



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)

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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

Israel's New Secret Document Still Fails to Tie Palestinian NGOs to 'Terrorism', (by Oren Ziv and Yuval Abraham) [+972 MAGAZINE](#), March 13, 2022.

+972 and Local Call have obtained a new report sent to foreign diplomats in a fresh attempt to justify outlawing six Palestinian civil society groups. The document, which is full of unsubstantiated claims, has left Europe's leaders unconvinced.

Visiting Washington, Shin Bet head warns of Ramadan flare-up with Palestinians, (by Jacob Magid) [THE TIMES OF ISRAEL](#), March 13, 2022.

Security agency and IDF warn tensions during a Muslim holiday, which coincides with Passover, could lead to escalation, echoing concern raised recently by Biden administration.

Amnesty's US Director: Israel Shouldn't Exist 'As A State for The Jewish People', [THE TIMES OF ISRAEL](#), March 12, 2022.

Paul O'Brien denies making a reported statement; also says he doesn't believe polls showing the vast majority of American Jews back Israel, prompting condemnations and calls to apologize.

Presidency Condemns Israel's Decision to Build 730 New Settlement Units, [Wafa News Agency](#), March 12, 2022.

On Saturday, March 12, 2022 – Nabil Abu Rudeineh, spokesman for President Mahmoud Abbas, condemned the decision of the Israeli occupation authorities to build 730 new housing units in the Israeli settlement of Pessgat Ze'ev in occupied East Jerusalem.

FM Al-Maliki Says Palestinians May Seek Action at UNSC Against Israeli Settlements, [Wafa News Agency](#), March 12, 2022.

On Saturday, March 12, 2022 – the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates Riyad Al-Maliki said that the Palestinian leadership is considering the possibility of going to the UN Security Council to urge it to assume its responsibilities regarding the Israeli settlement enterprise, especially Resolution 2334 on Israeli settlements.

Birzeit University Rejects Israeli Measures Against Academic Freedom, [Wafa News Agency](#), March 12, 2022.

On Saturday, March 12, 2022 – Birzeit University in Palestine said it rejects Israel's most recent attempt to constrict the fundamental right of Palestinians to education and to undermine the academic freedom and autonomy of Palestinian universities.

President Abbas Stresses the Importance of Preserving and Protecting Palestinian Cultural Heritage, [Wafa News Agency](#), March 12, 2022.

On Saturday, March 12, 2022 – President Mahmoud Abbas stressed the importance of preserving and protecting Palestinian cultural heritage in all its forms because it represents “the foundations for safeguarding our Palestinian narrative and identity”.

Rights Group Calls on The ICC Prosecutor to Also Investigate Israeli Attacks on Palestinian Culture, [Wafa News Agency](#), March 12, 2022.

On Saturday, March 12, 2022 – The Palestinian human rights organization, Al-Haq, called on the prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and the UN Commission of Inquiry to include Israeli attacks on cultural property in Palestine in their investigation of Israeli war crimes.

Jerusalem Churches Fight New Settlement Plan, (by Taghreed Ali), [AL - MONITOR](#), March 11, 2022.

Church heads and officials in Jerusalem are fighting an Israeli plan to expand a national park on the Mount of Olives in east Jerusalem, where dozens of churches and Christian sites are located.

Palestine/Israel

Adalah Rights Group Petitions Israeli Supreme Court Against Citizenship Law Banning Palestinian Family Unification, [Wafa News Agency](#), March 14, 2022.

On Monday, March 14, 2022 - Adalah – The Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel yesterday filed a petition to the Israeli Supreme Court in its own name and on behalf of three Palestinian families against the Citizenship and Entry into Israel Law (Temporary Order) – 2022 adopted by the Israeli Knesset on 10 March 2022.

After Two Decades, Israel's Top Court to Decide on Fate of Palestinian Hamlets of Masafer Yatta, (by Amira Hass), [HAARETZ](#), March 14, 2022.

Throughout the tenure of five prime ministers, Israel's top court hasn't managed to reach a ruling on a cluster of Palestinian villages in the arid South Hebron Hills to make way for IDF training grounds.

The Israeli Occupation Provokes Palestinians Religiously Before Ramadan, (by Dr. Adnan Abu Amer), [MIDDLE EAST MONITOR](#), March 13, 2022.

In light of the escalation of attacks on Palestinians and the Israeli acts of aggression in occupied Jerusalem, the Israeli intelligence forums predict that this will lead to a wave of security tensions before Ramadan.

Israel Just Re-banned Palestinian Family Unification. What Does This Law Do, and How Can It Be Fought?, (by Noa Shpigel), [HAARETZ](#), March 12, 2022.

The new law replaces temporary legislation that barred Palestinians who marry Israeli nationals from resident status in Israel.

Israel's Knesset Passes Law Barring Palestinian Spouses,

ALJAZEERA, March 11, 2022.

Legislators approve laws denying the naturalization of Palestinians from the West Bank or Gaza who are married to Israeli citizens.

Israeli Settler Suspected of Terrorist Activities to Be Placed in Administrative Detention, (by Josh Breiner), HAARETZ, March 11, 2022.

The 21-year-old settler is suspected of acts of terror, arson, vandalizing, and assault of left-wing activists in the West Bank as well as in Israel.

Israel: Illegal Settler Population Continues to Increase, MIDDLE EAST MONITOR, March 10, 2022.

Israel's illegal settler population in the occupied West Bank increased at a dramatic rate last year despite the Biden administration in the US rejecting Israel's push to build more settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories.

Regional

Organization Of Islamic Cooperation Condemns Israeli Crimes of Field Execution of Palestinians, Wafa News Agency, March 16, 2022.

On Wednesday, March 16, 2022) - The Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) condemned roundly what it described as yesterday's "criminal field execution" of three Palestinians at the hands of the Israeli occupation forces.

Arab League Calls for Providing Palestinian People with Protection, Wafa News Agency, March 15, 2022.

On Tuesday, March 15, 2022 - The Arab League called today on the relevant international bodies, especially the UN Security Council, to assume their responsibilities and implement their resolutions to provide protection for the Palestinian people.

Libya Frees 32 Palestinians Held for Being There Without Proper Documentation – Embassy, Wafa News Agency, March 14, 2022.

On Monday, March 14, 2022 – Libya has freed 32 Palestinians who were held for being in that north African Arab country without legal documents, according to Palestine's embassy in the Libyan capital, Tripoli.

Palestinian Affairs Department Holds Coordination Meeting, [THE JORDAN TIMES](#), March 13, 2022.

The Department of Palestinian Affairs on Sunday held a coordination meeting for representatives of Arab countries hosting Palestinian refugees with the participation of delegations from Lebanon, Syria, Palestine, Egypt and the Arab League.

OIC Condemns Israel's Approval to Build 730 New Settlement Units in Occupied Jerusalem, [Wafa News Agency](#), March 13, 2022.

On Sunday, March 13, 2022 - The Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) condemned the Israeli occupation authorities' approval of new plans to build 730 new housing units in the Pisgat Zeev settlement, built illegally on land belonging to Palestinian residents in the town of Beit Hanina, north of occupied Jerusalem.

Lapid Meets King Abdullah, Bids To Lower Tensions With Palestinians As Holidays Near, [THE TIMES OF ISRAEL](#), (by Jacob Magid), March 10, 2022.

2nd meeting between FM and Jordan king takes place in Amman amid an uptick in Jerusalem, West Bank violence, which US fears could spill over like it did last May.

International**EU Affirms Continued Annual Financial Support to The Palestinian Government, [Wafa News Agency](#), March 16, 2022.**

On Wednesday, March 16, 2022) - EU Deputy Director-General for the Middle East and North Africa, Carl Hallergard, ensured the EU's continued annual financial support to the Palestinian government, affirming that funds will be transferred as soon as possible.

Settlers Put Up Illegal Outpost in UNESCO Heritage Area in West Bank — Report, [THE TIMES OF ISRAEL](#), March 16, 2022.

Residents of the village of Battir say the settlement has prevented them from accessing their lands.

European Union Aid to Palestinian Authority Delayed, [HAARETZ](#), (by Jack Khoury), March 15, 2022.

Palestinian diplomats hurried to Europe in a last-ditch bid to torpedo a Hungarian proposal to condition aid on removing inciting material from schoolbooks.

European Diplomat Warns Expulsion of Palestinians A Breach of Israel's Obligations as An Occupying Power, [Wafa News Agency](#), March 15, 2022.

On Tuesday, March 15, 2022– After attending an Israeli Supreme Court hearing on the permanent expulsion of more than 1300 Palestinians from their homes in Masafer Yatta in South

Hebron Hills, declared part of a firing zone for Israeli military purposes, the European Union Representative Sven Kühn von Burgsdorff warned that expulsions would be a breach of Israel's obligation as the occupying power.

Malki Discusses Latest Political Developments in Palestinian Arena with Austrian Counterpart, [Wafa News Agency](#), March 13, 2022.

On Sunday, March 13, 2022– Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates, Riyad Al-Maliki, briefed his Austrian counterpart Alexander Schallenberg on the latest political developments in the Palestinian arena.

Congress's 'Israel Normalization Act' Normalizes Ethnic Cleansing And Impunity, (by Nadya Tannous), [Mondoweiss](#), March 13, 2022.

While the Israeli regime continues to inflict massive and routine violence in order to steal Palestinian land and remove the native Palestinian people from it, the U.S. Congress is actively enabling Israel's settler-colonialism.

Foreign Ministry Calls on US Administration to Shoulder its Responsibilities in Protecting Two-State Solution, [Wafa News Agency](#), March 12, 2022.

On Saturday, March 12, 2022 - The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates called on the US administration to meet its obligations and shoulder its responsibilities in the protection of the two-state solution.

Australia's Future Fund excludes Israeli weapons manufacturer Elbit Systems from future investments - BNC, [Wafa News Agency](#), March 12, 2022.

On Saturday, March 12, 2022 - Joining the growing list of international funds divesting from companies complicit with Israeli apartheid, Australia's Future Fund has excluded investments in Elbit Systems, Israel's largest private arms company, said a press release by the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) National Committee (BNC).

Foreign Minister Urges EU To Expedite Aid Allocation to The Palestinian Authority Facing Financial Strains, [Wafa News Agency](#), March 12, 2022.

On Saturday, March 12, 2022 - In a meeting with the European Union's Commissioner for Neighborhood Policy and Enlargement, Oliver Varhelyi, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates Riyad Malki urged the EU to overcome technical and other obstacles and resume financial support for the Palestinian Authority in light of the decline in international aid during the past years.

Outrage As France's Interior Minister Outlaws Two Pro-Palestinian Organizations, [THE NEW ARAB](#), March 10, 2022.

France's interior minister announced on Wednesday the dissolution of two major pro-Palestinian organizations, 'Comité Action Palestine' and 'Palestine Vaincra', accusing them of inciting hatred and violence.

Palestinian Refugees and UNRWA

Palestinian Refugees Are More Politically Isolated Than Ever, [MIDDLE EAST MONITOR](#), March 15, 2022.

"The almost unanimous political support expressed by the UN General Assembly to the Agency is not translated into matching financial resources," UNRWA's Commissioner-General, Philippe Lazzarini stated during the 157th session of the Council of the Arab League, which was held in Cairo, Egypt.

UNRWA Host Countries Discuss Its Challenges, [MIDDLE EAST MONITOR](#), March 14, 2022.

Head of Palestinian Refugee Department, Rafiq Kharfan, said: "The UNRWA has been facing dangerous and unprecedented financial and political challenges." "At the same time," he said, "the UNRWA ignores the demographic growth of the refugees, as well as the increase of their needs and budget, mainly in the light of the economic, health and social repercussions of COVID-19."

Cairo fully backs UNRWA to continue its support to Palestinian refugees: Al-Sisi, [Daily News](#), March 13, 2022.

President Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi affirmed Egypt's absolute support for the UNRWA to continue to play its role in providing services to Palestinian refugees, as it is the only mechanism that carries out this important humanitarian responsibility, especially in the fields of education and health.

UNRWA Warns Its Deficit Hurts Refugees as it Calls for Steady Funding, [Devex](#), (by Shabtai Gold), March 11, 2022.

The head of the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East is worried. In an interview with Devex, Philippe Lazzarini repeatedly stressed that the agency, founded in 1949, is facing its most critical funding crisis in recent memory.

Analysis & Opinions

When the State Wants To, It Can, [HAARETZ](#), March 14, 2022.

As part of the state's preparations for absorbing 30,000-50,000 new Jewish immigrants, the cabinet is to vote Monday on a plan to provide them with housing in the near, medium and long terms.

AIPAC's Latest 'pro-Israel' Political Stunt Endangers America, (by Halie Soifer), [HAARETZ](#), March 13, 2022.

Why is AIPAC, which condemned Trump's incitement of violence on Jan 6th and the assault on America's democratic values, endorsing 'pro-Israel' candidates who align with insurrectionists and white supremacists?

Next Time Israelis Talk About a World That Closed Its Gates to Refugees, (by Hanin Majadli), [HAARETZ](#), March 13, 2022.

Never again. The world stood idly by. Like sheep to the slaughter. The world closed its gates to Jewish refugees. These and other emotion-evoking slogans will again feature in the next Holocaust Remembrance Day. Politicians, public figures, and intellectuals will focus on that part of history, ignoring the disgraceful conduct of their country during these very days.

The Extreme Right in Israel Is Realizing Its Power, [HAARETZ](#), March 12, 2022.

The citizenship law, adopted in its second and third readings by the Knesset on Thursday, is a racist and anti-democratic law that distinguishes between Jewish and Arab citizens, preventing Arabs from enjoying benefits reserved for Jews only.

Israel's Selective Humanitarian Façade, (by Ramona Wadi), [MIDDLE EAST MONITOR](#), March 12, 2022.

Not only has Israel stolen land from the Palestinian people through the Nakba's ethnic cleansing, ongoing colonial expansion and apartheid policies, it is now inviting Ukrainian Jews to participate in its colonial violence against the Palestinian people. Israel's aim is not humanitarianism, it is to maintain a demographic majority, and the current wave of refugees is being exploited by the Israeli government, which has been clear enough to differentiate between Ukrainian refugees and Jewish Ukrainian refugees.

Israel Deciding Who Can Teach at Palestinian Universities Is Another Nail on The Apartheid Regime, (by Nasim Ahmad), [MIDDLE EAST MONITOR](#), March 10, 2022.

Rarely does a week pass by where we don't see Israel tightening its grip on Palestine through its apartheid system of domination and control, or new revelations about the detrimental effect this is having on Palestinians.

Publications and Statements

Palestine's Legal Scene | Issue. 114 | 6 – 12 march 2022, [Law for Palestine](#), March 13, 2022.

Civil Society and the Question of Palestine - NGO Action News – 10 March 2022, [UNITED NATIONS](#), March 10, 2022.

Action By **The United Nations System And Intergovernmental Organizations** Relevant To The Question Of Palestine | February 2022.

EVENTS

Palestinian Return Centre! 73 Years of Palestinian Refugeedom: From Refugee Camps to Shipwrecks, Friday, 18 March 2022, from 20:00-21:30 UTC+02.

The Palestinian Return Centre warmly invites you to attend '73 Years of Palestinian Refugeedom: From Refugee Camps to Shipwrecks.' This event will be an online panel discussion, speaking on the ongoing struggle of Palestinian refugees, from their 73 years of dispossession and displacement to the journey's they are forced to undertake across the Mediterranean. Speakers include: Dr Lex Takkenberg, Mr. Mazen Gharibah. The event will be chaired by Ruveyda Enes, intern at the Palestinian Return Centre.