



## **PANEL DISCUSSION ON THE PALESTINIAN NAKBA**

**Convened by the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People**

***“1948 - 2024: The Ongoing Palestinian Nakba”***

**ECOSOC Chamber, United Nations Headquarters, New York**

**17 May 2024**

**10 a.m. - 1 p.m. NY time**

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### **BIO NOTE OF EXPERT SPEAKERS**

**Ms. Nadia Abu El-Haj** is a **Professor of Anthropology** at **Barnard College and Columbia University**, New York, where she serves as co-Director of the Center for Palestine Studies and Chair of the Governing Board of the Society of Fellows/Heyman Center for the Humanities at Columbia University. She is also Vice President and Vice Chair of the Board at The Institute for Palestine Studies in Washington, D.C. She is the author of several books and numerous journal articles published on topics ranging from the history of archaeology in Palestine to the question of race and genomics today.

**Ms. Phyllis Bennis** is a **Fellow** at the **Institute for Policy Studies**, Washington D.C. and directs the **New Internationalism Project** at the **Institute for Policy Studies**. A Jewish-American writer, political commentator and leading advocate of Palestinian rights, she focuses mainly on issues related to the Middle East and the United Nations. In 2001, she helped found the U.S. Campaign for Palestinian Rights and more recently spent six years on the board of Jewish Voice for Peace, where she now serves as its International Adviser.

**Ms. Zeina Azzam** is a **Palestinian-American poet**, writer, editor, and community activist. She is currently the Poet Laureate of the City of Alexandria, Virginia. Her full-length poetry collection *“Some Things Never Leave You”*, published in 2023, addresses themes including war and displacement, refugee and immigrant experiences, the elusive distance between home and exile, the feeling of being in-between cultures and languages and identities, and encounters with different kinds of loss.

**Mr. Ardi Imseis** is an **Assistant Professor and Academic Director** at **Queen’s University, Ottawa**. His main focus is on the intersection of power, politics, law, and justice, and the

practical impact of those phenomena on international relations in general and on underrepresented peoples in particular. He joined the Queen's Faculty of Law in 2018, following a 12-year career as a UN official in the Middle East, first with UNRWA, and then with UNHCR. Since leaving the United Nations, Mr. Imseis has continued to engage in high-level public advocacy on international law, peace and security, including a number of invited addresses to the UN Security Council.

**Ms. Karamah Kuemmerle** is an **Assistant Professor** at **Harvard Medical School**, Cambridge (Mass.). A clinical pediatric neurologist who specializes in traumatic brain injury and epilepsy, she is the co-founder of **Doctors Against Genocide**, an organization driven by global concern over injustices, wars, racism, war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocides, with a focus on Palestine.

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