

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

Fascist Israeli Lawmaker Continues to Provoke Palestinian Residents of Jerusalem's Sheikh Jarrah Neighborhood, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, March 23, 2022.

On Wednesday, March 23, 2022 – The fascist Israeli lawmaker Itamar Ben Gvir continued to provoke the Palestinian residents of Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood in occupied East Jerusalem when he returned today to the neighborhood along with a couple of his followers and immediately started trouble, reported WAFA correspondent.

Al-Haq, On World Water Day, Says Israel's 'Water-Apartheid' Denies Palestinians' Rights to Adequate Water, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, March 23, 2022.

On Wednesday, March 23, 2022 – Marking World Water Day, the Ramallah-based Palestinian human rights organization, Al-Haq, said Israel's "water-apartheid" policy in the occupied Palestinian territories facilitates gross and systematic denial of Palestinians' rights to adequate water.

More Than 70 Universities Around the World Urged to Divest from Israeli 'War Crimes and Apartheid', <u>THE NEW ARAB</u>, March 23, 2022.

Students from 70 universities around the world urged their institutions to stop investing in companies that are 'complicit' in the Israeli oppression of Palestinians.

Settlement Expansion Fuelling Violence in Occupied Palestinian Territory, Middle East Peace Process Special Coordinator Warns Security Council, UNITED NATIONS, March 22, 2022.

Speakers in the Security Council today denounced Israel's continued settlement activities, evictions, and demolitions of Palestinian-owned structures, as the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process expressed regret that there had been "little progress" made by the sides in upholding obligations under the landmark resolution 2334 (2016).

Four Killed After Stabbing Attack in Israel's Naqab Region, ALJAZEERA, March 21, 2022.

Palestinian Bedouin was shot dead by a passer-by after reportedly carrying out the attack, which wounded two others.

Apartheid Avenue: Amnesty Activists Rename London Street Housing Israeli Embassy, <u>THE NEW ARAB</u>, March 21, 2022.

Activists from Amnesty International have put up an "Apartheid Avenue" road sign outside Israel's embassy in London to mark Israeli Apartheid Week.



PM Shtayyeh, World Bank Officials Discuss Increasing Support to Palestine, WAFA News Agency, March 22, 2022.

On Tuesday, March 22, 2022 – Prime Minister Mohammad Shtayyeh discussed with a delegation of executive directors of the World Bank ways to raise the level of support for Palestine and development projects.

Palestinian-Israeli Fatally Shot Following Car-Ramming and Stabbing Attack in Beersheba, WAFA News Agency, March 22, 2022.

On Tuesday, March 22, 2022— A Palestinian-Israeli man was shot and killed following a carramming and stabbing attack in the southern Israeli city of Beersheba, according to Israeli reports.

Nearly Half of All Racism Complaints in Israel Filed by Arabs, Ethiopians, THE JERUSALEM POST, March 21, 2022.

A recent survey found 94% of Arab-Israelis have experienced racist labeling.

International Organizations, Rights Groups, Academics Call for Imposing Sanctions on Israel Over Apartheid Policies, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, March 21, 2022.

On Monday, March 21, 2022 – Dozens of International organizations, human rights networks, academics, and researchers from 45 countries called on the United Nations and Western countries to impose sanctions on Israel for its occupation of the Palestinian territories and its apartheid regime.

Finance Ministry Says A US Court Dismissed A \$900 Million Appeal Against PLO, WAFA News Agency, March 20, 2022.

On Sunday, March 20, 2022 – The Palestinian Ministry of Finance said that a United States court has dismissed an appeal worth \$900 million that had been submitted against the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and the Palestinian Authority (PA) at US courts.

In A Joint Report with Addameer, Harvard Law School Recognizes Israel as Apartheid Regime, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, March 20, 2022.

On Sunday, March 20, 2022 – The Massachusetts-based Harvard Law School has recognized Israel as an apartheid regime, joining an array of organizations labeling Israel as such for its practices in occupied Palestine.

Harvard Law School Recognizes Israel as Apartheid Regime, <u>THE</u> PALESTINE CHRONICLE, March 20, 2022.



The Massachusetts-based Harvard Law School has recognized Israel as an apartheid regime, joining an array of organizations labeling Israel as such for its practices in occupied Palestine.

Shtayyeh Calls on The Republic of Singapore to Recognize the State of Palestine, WAFA News Agency, March 20, 2022.

On Sunday, March 20, 2022 – Prime Minister Mohammad Shtayyeh called on the Republic of Singapore to recognize the state of Palestine in order to protect the two-state solution.

Opinion Poll: 94% Of Palestinians in Israel Subjected to Racism, Discrimination, WAFA News Agency, March 20, 2022.

On Sunday, March 20, 2022, an opinion poll released by the Progressive Center for Religion and State showed that 94% of Palestinians in the 1948-occupied land were subjected to racism and discrimination.

Palestine/Israel

Israel Releases Palestinian Governor of Jerusalem on Bail, <u>WAFA News</u> Agency, March 20, 2022.

On Sunday, March 20, 2022 – Israeli occupation authorities released the Palestinian Authority's Governor of Jerusalem, Adnan Ghaith, on a bail of 10,000 shekels (\$3,300) after detaining him for 24 hours and blocking him from traveling abroad via Allenby Bridge border crossing.

Israel Blocks PA's Jerusalem Governor from Traveling Abroad Via Crossing with Jordan, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, March 19, 2022.

Saturday, March 19, 2022 – Israeli occupation authorities today blocked the Palestinian Authority's (PA) Jerusalem governor, Adnan Ghaith, from traveling abroad via Allenby (King Hussein) bridge crossing with Jordan.

Israeli Army Seals off Hebron Old City, <u>THE PALESTINE CHRONICLE</u>, March 17, 2022.

Israeli forces barged their way into the municipality square and fired concussion grenades towards local stores, forcing Palestinian merchants to close their stores and leave the area.

Regional

Egypt, UAE, Israel Leaders Meet for First Ever Three-Way Summit, ALIAZEERA, March 22, 2022.

Leaders of Egypt, Israel, and the United Arab Emirates have met for a three-way summit, the first of its kind since the UAE normalized relations with Israel.

Palestine And Niger's Foreign Ministers Discuss Expanding Cooperation Between Their Countries, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, March 23, 2022.



On Wednesday, March 23, 2022 – Palestine and Niger's foreign ministers discussed in a meeting in the Pakistani capital, Islamabad, expanding cooperation between their countries, mainly in the health sector.

International

Palestinian, Chinese FMs Discuss Issues of Common Interest, Palestinian Cause, WAFA News Agency, March 23, 2022.

On Wednesday, March 23, 2022— Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates, Riyad Al-Malki, discussed today with his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi a number of issues of common interest and developments in the international and Palestinian arena.

PM Shtayyeh Calls on International Community to Pressure Israel to Abide by Signed Agreements, WAFA News Agency, March 23, 2022.

On Wednesday, March 23, 2022– Prime Minister Mohammad Shtayyeh called on the international community to pressure Israel to abide by the signed agreements, stop the unjust deductions from Palestinian funds and release the withheld money.

President Abbas Sends Letter to Pakistani Prime Minister, <u>WAFA News</u> Agency, March 22, 2022.

On Tuesday, March 22, 2022 - President Mahmoud Abbas sent a letter to the Prime Minister of Pakistan, Imran Khan, which was delivered by Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates, Riyad al-Malki.

50 US lawmakers call for Israel to end planned demolitions in East Jerusalem village, THE TIMES OF ISRAEL, March 22, 2022.

Around 300 Palestinians are threatened by demolitions in Al-Walaja, which lies partially inside Jerusalem; Israeli authorities say the construction there is illegal.

Malki Discusses Latest Developments in Palestinian Territories with Singaporean Counterpart, WAFA News Agency, March 20, 2022.

On Sunday, March 20, 2022 - Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates, Riyad Al-Maliki discussed during a meeting in Ramallah with Singapore's Foreign Affairs Minister, Vivian Balakrishnan, the latest developments in the Palestinian territories and bilateral relations between the two countries.

Palestinians Urge Biden to Appoint Mideast Peace Envoy, (by Khaled Abu Toameh), THE JERUSALEM POST, March 20, 2022.

The Palestinian Authority is relieved by the US commitment to a two-state solution.



US State Department: A Negotiated Two-State Solution Is Best Way to Resolve Conflict, WAFA News Agency, March 19, 2022.

On Saturday, March 19, 2022 – Jalina Porter, the Principal Deputy Spokeswoman of the US State Department, affirmed that a negotiated two-state solution was the best way to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Chile President Calls for Solidarity with Palestine Like That for Ukraine, THE PALESTINE CHRONICLE, March 18, 2022.

Chilean President Gabriel Boric called on the international community to show solidarity with Palestine as it has shown support for Ukraine.

European Academics Applaud Boycott of Russia, Call for Similar Action Against Israel, Mondoweiss, March 17, 2022.

European Mathematical Society members welcome the decision to freeze cooperation with Russian state institutions in the wake of the invasion of Ukraine and call on the organization to apply the same universal principles to Israel.

Palestinian Refugees and UNRWA

<u>UNRWA</u> Humanitarian Assistance: A Source of Survival for Palestine Refugees in Syria, March 23, 2022.

The ongoing crisis in Syria, which just entered its eleventh year and has been aggravated by COVID-19 and its related socioeconomic consequences, casts a dark shadow on the lives of Palestine refugees remaining in the country. Some 60 per cent of Palestine refugees have been displaced from their homes at least once and many have lost their jobs and sources of income; they continue to struggle with the adverse conditions affecting their daily lives.

UNRWA Inaugurates Basic Girls' School in Beit Ula Funded by Arab Monetary Fund, Managed by Islamic Development Bank, March 22, 2022.

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), inaugurated the UNRWA Beit Ula Basic Girls' School No. 1, located in the village of Beit Ula village, northwest of Hebron in the occupied West Bank.

<u>UNRWA</u> Commissioner-General Meets German Foreign Minister and Parliament Representatives in Berlin, March 18, 2022.

The Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), Philippe Lazzarini, visited Germany for the second time in 2022. Building on the strong partnership, this visit to Berlin was an opportunity to strengthen existing ties and highlight the growing humanitarian needs of Palestine refugees living in a highly volatile region.



Analysis & Opinions

On Western Hypocrisy, (by Haidar Eid), Mondoweiss, March 22, 2022.

Palestinians are evidently not entitled to the same rights as other people. This is the only Western standard that has been applied in the last hundred years.

How Google And Amazon Help Israel Sustain Its Apartheid, (by Ramzy Baroud), ARAB NEWS, March 21, 2022.

The words, "We are anonymous because we fear retaliation," were part of a letter signed by 500 Google employees last October, when they decried their company's direct support for the Israeli government and military. In their letter, the signatories protested a \$1.2 billion contract between Google, Amazon Web Services and Tel Aviv that provides cloud services for the Israeli military and government that allow "for further surveillance of and unlawful data collection on Palestinians, and facilitates expansion of Israel's illegal settlements on Palestinian land.".

Palestinians Will Not Be Deterred in The Quest for Liberation, (by Mona Abuamara), Mondoweiss, March 18, 2022.

Israel wants to whitewash its history to alleviate its responsibility for the Palestinian plight. But this will never work because Palestinians will never forget who they are and where they come from.

Protection for Palestinians and international complicity with Israel, MIDDLE EAST MONITOR, March 17, 2022.

Calls for the international community to step in and protect the Palestinian people from Israeli violence are always juxtaposed against a complex web of complicity with Zionist colonization of their land. This week the Arab League called upon the UN Security Council to assume such responsibilities after the Israeli military persisted with its extrajudicial killing of Palestinians. However, the League is compromised in its support for Palestine. Its complacency, when faced with the Trump administration's Abraham, Accords only accentuated how distanced from the Palestinian people's political struggle the region has become, despite its rhetorical support.

Refugees Of Apartheid: Why Israelis Need to Talk About Palestinian Return, (by Yaara Benger Alaluf), +972 MAGAZINE, March 17, 2022.

Amnesty's bombshell report and Ukraine's refugee crisis are an opportunity for Israelis to rethink their denial of Palestinian return to their homeland.

Why Media Selectively Avoids Certain Israeli-Palestinian Conflict News, (by Lilac Sigan), THE JERUSALEM POST, March 17, 2022.

Supposedly, Palestinian human rights are the pure intentions behind this selective coverage – but The New York Times is simply not interested when Israel is not the guilty party.



Publications and Statements

Report Of the Special Rapporteur on The Situation of Human Rights in The Palestinian Territories Occupied Since 1967 (A/HRC/49/87) – UN Document.

The Secretariat has the honour to transmit to the Human Rights Council the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967, submitted pursuant to Commission on Human Rights resolution 1993/2 A and Human Rights Council resolution 5/1. In it, the Special Rapporteur examines the current human rights situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, with a particular emphasis on question of whether Israeli rule over the occupied Palestinian territory can now be called apartheid.

Palestine's Legal Scene | Issue. 115 | 13 – 19 march 2022, <u>Law for</u> Palestine, March 20, 2022.

Civil Society and the Question of Palestine - NGO Action News – 17 March 2022, <u>UNITED NATIONS</u>, March 17, 2022.

Book: Determined to Stay: Palestinian Youth Fight for Their Village Paperback, (by Jody Sokolower), March 17, 2022.

Silwan is a Palestinian village located just outside the ancient walls of the Old City of Jerusalem. Determined to Stay: Palestinian Youth Fight for Their Village is a moving story of a village and its people. As Silwani youth and community members share their lives with us, their village becomes an easily accessible way to understand Palestinian history and current reality.

EVENTS

<u>Restoring Collective Identity and Dignity</u>: Palestinian Refugees: The Quest for Solutions. Lex Takkenberg in Conversation with Bashir Bashir.

Bashir Bashir is Associate Professor at the Open University of Israel and Senior Research fellow at the Van Leer Jerusalem Institute. He is co-editor of The Holocaust and Nakba: A New Grammar of Trauma and History (Columbia University Press, 2018); and The Arab and Jewish Questions: Geographies of Engagement in Palestine and Beyond (Columbia University Press, 2020).

Lex Takkenberg is Senior Advisor on the Question of Palestine at the Civil Society Organisation Arab Renaissance for Democracy and Development and non-resident Professor of Humanitarian Affairs at Fordham University. Prior to that he held various positions at UNRWA, including Gaza, Syria and HQ.