarian ceasefire.
- On 30 October, [UNRWA](#) Commissioner-General Philippe Lazzarini addressed the UN Security Council Meeting on the situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question, calling for an immediate humanitarian ceasefire and strict adherence to international humanitarian law. The same day, the Commissioner-General also made [remarks](#) at the memorial service held in honor of UNRWA staff tragically lost in Gaza.
- On 30 October, [UNICEF](#) Executive Director Catherine Russell briefed the Security Council on the humanitarian situation in Gaza, saying that she believed that the true cost of the escalation would be measured in children’s lives. A representative from [OCHA](#) also made a statement calling for a humanitarian ceasefire as well as respect for the rules of war.
- On 28 October, [Secretary-General](#) António Guterres issued a statement on Gaza, expressing gratitude and support for the mediation initiatives of Qatar, namely for the release of the hostages kept in Gaza.
- On 28 October, [WHO](#) issued a statement describing the intense bombardment and ground incursions in Gaza where health workers, patients and civilians have been subject to a total communication and electrical blackout. The statement reiterated calls for an immediate humanitarian ceasefire and reminded all parties to protect civilians and civilian infrastructure.
- On 27 October, [Secretary-General](#) António Guterres issued a statement on the humanitarian situation in Gaza, expressing concern that the humanitarian system is facing a total collapse in Gaza with unimaginable consequences for more than 2 million civilians.
- On 27 October, the [General Assembly](#) adopted a resolution ([A/ES-10/L.25](#)) calling for an “immediate, durable and sustained humanitarian truce” between Israeli forces and Hamas militants in Gaza, and demanding the “continuous, sufficient and unhindered” provision of lifesaving supplies and services for trapped civilians.

This newsletter informs about recent and upcoming activities of Civil Society Organizations working on the question of Palestine. 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. Translations of the NGO Action News in other languages will be available soon.



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