



النهضة العربية للديمقراطية والتنمية  
Arab Renaissance for Democracy & Development

## **Palestine in the News**

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

**Issue No. 1/2022**

***2 January 2022***

*A weekly round-up on the latest news, developments, relevant publications, and upcoming events on the QoP. This round-up 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.*

<b><i>In the Spotlight</i></b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b><i>Palestine/Israel</i></b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b><i>Regional</i></b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b><i>International</i></b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b><i>Palestinian Refugees and UNRWA</i></b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Publications and Statements</i></b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Events</i></b> .....	<b>4</b>

## **In the Spotlight**

**When Desmond Tutu stood up for the rights of Palestinians, he could not be ignored, (by Chris McGreal), [The Guardian](#), December 30, 2021**

Tutu's comparison of Israel's rule over Palestinians to the apartheid system in South Africa led him to be deeply criticized but he did not back down, "he wanted liberation for everyone."

**Mahmoud Abbas shakes dormant Palestinian-Israeli relations, (by Daoud Kuttab) [Al-Monitor](#), December 31, 2021**

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas visits Defense Minister Benny Gantz at his home in Tel Aviv resulting in a "financial bailout."

**Egypt, Jordan, Palestine foreign ministers discuss Israeli-Palestinian peace process in Cairo, (by Thaer Mansour) [The New Arab](#), December 28, 2021**

The foreign ministers discuss the current situation in the occupied Palestinian territories and the prospect of a two-state solution.

**Israel's 'economic peace' is hollowing out the Palestinian economy, (by Sam Bahour) [Plus 61J Media](#), December 31, 2021**

Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett replicating many of his predecessor's right-wing policies and putting the Palestinian economy under further Israeli control.

## **Palestine/Israel**

**The UN war crimes probe is still tarnished by decades of colonial support for Israel, (by Ramona Wadi) [Middle East Monitor](#), December 30, 2021**

An investigation, funded by the UN, will be done into war crimes Israel has committed against Gaza in 2021, finally recognizing "Israel's violent foundations."

**Three Palestinians wounded by Israeli tank fire on Gaza, [Al Jazeera](#), December 29, 2021**

Israeli army tank fired at military positions manned by Hamas injuring three Palestinians in response to an Israeli civilian being injured on Wednesday.

**Israel settlers aim to terrorize Palestinians out of their land, research finds, [Middle East Monitor](#), December 31, 2021**

Palestine Land Research Centre and the United Nations condemn the ongoing settler-colonialism occurring in the occupied Palestinian territories.

**In Gaza, young victims of Israeli bombing recount a brutal 2021, (by Maram Humaid) [Al Jazeera](#), December 31, 2021**

Young people and children recount how the May 2021 aggression caused severe injuries and has impacted their lives forever.

**Israeli judge left High Court because it gave blank check to 'illegal, immoral' house demolitions, (by Yossi Gurvitz) [Mondoweiss](#), December 24, 2021**

Former Israeli High Court of Justice Menachem Mazuz compared the destruction of Palestinian homes to the "punitive barbarism of the Hammurabi code (an eye for an eye, tooth for a tooth), implying that Israel's house demolitions are anti-Jewish."

**Supreme Court Justice Mazuz Stunned Israel When He Retired. He Finally Explains Why, (by Gidi Weitz) [Haaretz](#), December 30, 2021**

An interview with the man "who led Israel's justice system through a series of major crossroads" and why he decided to leave.

**The Two-State Solution Is Dead—and Liberal Zionists Can't Save It, (by Dimi Reider) [Foreign Policy](#), December 31, 2021**

Liberal Zionists and foreign diplomats clinging to a two-state solution are creating a vacuum for the rise of the Israeli right.

**Abbas warns of 'unstoppable' escalation if Israel changes status quo of occupied Jerusalem, [Middle East Monitor](#), December 30, 2021**

If Israel changes the religious status quo regarding the Al-Aqsa Mosque, it is likely to result in escalated violence.

## **Regional**

**This past year was rough for the Arab world, the worst is yet to come, (by Rami Khouri) [The New Arab](#), December 24, 2021**

International reports predict increasing hardship for the people of the Arab world as more people “lack income, education, and the basic services for a dignified life.”

**Qatar signs agreement to operate Gaza power plant with natural gas, (by Sally Ibrahim) [The New Arab](#), December 27, 2021**

The agreement between Qatar and the Palestinian Authority should help meet the needs of the residents of Gaza.

**Israel Knesset approves \$480 million additional funds for defence, [Middle East Monitor](#), December 28, 2021**

The Chief of Staff of the Israeli army has said that the additional funding is necessary to “speed up preparations for a possible attack on Iran's nuclear facilities.”

## **International**

**Israel signs \$3bn deal for US helicopters, refueling planes, [Middle East Eye](#), December 31, 2021**

Israel has signed a deal with the United States, funded by the US military aid fund to purchase \$3.1 billion worth of helicopters and refueling planes.

**‘We and the Palestinians have lost an indomitable fighter’: mourning the loss of Archbishop Desmond Tutu, [Mondoweiss](#), December 26, 2021**

The human rights organization, Africa4Palestine, pay their respects to Archbishop Desmond Tutu: “We are bereft of a prophet who consistently warned against ideas of cheap peace which may come without justice.”

**Remembering Desmond Tutu in times of uncertainty, (by Stiaan van der Merwe) [Middle East Eye](#), December 31, 2021**

Recalling the role of Archbishop Desmond Tutu as a “public moral compass” and his fight for justice for all as his campaigns “were broad and deep during this time of uncertainty.”

**2021 in review: Business as usual in DC, but Palestine activists scored huge wins, (by Michael Arria) [Mondoweiss](#), December 28, 2021**

Growing support for Palestine in the United States as BDS continues to grow and 25% U.S. Jews agree that Israel is an “apartheid state.”

## **Palestinian Refugees and UNRWA**

### **U.S. Announces \$99 Million Funding to UN Agency for Palestinian Refugees, (by Ben Samuels) [\*Haaretz\*](#), December 30, 2021**

As a result of the serious financial crises the UNRWA are facing, the Biden Administration has agreed to provide \$99 million to help emergency services continue.

## **Publications and Statements**

### **The Palestinian Six Organizations Officially Demand that Israeli security Authorities Reveal the Evidence, [\*Adalah\*](#), December 27, 2021**

The legal teams representing the organizations wrote to demand the evidence that led to Israel outlawing the groups and branding them as “terrorist organizations.”

### **Unsilencing Gaza: Reflections on Resistance, (by Ramona Wadi) [\*Middle East Monitor\*](#), December 28, 2021**

American political economist and scholar, Sara Roy, examines the occupation in Gaza, considering the role of US and international foreign policy as well as Israel’s policies, specifically the illegal blockade.

### **Israeli Knesset moves towards expanding the scope of the discriminatory Admissions Committees Law, [\*Adalah\*](#), December 27, 2021**

“The Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel called on members of the Ministerial Committee on Legislation to reject the proposal to expand the scope of the applicability of the 2011 “Admissions Committees Law.””

## **Events**

### **[\*East London PSC\*](#): The Impact of Climate Change on Palestine Under Occupation**

This webinar will examine the role of climate change on the local community in Palestine. It will take place on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2022.



**Ottawa Forum on Israel/Palestine:** This webinar will explore how “Palestinians are still fighting to preserve their right to live in Sheikh Jarrah, Silwan and many other areas of Jerusalem.” It will take place on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022.