

Palestine in the News

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

Issue No. 38 (13/2022)

7 April 2022

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 Occupation Has Crossed The 'Red Line of Legality,' says New UN Rapporteur, AL - MONITOR, April 7, 2022.

In an interview with Al-Monitor, the newly appointed UN special rapporteur for the Palestinians, Francesca Albanese, speaks about her plans to address human rights violations in the Palestinian territories, while fending off a smear campaign launched against her by Israel.

UNESCO Adopts Two Resolutions on Palestine; Foreign Minister Welcomes Step, WAFA News Agency, April 6, 2022.

On Wednesday, April 06, 2022 - Foreign Minister Riyad Malki welcomed the adoption of two resolutions on Palestine by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

PM Shtayyeh Renews Demand for Britain to Recognize State of Palestine, WAFA News Agency, April 6, 2022.

On Wednesday, April 06, 2022– Prime Minister Mohammed Shtayyeh renewed his demand for Britain to recognize the State of Palestine in view of its political and historical responsibility, and in order to protect the two-state solution in light of the systematic destruction, it is facing as a result of Israeli measures.

Harvard Law School 'Apartheid' Report Leaves Israel's Defenders Speechless, Mondoweiss, April 5, 2022.

Harvard Law School's International Human Rights Clinic's recent report declaring that Israel is practicing apartheid is a victory for Palestinian human rights.

Settlement Building To Continue In West Bank: Israel's Bennett, <u>MIDDLE</u> <u>EAST MONITOR</u>, April 5, 2022.

Israeli Prime Minister, Naphtali Bennett, said Tuesday that his government will continue settlement construction in the occupied West Bank.

Palestine PM: Israel Responsible For Attacks Against Palestinians During Ramadan, MIDDLE EAST MONITOR, April 5, 2022.

The escalation in Israel's violent persecution against Palestinians while allowing Israeli extremist attacks in the occupied city of Jerusalem and Al-Aqsa Mosque poses security risks in the region, warned Palestinian Prime Minister Mohammed Shtayyeh.

Israel Renews The Closure Of 28 Palestinian NGOs In Occupied East Jerusalem, MIDDLE EAST EYE, April 5, 2022.



Israel maintains its crackdown on institutions in the city in a policy believed to aim at curbing the Palestinian Authority's influence.

World Bank Approves \$8 Million to Reform and Modernize Palestinian Public Financial Management System, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, April 5, 2022.

The World Bank approved an \$8 million grant to advance public financial management (PFM) reforms of the Palestinian Authority (PA), according to a World Bank press release.

Due To Russia-Ukraine War, UN Agency For Palestine Refugees Faces Severe Financial Crisis, R. REPUBLICWORLD.COM, April 4, 2022.

A top United Nations official has warned that UNRWA is encountering a rapidly deteriorating financial situation as the war commenced on February 24.

Gantz Pans Lapid's 'Provocative' Damascus Gate Tour, in Fresh Coalition Tiff, THE TIMES OF ISRAEL, April 4, 2022.

In the latest spar with government partners, the defense minister calls FM's desire to strengthen troops during tense days 'legitimate' but says avoiding destabilizing steps is critical.

Israel Killed 355 Palestinians and Injured More Than 16,000 in 2021, Says Ministry of Health, WAFA News Agency, April 4, 2022.

During the year 2021, Israel killed 355 Palestinians and injured more than 16,500 others, according to a new report published today by the Ministry of Health.

HH Sheikh Hamad Hospital in Gaza Launches Electronic Limbs Project, **QATAR FUND FOR DEVELOPMENT**, April 3, 2022.

HH Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani Hospital for Rehabilitation and Prosthetics in Gaza, which is funded by Qatar Fund for Development (QFFD), announced the launch of the electronic upper limb fitting for children and young people of Gaza with the aim of helping them lead their normal lives and integrate into the community.

Thousands March in Jordan in Support of Palestine, <u>THE PALESTINE</u> <u>CHRONICLE</u>, April 3, 2022.

Thousands of protesters marched in Amman on Friday, chanting slogans in support of the Palestinian resistance and rejecting Arab normalization with Israel.

Foreign Ministry Urges US Administration to Intervene to Stop Israel's Escalation, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, April 2, 2022.



On Saturday, April 02, 2022 — The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates called upon the US administration and the international community to immediately intervene to stop the Israeli escalation of tensions in the occupied Palestinian Territory.

Jerusalem's Last Agricultural Village Fights for Survival, Mondoweiss, April 1, 2022.

On March 30, Israel's Supreme Court postponed a critical hearing on the fate of al-Walaja, a Palestinian village along the southern edge of Jerusalem. The move was praised as a victory by residents, and put off the threat of demolition, for now.

Foreign Ministry Commends UNHRC Vote In Favor of Palestine, <u>WAFA</u> News Agency, March 31, 2022.

On Thursday, March 31, 2022 – The Palestinian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates commended a unanimous vote by the UN Human Rights Council in favor of a resolution on ensuring accountability and achieving justice in Palestine.

UN Committee Urges a Comprehensive Settlement of The Question of Palestine, WAFA News Agency, March 31, 2022.

On Thursday, March 31, 2022 – The Bureau of the UN General Assembly's Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People called today for renewed efforts by the international community to facilitate a just, lasting, and comprehensive settlement of the question of Palestine on the basis of international law and relevant UN resolutions.

Ramadan Comes Amid Soaring Tensions, Again, as Israel Mulls Al-Aqsa Restrictions, HAARETZ, March 31, 2022.

Police expect pre-pandemic numbers of Muslim worshipers on Jerusalem's Temple Mount for the beginning of the holiday.

Palestine/Israel

MADA Calls for Activation of UNSC Resolution 2222 to Protect Palestinian Journalists, WAFA News Agency, April 6, 2022.

On Wednesday, April 06, 2022—The Palestinian Center for Development and Media Freedoms (MADA) issued a statement condemning the continued pursuit and arrest of Palestinian journalists by the Israeli occupation forces.

Israeli Municipality Bars Palestinian Citizens of Israel from Community Services, THE PALESTINE CHRONICLE, April 5, 2022.

The Mayor of the Israeli city of Netivot, Yehiel Zohar, has barred Arab citizens of Israel and Palestinians from the occupied West Bank from carrying out community service in various institutions, according to a Palestinian rights organization.



Israeli Police Detain the PA's Jerusalem Governor, Hand Him an Order Banning Him from Entering the West Bank, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, April 5, 2022.

On Tuesday, April 5, 2022 – The Israeli police detained the Palestinian Authority's Jerusalem governor, Adnan Ghaith, at his home in occupied East Jerusalem and after holding him for several hours handed him an order renewing an earlier ban on entering the West Bank for six months before releasing him.

The Palestinian Digital Rights Coalition Welcomes Filing of a Lawsuit Against Israeli Surveillance Tech NSO Group, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, April 5, 2022.

The Palestinian Digital Rights Coalition (PDRC) welcomed the filing of a lawsuit against the Israeli surveillance tech NSO Group for infiltrating the phone of Palestinian-French lawyer and human rights defender Salah Hammouri and called on the immediate moratorium on the sale, transfer, and use of the NSO Group's Pegasus spyware, among other demands.

IDF Chief Tells Commanders to Ready for A Month or More of Heightened Alert, THE TIMES OF ISRAEL, April 4, 2022.

Kohavi said to also warn that Islamic Jihad could fire rockets from Gaza after three of its operatives were killed in a West Bank shootout.

WATCH: Israeli Soldiers Brutally Attack Palestinian Worshippers in Jerusalem, THE PALESTINE CHRONICLE, April 4, 2022.

Israeli soldiers raided Damascus Gate in occupied East Jerusalem's Old City on Sunday night, for the second night in a row, detaining 13 Palestinians and injuring 20 others.

Israeli Forces Kill Three Palestinians as Violence Spirals, <u>THE JORDAN</u> TIMES, April 2, 2022.

Israeli occupation forces killed three Palestinians from the Islamic Jihad resistance movement during a raid in the West Bank on Saturday, the latest deaths in a surge of violence.

For the Palestinians in the West Bank, It's an Exception, Not a 'Terror Wave', <u>HAARETZ</u>, April 2, 2022.

While the Palestinian public understands the attackers' motives, the vast majority does not choose this path, which does not advance their cause, and has reservations about targeting civilians. But condemnation? Let Israelis first condemn the violence they exercise against Palestinians.



Israeli Occupation Authorities Ban Senior Muslim Officials from Entering Al-Aqsa Mosque For 6 Months, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, April 3, 2022.

On Sunday, April 03, 2022 – The Israeli occupation authorities today banned a senior official of the Muslim Waqf (endowment) department from entering Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem's Old City for six months, reported WAFA correspondent.

Occupation Forces Arrest Five Palestinians in Ramallah, <u>WAFA News</u> Agency, April 3, 2022.

On Sunday, April 03, 2022 — Israeli occupation forces arrested five Palestinians during separate incidents in the occupied West Bank district of Ramallah, according to Palestinian security sources.

PM Shtayyeh Condemns Israel's Killing of Three Palestinians, Demands International Accountability, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, April 2, 2022.

On Saturday, April 2, 2022 - Prime Minister Mohammad Shtayyeh condemned the Israeli army killing earlier today of three Palestinians near the northern West Bank city of Jenin.

Israel's Gantz to Deploy 1,000 Extra Soldiers across Occupied Palestinian Territories, THE PALESTINE CHRONICLE, March 31, 2022.

Israeli Defense Minister Benny Gantz ordered on Wednesday the deployment of 1,000 extra soldiers in the occupied West Bank and on the fence separating besieged Gaza from Israel, Israeli media reported. "We are taking offensive and defensive actions," the Times of Israel reported Gantz as saying after a security assessment with Chief of Staff Aviv Kochavi and the head of Central Command, Major General Yehuda Fuchs.

Fatah blames Israel for Escalating Tension in Occupied Territories, <u>MIDDLE</u> <u>EAST MONITOR</u>, March 31, 2022.

The deputy leader of Fatah, Mahmoud Aloul, blamed Israel's government policies for escalating tension in the occupied Palestinian territories, Al-Quds has reported. Aloul made his comment during a meeting with Germany's Representative to Palestine, Oliver Owcza. "The Israeli occupation causes the ongoing tension in the occupied Palestinian territories through the policies of its government," he said. "Such policies include the cold-blooded killing of Palestinians, violations of Palestinian rights and the Judaization of Jerusalem and its holy sites, as well as the increasing settler violence."

Regional

Jordanians Condemn Attempts To 'Liquidate' UNRWA, MIDDLE EAST MONITOR, April 5, 2022.



The High Committee for the Defense of the Palestinian Refugee Right of Return in Jordan yesterday condemned American and Israeli attempts to "liquidate" the UN Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA), Quds Press reported.

OIC Condemns Escalating Israeli Aggression Against the Palestinian People, WAFA News Agency, April 4, 2022.

The Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) today strongly condemned Israeli escalation in the occupied Palestinian territories, particularly in East Jerusalem and Al-Aqsa Mosque.

King Reaffirms Importance of Maintaining Calm in Palestinian Territories, THE JORDAN TIMES, April 3, 2022.

His Majesty King Abdullah on Sunday received a phone call from Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett, and reaffirmed the importance of ensuring comprehensive calm to prevent any tensions or escalations in the Palestinian territories.

Turkey's Erdogan Condemns 'Heinous Terrorist Attacks' in Israel, <u>THE</u> PALESTINE CHRONICLE, April 2, 2022.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has condemned the "heinous terrorist attacks Israel has seen in recent days," offering condolences to the people who lost their lives and wishing a speedy recovery to the injured.

Jordan pursues multi-track quest to prevent Israel-Palestine chaos, (by Khaled Yacoub Oweis), MENA, March 31, 2022.

A diplomatic drive led by Jordan's King Abdullah II to calm tension in Palestine relies on the outsize influence of the small kingdom but faces limits in a region full of big players. As attacks by Palestinian extremists killed a dozen people in Israel this month, both Israel's president and defense minister visited King Abdullah's palace on the outskirts of Amman. In an apparent nod to Jordanian demands to ease restrictions on Muslims in Jerusalem during Ramadan, Israeli President Isaac Herzog told the king that "we must move towards enabling everyone to practice their beliefs in safety, in security, in calm circumstances".

Jordan's Foreign Ministry Says Presence of Israeli Fascist Lawmaker In Al-Aqsa Violates Historic Status Quo, WAFA News Agency, March 31, 2022.

The Jordanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates has condemned the presence of the ultra-nationalist Israeli lawmaker Itamar Ben-Gvir in Al-Aqsa Mosque in occupied Jerusalem early today, describing the visit as a breach of the historic status quo at the holy site.

International

US Academic Body Protests Israeli Directive Denying Palestinians the Right to Education, WAFA News Agency, April 6, 2022.



The largest Middle East academic body in North America Tuesday protested an Israeli directive denying Palestinians the right to education.

Euro-Med Monitor's We Are Not Numbers Project Celebrates Graduation of New Batch of Writers, WAFA News Agency, April 5, 2022.

On March 31, 2022, We Are Not Numbers held a graduation party in Gaza. The project, which Euro-Med Human Rights Monitor established in 2015, aims to tell the stories behind the numbers of dead and injured on the news.

Japan To Provide Gaza with A \$3.35 Million Emergency Humanitarian Grant Aid, ARAB NEWS, April 1, 2022.

Japan decided to extend emergency grant aid of \$3.35 million (¥400 million) to the Gaza Strip, "where the humanitarian situation is significantly deteriorating due to the COVID-19 pandemic and floods," Foreign Minister Yoshimasa Hayashi on April 1 said. The humanitarian assistance for "vulnerable Palestinians" includes supporting patients with COVID-19 and providing healthcare services. Hayashi said it will be extended through the E-Health system, including primary healthcare, through the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).

Israel-Palestine 'Peace Moves Ahead with Biden Government Working Quietly Behind the Scenes', <u>ARAB NEWS</u>, March 31, 2022.

The Biden administration is quietly getting things done to bring Israelis and Palestinians together, working outside of the headlines to improve the lives of the people, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Israel and Palestinian Affairs Hady Amr said in an exclusive interview with Arab News.

Palestinian Refugees and UNRWA

<u>UNRWA</u>: We Count on This Support: UNRWA Food Assistance is a Lifeline for Palestine Refugees, April 6, 2022.

"I am grateful to UNRWA for this assistance, which is a lifeline for me and my family. Ramadan Mubarak to all Muslims around the world," Ibtisam says.

UNRWA Anticipates 'Challenging' Year Due to War on Ukraine, <u>ASHARQ</u> <u>AL-AWSAT</u>, April 4, 2022.

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) is facing a worsening financial plight amid the crisis between Russia and Ukraine, a senior official said on Sunday.

UN Palestinian Refugee Agency Faces Worsening Financial Plight Amid Ukraine-Russia Crisis, Xinhuanet, April 3, 2022.



Media advisor for UNRWA in Gaza Adnan Abu Hasna told Xinhua that some donor countries asked the UN agency "not to expect even half of the donations and grants they provided to UNRWA in 2021," while "others informed they would postpone the date of their donations." "This coincides with the global rise in food, fuel and transportation costs," he noted. "UNRWA is making great efforts with many European countries to ensure that the services provided to the agency are not affected, and to emphasize the importance of these services until a solution to the Palestinian refugee issue is found," the UN official added.

UNRWA: One Year On: Palestine Refugees in Gaza Welcome the Holy Month of Ramadan, April 2, 2022.

During the month of Ramadan, one shop in Gaza transforms from a small grocery shop into a haven of decorations. The little shop belongs to Ibrahim Abu Jayaab, a 70-year-old Palestine refugee from Maghazi camp in Gaza.

Jordan's Safadi Discusses with Guterres Efforts to Support UNRWA, <u>WAFA</u> **News Agency**, April 2, 2022.

On Saturday, April 02, 2022 – Jordanian Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates, Ayman Safadi, and UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres held a meeting to discuss efforts to provide the necessary financial and political support to the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA).

Analysis & Opinions

The Safety of Others, (by Elsa Auerbach, Sara Roy and Eve Spangler), London Review of Books, April 5, 2022.

The situation now of Jews in much of the world is dominated ... not by policies and actions that are directed against Jewish interests but in the name of those interests; and not by a hostile power (Germany) that occupies the lands where Jews live but by a friendly power (Israel) that occupies territory where others live.

Can Israel Exist Without America? The Facts Suggest a Changing Reality, (by Dr. Ramzy Baroud), <u>MIDDLE EAST MONITOR</u>, April 5, 2022.

For years, Israel has hoped to free itself from its disproportionate reliance on Washington. This dependency has taken many forms: financial and military assistance, political backing, diplomatic cover and more.

A Message to the Arab States Who Ally With Israel to Erase the Palestinians, (by Sami Abou Shahadeh), <u>HAARETZ</u>, April 3, 2022.

The only concrete 'achievement' of the Abraham Accords summit was the note from Egypt, UAE, Morocco and Bahrain for the Palestinian people: We 'brotherly' Arab states have abandoned you, again.



On Earth Day 2022, Where are the Palestinians?, (by Benay Blend), <u>THE PALESTINE CHRONICLE</u>, April 1, 2022.

As Spring approaches, along with Earth Day, thoughts turn to the environment. This year, because of the Russia/Ukraine war there is heightened concern over environmental destruction in that region. In an area rife with chemical plants, outworn mines, and nuclear power plants, there is good reason for apprehension.

The Decolonization Of Palestine Demands Dismantling Patriarchal Prejudice, (by Tamam Mohsen), *Mondoweiss*, April 1, 2022.

Challenging patriarchal notions in Palestinian society is not a separate issue from ending Zionist settler-colonialism. In fact, it has been precisely through gender violence that the colonial project has thrived.

Affirming Global Indigenous Joint Struggle: The Palestinian Right of Return is Landback, (by Omar Zahzah), <u>THE PALESTINE CHRONICLE</u>, March 31, 2022.

On March 30, 2022, on the occasion of Palestinian Land Day, the Indigenous organization NDN Collective released a history-making position paper affirming the interconnectedness of the Palestinian struggle to global Indigenous liberation. The position paper is prefaced by a quote by revolutionary Palestinian writer and martyr, Ghassan Kanafani, and is introduced by a short section that immediately demolishes the myth of Indigenous dispossession and genocide being a "complicated" issue.

Publications and Statements

<u>Press Release</u> Al Mezan, CIHRS, and partners welcome the Human Rights Committee concluding observations on Israel emphasizing the "pre-existing systematic and structural discrimination against non-Jews.

Statement of the Bureau of the Palestinian Rights Committee upon Meeting with President of the 76th General Assembly, March 31, 2022.

Palestine's Legal Scene | Issue. 117 | 27 March -2 April 2022, <u>Law for Palestine</u>, April 3, 2022.

EVENTS

<u>A Conversation with Lara Friedman</u>: How Has America Responded to Amnesty International's Apartheid Report? Thursday, April 7, 6:30 PM EST.



How have America's political class, civil society, Arab and Jewish American organizations reacted towards Amnesty's International report titled "Israel's apartheid against Palestinians?