

Palestine in the News

A weekly overview of the most relevant developments on Question of Palestine (QoP)

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A weekly newsletter on the latest news, developments, relevant publications, And upcoming events on the QoP. This newsletter aims to help the members of the Global Network on the Question of Palestine (GNQP) to stay informed of legal, academic, political, and humanitarian developments, and be ready for action when needed.

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In the Spotlight

Premier Shtayyeh Stresses Palestine-EU Ties Culminate in Recognition of State of Palestine, WAFA News Agency, June 29, 2022.

Premier Mohammad Shtayyeh today stressed the importance of reinforcing bilateral Palestinian-EU ties at the highest levels, culminating in EU recognition of the State of Palestine.

Hamas, Hezbollah Wary of Israeli-Arab Security Cooperation, <u>THE</u> <u>JERUSALEM POST</u>, June 29, 2022.

The proposed alliance, whose chief goal is to confront Iranian threats and "expansionist" schemes, is expected to be at the top of the agenda of President Joe Biden during his visit to Israel and SA.

Hamas To Allow Left-Wing Israel Activist into Gaza, He Wants to Visit Hostages, THE JERUSALEM POST, June 29, 2022.

Left-wing activist Yoel Marshak said Hamas had granted him permission to enter Gaza after he submitted a request to visit hostages.

PM Shtayyeh to Members of US Congress: Remove PLO From the Terrorist List and Consider It Partner in Peace, WAFA News Agency, June 28, 2022.

Prime Minister Mohammad Shtayyeh today told visiting members of the US Congress that it is important to remove the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) from the US terrorism list and consider it a partner in peace.

Early Release Committee Rejects Appeal to Free Palestinian Prisoner with Deteriorating Mental Health, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, June 28, 2022.

The Israeli early release committee meeting in Ramle prison in central Israel today rejected an appeal to free the prisoner Ahmad Manasra, 20, who is suffering from a deteriorating mental health condition.

President Abbas: Peaceful Popular Resistance "One of The Most Important Weapons That Oppressed People Can Use", <u>WAFA News</u> Agency, June 28, 2022.

The President of the State of Palestine, Mahmoud Abbas, said that the peaceful popular resistance is one of the most important weapons that the oppressed people can use, and we [Palestinians] must continue with it.

CPJ Calls on the Biden Administration to Investigate the Killing of Shireen Abu Akleh, WAFA News Agency, June 28, 2022.

The Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ), a nonprofit press freedom advocacy organization, has called on the US Biden administration to lead a thorough, independent, and transparent investigation into the killing of Palestinian-American journalist Shireen Abu Akleh, noting that 19 have been killed in the course of their work in Israel and the Palestinian territories since 1992.

New Report: Construction of Illegal Jewish Settlements Increased by 62% in the Past Year, The Palestine Chronicle, June 27, 2022.

A new report has revealed that Israel's construction of illegal settlements on Palestinian land increased by 62 percent under the government led by far-right Prime Minister Naftali Bennet, since it came to power in June 2021, The New Arab reported.

Presidency Welcomes Position of South Africa Affirming Rejection of Israeli Crimes Against Palestinians, WAFA News Agency, June 27, 2022.

The presidency today welcomed the position of South Africa which affirmed the rejection of Israeli crimes committed against the Palestinian people.

Newspapers Review: Palestinian-Jordan Summit Highlight of Dailies, WAFA News Agency, June 27, 2022.

The meeting yesterday between President Mahmoud Abbas and Jordan's King Abdullah II was highlighted on the front page of the three Palestinian Arabic dailies published.

PM Shtayyeh Announces a Set of Projects to Strengthen Steadfastness of Masafer Yatta Residents, WAFA News Agency, June 26, 2022.

Prime Minister Mohammed Shtayyeh announced today a number of projects and plans aimed at enhancing the resilience of Palestinian residents in Masafer Yatta in the southern West Bank district of Hebron.

President Abbas Arrives in Jordan, Holds Closed Meeting with King Abdullah II, WAFA News Agency, June 26, 2022.

President Mahmoud Abbas today met with Jordanian King Abdullah II in Amman.

President Abbas to Meet Jordan's King in Amman, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, June 26, 2022.

President Mahmoud Abbas is scheduled to head to the Jordanian capital Amman today to discuss the latest political developments with King Abdullah II of Jordan.

NGO Calls on International Community to Hold Israel to Account for Systematic Torture of Palestinians, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, June 26, 2022.

The Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy (MIFTAH) called today upon the international community to meet its obligations under international law and universal jurisdiction to hold Israel accountable for its systematic torture of Palestinian detainees.

Israel Cancels Agreement To Release Palestinian Prisoner After He Ends Hunger Strike, The Palestine Chronicle, June 25, 2022.

The Israeli occupation authority canceled on Thursday its agreement to release Palestinian detainee Khalil Awawdeh from administrative detention, following his 111 days of hunger strike, the Middle East Monitor reported.

Hamas Captures a Sophisticated Israeli Military Balloon, <u>Al-Monitor</u>, June 25, 2022.

Hours after Hamas seized the balloon, Israeli warplanes bombed one of the movement's military positions and destroyed one of its observation points in the northern Gaza Strip, which overlooks the settlement of Netiv Haasara.

Mental health workers demand Israel release prisoner Ahmad Manasra, Mondoweiss, June 25, 2022.

The worldwide movement to immediately release Ahmad Manasra from Israeli prison is gathering momentum through an international campaign initiated by the Palestine-Global Mental Health Network.

Palestine/Israel

Israeli Forces Detain 14 Palestinians in West Bank Raids, <u>WAFA News</u> Agency, June 30, 2022.

Israeli forces Thursday overnight detained 14 Palestinians from various parts of the West Bank, according to local and security sources.

Israeli Settlers, Forces Assault Activists Involved in Tree Planting Activity in Masafer Yatta, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, June 29, 2022.

Israeli forces and settlers today assaulted activists participating in an olive-tree-planting activity in lands threatened with confiscation in Masafer Yatta in the South Hebron Hills, south of the occupied West Bank.

On His 84th Day of Hunger Strike, Palestinian Administrative Detainee in Israel Insists on His Release, WAFA News Agency, June 29, 2022.

Despite being on hunger strike for 84 days, a Palestinian administrative detainee in Israel insists on ending his illegal incarceration before ending his fast.

Israeli Authorities Force Palestinian to Demolish His Own House in East Jerusalem, The Palestine Chronicle, June 27, 2022.

Israeli occupation authorities on Sunday forced a Palestinian to demolish his own house in the Wadi al-Joz neighborhood in occupied East Jerusalem, under the pretext of being built without a permit, the official Palestinian news agency WAFA reported.

Scores of Israeli Settlers Break into Jerusalem's Al-Aqsa, <u>WAFA News</u> Agency, June 26, 2022.

Scores of Israeli settlers escorted by Israeli police broke today into the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in occupied Jerusalem and performed rituals in its courtyards, according to witnesses.

Palestinian killed by Israeli forces in West Bank — Palestinian sources, THE JORDAN TIMES, June 25, 2022.

Palestinian Territories — A Palestinian teenager died from his wounds hours after being shot by Israeli soldiers in the occupied West Bank, Palestinian sources said on Saturday.

Israel Fires at Palestinian Stone Throwers, Teen Said Killed, AP, June 25, 2022.

16-year-old Palestinian boy was shot and killed by Israeli forces early Saturday in the occupied West Bank after soldiers opened fire at stone-throwing Palestinians, according to Israeli and Palestinian officials.

Regional

Israeli Foreign Ministry Chief in Bahrain for Meetings in First Since Negev Summit, <u>HAARETZ</u>, June 27, 2022.

Hosted by Bahrain and chaired by Israel, this is the first meeting since Lapid hosted the Foreign Ministers of states which signed the Abraham Accords.

King Meets Palestinian President, Says Nothing More Important To Jordan Than Palestinian Cause, THE JORDAN TIMES, June 26, 2022.

His Majesty King Abdullah, during a meeting with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas at Al Husseiniya Palace on Sunday, reaffirmed Jordan's unwavering position towards the Palestinian cause and its support for the Palestinians in fulfilling their just and legitimate rights.

International

China Calls for Urgent, Decisive Actions on Palestinian Question, <u>WAFA</u> **News Agency**, June 28, 2022.

China Monday called for urgent and decisive actions to prevent the Palestinian question from being totally derailed.

Seeking To Establish 'Greater Israel', US Republicans Prohibit Creation of Palestinian State, MIDDLE EAST MONITOR, June 27, 2022.

In further signs that support for Israel has morphed into a religious extremist position, Bible-thumping, far-right American voters within the Texas Republican Party have approved a platform that will make it illegal to create a Palestinian State in territories controlled by the apartheid state.

'Abraham Accords' Diplomats to Gather in Bahrain Following Israel Meeting, <u>THE NEW ARAB</u>, June 26, 2022.

The talks in the Bahraini capital Manama will bring together foreign ministry officials from the United Arab Emirates, Bahrai, Morocco, and Egypt.

UK Official Visits Masafer Yatta, Opposes Israeli Eviction Plans (VIDEO), The Palestine Chronicle, June 25, 2022.

British Minister of State for Asia and the Middle East Amanda Milling stated on Friday that the United Kingdom is strongly opposed to Israeli plans to evict Palestinians from their homes, during a visit to the Masafer Yatta area, the official Palestinian news agency WAFA reported.

24 Senators Reject Israeli Claims and Call on FBI to Investigate Killing of 'American Citizen and Journalist Shireen Abu Akleh', Mondoweiss, June 24, 2022.

Pressure grows on Joe Biden to stand up for Shireen Abu Akleh sixweeks after Israeli forces killed the Palestinian-American journalist. A letter from 24 senators rejects Israeli claims.

Democrats push Biden to probe killing of Shireen Abu Akleh, <u>THE ELECTRONIC INTIFADA</u>, June 24, 2022.

Two dozen US senators are calling on the administration of President Joe Biden to investigate the killing of Al Jazeera reporter Shireen Abu Akleh. The letter's signatories represent half of the Democrats in the current US Senate.

Nearly Half of Senate Democrats Urge Biden to Investigate Shireen Abu Akleh's Killing, HAARETZ, June 23, 2022.

'The U.S. government has an obligation to ensure that a comprehensive, impartial, and open investigation into her shooting death is conducted — one in which all parties can have full confidence in the ultimate findings,' the senators write.

Palestinian Refugees and UNRWA

UNRWA And Norwegian Refugee Council Sign MOU to Support Palestine Refugees in Jordan, UNRWA, June 28, 2022.

UNRWA Jordan field office (UNRWA) and the Norwegian Refugee Council Jordan Country Office (NRC JCO) today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) strengthening collaboration between the two agencies focused on improving rights and protections for Palestine refugees. The MoU was signed by the Director of UNRWA Affairs in Jordan Ms. Marta Lorenzo, on behalf of UNRWA, and Ms. Muriel Tschopp, Country Director of NRC Jordan at the UNRWA Jordan Field Office in Amman.

UNRWA Briefs Partners on Allegations of Staff Misconduct Over Humanitarian Principles, UNRWA, June 28, 2022.

senior executives of UNRWA briefed partners on allegations of hate-speech recently levied against several Agency staff members. The allegations, currently under review by the Agency, were timed to disrupt the annual UNRWA pledging conference at United Nations headquarters in New York. Briefings of Agency partners are a routine part of the process undertaken in these situations to ensure effectiveness, transparency and accountability.

Lazzarini: 'UNRWA Might not be Able to Pay Salaries after September', The Palestine Chronicle, June 26, 2022.

Commissioner-General of the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA)

Philippe Lazzarini warned on Friday that his organization might not be able to pay salaries for its employees after September, the Middle East Monitor reported.

UNRWA Reiterates Its Zero Tolerance Policy Toward Hate-Speech, UNRWA, June 24, 2022.

Yesterday, as the world gathered at UN Headquarters in support of the humanitarian and human development mission of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) on behalf of Palestine refugees, a well-known politically motivated organization once again deliberately attempted to delegitimize the work of the Agency. UNRWA is an agency fully committed to upholding United Nations (UN) principles and values and has a zero-tolerance to hate speech and incitement to discrimination, hostility, or violence.

International Community Strongly Supports UNRWA at Annual Pledging Conference, UNRWA, June 24, 2022.

Yesterday, the international community demonstrated its firm commitment to Palestine refugees and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) by providing additional political and financial backing at a Pledging Conference held at the United Nations General Assembly in the presence of the Secretary-General.

Commissioner-General Opening Remarks at UNRWA Pledging Conference, UNRWA, June 23, 2022.

UNRWA Commissioner-General Philippe Lazzarini delivered opening statements at the UNRWA Pledging Conference at United Nations headquarters in New York.

Analysis & Opinions

Peace, Prosperity for Israelis & Palestinians -Opinion, (Idaliah Snajdman, Jon Jaedon Ziner-Cohen), <u>THE JERUSALEM POST</u>, June 29, 2022. From our perspective, our collective responsibility as Canadian students must be to fight for the rights of Israelis and Palestinians alike and seek justice for both peoples.

The Gaza Strip: An Israeli Crisis, Not a Climate Crisis, (Dotan Halevy), HAARETZ, June 28, 2022.

The Institute for National Security Studies in Tel Aviv recently published an alarming report warning of the dire consequences for the Gaza Strip as a result of the climate crisis. The report, also published by Ynet, raises troubling information about the miserable circumstances of Gaza's civilian Palestinian population, and suggests a number of possible measures to halt the deterioration.

The UN Has A Role In Maintaining The Permanent Status Of Palestinian Refugees, (Ramona Wadi), MIDDLE EAST MONITOR, June 28, 2022.

The UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) may well be operating with a permanent financial deficit. UNRWA's Commissioner General Philippe Lazzarini warned again recently that after September, its 28,000 workers might not receive their salaries as the agency is facing a \$100 million shortage for this year. "We are expected to provide government-like services to one of the most destitute communities in the region, but we are funded like an NGO because we depend completely on voluntary contributions," explained Lazzarini after the donor conference last week where pledges of \$160 million were made. Nevertheless, it will still be operating with a deficit.

No, Israel's Apartheid Doesn't Stop at the Green Line, (Orly Noy), <u>+972</u> MAGAZINE, June 27, 2022.

The fall of the Bennett government illustrates that maintaining Jewish supremacy overrides all other considerations in Israeli politics.

Chomsky on Israeli Apartheid, Celebrity Activists, BDS and the One-State Solution, (Ramzey Baroud), Middle East Monitor, June 27, 2022.

When discussing the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement (BDS), Chomsky acknowledged the significant role played by the global grassroots movement, although he noted that it "has a mixed record". The movement should become "more flexible [and] more thoughtful" about the effects of actions. "The groundwork is there," he concluded. "It is necessary to think carefully about how to carry it forward."

On Palestine, Biden Has Been an Extension of Trump, (Ali Adam), <u>THE NEW ARAB</u>, June 25, 2022.

Despite Biden's pledges to reverse some of the damage done to Palestinians by the Trump administration, nothing notable has changed even though Israel's crimes and violations of international law continue, writes Ali Adam.

Has Britain Drafted a Law to Protect Israel's Weapons Makers? (Kit Klanerberg), The Electronic Intifada, June 24, 2022.

"No matter what efforts they take to stop our campaign, we will not be moved. While the government wastes time legislating against us, Palestine Action will get on with the job of shutting down the remaining Israeli arms factories in Britain."

How Threats of a Second Nakba Went Mainstream, (Meron Rapoport and Ameer Fakhoury), +972 MAGAZINE, June 23, 2022.

With the death of the Green Line and the growing political influence of Palestinian citizens of Israel, prominent right-wing figures are now openly advocating mass expulsion to preserve Jewish supremacy.

Publications and Statements

Palestine's Legal Scene | Issue. 129 | 19-25 June 2022, <u>Law for Palestine</u>, June 26, 2022.

Berlin Data Protection Authority Holds RIAS/MBR Accountable for Violating Dr. Younes' Data Rights, <u>European Legal Support Center</u>, June 22, 2022.

The DPA's decision finally upheld Dr. Younes' right to obtain access to the personal data collected by RIAS/MBR as ensured by European and German data protection law. In so doing, it rejected RIAS/MBR's claims that the covert data gathering and sharing pursued journalistic and research purposes, which would have entitled the organizations to an exemption from providing this information.