

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

French Foreign Ministry Says It Follows Up Situation of Jerusalemite Detainee Salah Hammouri, WAFA News Agency, June 16, 2022.

The French Foreign Ministry is mobilizing all its powers to provide Palestinian-French prisoner Salah Hammouri with all possible assistance, spokeswoman for the Foreign Ministry, Anne Claire Legendre said Wednesday.

Biden to Reinforce US 'Iron-Clad Commitment' to Security of the Occupying State, Israel, During Visit to Region, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, June 15, 2022.

US President Joe Biden is going to reinforce the United States' iron-clad commitment to the security and prosperity of the occupying state, Israel, during his upcoming visit to the Middle Fast.

EU renews its Support for The Palestinian People with A €224.8 Million Assistance Package, WAFA News Agency, June 15, 2022.

The European Commission (EC) yesterday approved a new bilateral allocation to Palestine worth €224.8 million.

President Abbas meets the Archbishop of Cyprus in Nicosia, <u>WAFA News</u> Agency, on June 15, 2022.

President Mahmoud Abbas today met the Greek Orthodox Archbishop of Cyprus Chrysostom II in Nicosia.

Five Palestinians Continue Hunger Strike in Israeli Jails, Including Zakariyah Zubeidi, THE NEW ARAB, June 14, 2022.

According to human rights groups, some 4,700 Palestinians are held in Israeli prisons, including 640 Palestinians detained without charges under the administrative detention system.

Half Of the Dutch Population Feels There Is Apartheid in Israel and The Occupied Palestinian Territories, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, June 14, 2022.

Fifty-one percent of the Dutch think there is apartheid in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories. This finding comes from a Dutch survey carried out by I&O Research for the peace organization PAX. Only six percent disagree.

President Abbas: Leadership will Have to Take Necessary Legal Measures to Protect Interests of Palestinian People, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, June 14, 2022.

President Mahmoud Abbas said today that the Palestinian leadership will have to take the necessary legal measures to protect the interests of the Palestinian people and put an end to the Israeli occupation's crimes, which have reached an unacceptable level.

Despite Political Crisis, Biden to Visit Israel and West Bank on July 13, HAARETZ, June 13, 2022.

U.S. President Joe Biden will visit Israel, the West Bank, and Saudi Arabia on July 13-16, a senior administration official said Monday.

PM Shtayyeh Calls on European Parliament to Boycott Settlement Products, WAFA News Agency, June 13, 2022.

Prime Minister Mohammed Shtayyeh today called on the European Parliament to boycott products made in Israeli settlements.

UNRWA Must Remain in Full Control of Mandate, Say Arab Nations, <u>THE NEW ARAB</u>, June 13, 2022.

Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt, the Palestine Liberation Organisation, and the Syrian regime dismissed 'any measures or attempts targeting UNRWA's mandate'.

EU to Conclude Vote on Restarting Aid to Palestinians on Monday, Shtayyeh Says, The New Arab, June 13, 2022.

The European Union (EU) is to conclude on Monday a vote on restarting financial assistance to Palestinians, according to Palestinian Authority Prime Minister Mohammad Shtayyeh

PLO's Secretary-General Urges US To Reopen Consulate in Jerusalem, Remove PLO From Terrorist List, WAFA News Agency, June 13, 2022.

In a meeting last night with the US Assistant Secretary of State for Near East Affairs, Barbara Leaf, and her deputy Hady Amr, at his Ramallah office, Hussein al-Sheikh, Secretary-General of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), urged the United States to reopen its consulate in Jerusalem and remove the PLO from its list of terrorist organizations.

Washington Post Investigation Concludes That an Israeli Soldier Likely Killed Journalist Shireen Abu Akleh, WAFA News Agency, June 13, 2022.

The Washington Post has published an investigation on the killing of veteran Palestinian-American Al-Jazeera journalist, Shireen Abu Akleh, and said that the slain correspondent was killed by an Israeli soldier on May 11 in the occupied West Bank city of Jenin.

Palestine Comments on Norway's Decision on Labelling Settlement Products, WAFA News Agency, June 12, 2022.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates praised today the Norwegian government's decision to label products manufactured in the illegal Israeli settlements built on land occupied by Israel post 4 June 1967, including the Golan Heights and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem.

'Washington Post' Concludes That Israeli Soldier Killed Shireen Abu Akleh — Building Pressure on U.S. Gov't, Mondoweiss, June 12, 2022.

The Washington Post today published an investigation of the killing of Palestinian-American journalist Shireen Abu Akleh a month ago and it concludes just what the AP, CNN, and Bellingcat investigations found, and that eyewitnesses said on May 11: An Israeli soldier likely killed Abu Akleh in the occupied territories.

Largest Palestinian Displacement in Decades Looms After Israeli Court Ruling, THE NEW ARAB, June 12, 2022.

Over a thousand Palestinians in the occupied West Bank face the risk of forced removal to make way for an army firing zone after an Israeli court ruling last month.

PM Shtayyeh Calls for Forming Int'l Front to End Occupation, Protect Two-State Solution, WAFA News Agency, June 12, 2022.

Prime Minister Mohammed Shtayyeh stressed today the importance of an international front to pressure Israel to end its occupation and protect the two-state solution.

Investigation into Abu Akleh's Killing Progressing, but Slowly, <u>ALJAZEERA</u>, June 11, 2022.

One month has passed since Israeli forces killed journalist Shireen Abu Akleh, but accountability remains elusive.

Analysis Website Countercurrents: Apartheid Israel Leads the World for Killing Journalists, WAFA News Agency, June 11, 2022.

Countercurrents, an India-based analysis website, has published a report titled "Apartheid Israel leads the world for killing journalists," a month after Israel's cold-blooded murder of veteran Palestinian journalist Shireen Abu Akleh.

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas Hosts US Delegation in Ramallah, THE NEW ARAB, June 11, 2022.

Mahmoud Abbas hosted a US delegation in Ramallah on Saturday, where he requested that the American consulate for east Jerusalem and the office of the Palestine Liberation Organisation in Washington be reopened.

President Abbas: Current political situation is unsustainable, <u>WAFA News</u> Agency, June 11, 2022.

President Mahmoud Abbas said today that the current situation cannot be tolerated in the absence of a political horizon and international protection for our Palestinian people, and in light of Israel's failure to fulfill its obligations in accordance with signed agreements and resolutions of international legitimacy.

Israel Court Upholds Sale of Jerusalem Church Land to Settler Group, <u>THE</u> <u>JORDAN TIMES</u>, June 9, 2022.

Israel's top court has ruled that a Jewish settler group legally purchased an East Jerusalem property from the Greek Orthodox Church, ending a nearly two-decade battle over the Old City property.

Palestine/Israel

Israeli Army Raids Palestinian Villages for 'Intel Mapping' After Cutting Practice, HAARETZ, June 14, 2022.

During the raid, soldiers logged and photographed residents of Masafer Yatta, where 1,000 Palestinians face eviction. Residents worry the intel gathered will be used to expel them.

For the Fourth Day, Israeli Authorities Block Provision of Drinking Water in Hebron's Ibrahimi Mosque, The Palestine Chronicle, June 13, 2022.

Israeli authorities have prevented drinking water from being available at the Ibrahimi Mosque in the occupied West Bank city of Hebron (Al-Khalil), a Palestinian official said on Sunday.

12 Palestinians Arrested in West Bank Raid by Israeli Forces, <u>The</u> Jerusalem Post, June 13, 2022.

12 Palestinians suspected of conducting terror activities were arrested by IDF, Border Police, and Shin Bet forces during a Sunday night raid across the West Bank.

The Main Entrance of a Ramallah-District Village Closed by Israel for The Fifth Consecutive Day, WAFA News Agency, June 13, 2022.

The main entrance of Aboud village, northeast of Ramallah, remained closed today for the fifth consecutive day, according to local sources.

Israeli Forces Issue Halt on Construction Order Near Hebron, WAFA News Agency, June 12, 2022.

Israeli forces Sunday issued a halt on construction order against a Palestinian house to the east of Yatta, south of the occupied West Bank city of Hebron, local sources said.

Palestinian Detainee Held by Israel Hospitalized After 100 Days on Hunger Strike, <u>THE NEW ARAB</u>, June 10, 2022.

Palestinian prisoner Khalil Awadeh has been sent to hospital as his health continues to deteriorate after 100 days on hunger strike.

Regional

Arab Countries Hosting Palestinian Refugees Reject Any Amendment to UNRWA Mandate, ARAB NEWS, June 16, 2022.

UNRWA Advisory Commission meetings commenced in Beirut on Tuesday, with Arab countries hosting Palestinian refugees insisting that the agency remain in control of its mandate under Resolution 302 (1949).

OIC Secretary-General Receives Consul General of State of Palestine to Discuss Recent Developments, WAFA News Agency, June 13, 2022.

The Secretary-General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), Hissein Brahim Taha, received Sunday at the headquarters of the OIC General Secretariat Mahmoud Al-Asadi, the Consul General of the State of Palestine, in order to exchange views on developments in Palestine, especially in the occupied city of Jerusalem, and the serious Israeli violations against the blessed al-Agsa Mosque.

Jordan Slams Settler Aggression on Church Property in Jerusalem, <u>WAFA</u> **News Agency**, June 11, 2022.

The Jordanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates slammed yesterday the "continuous aggression" of Israeli settler organizations on the Greek Orthodox Church in occupied Jerusalem.

International

EU President Announces Resumption of Delayed Aid to Palestinian Authority, WAFA News Agency, June 14, 2022.

President of the European Union Ursula von der Leyen announced today in Ramallah the resumption of delayed EU aid to the Palestinian Authority.

Leader Of Socialists and Democrats in European Parliament: European Funding Will Be Unblocked As Soon As Possible, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, June 13, 2022.

The leader of the Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament, Iratxe Garcia, said today that the European financial assistance, which has been suspended, will be unblocked as soon as possible.

EU releases aid to Palestinians held up over textbook reform, <u>THE TIMES</u> OF ISRAEL, June 13, 2022.

European Commission votes to send over \$200 million to PA; unclear if funds sent on condition alleged incitement be removed from curricula.

Elizabeth Warren, Ed Markey Condemn BDS Group Project Mapping Boston Jewish Orgs, <u>HAARETZ</u>, June 12, 2022.

'We strongly condemn antisemitism and will continue working for the safety of all vulnerable people at home and abroad,' say Markey and Warren, who joined four other Democrats in Congress.

Foreign Ministry Calls on US Administration to Exert Genuine Pressure on Israel to Stop All Unilateral Actions, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, June 12, 2022.

The ministry of foreign affairs and expatriates called on the US administration to exert genuine pressure on the Israeli government to stop all unilateral actions aimed at creating a new status quo that serves its colonial interests at the expense of the lands of the Palestinian state.

Norway to Label Settlement-Manufactured Products from Israeli Ones, WAFA News Agency, June 12, 2022.

Norway has decided to label products manufactured in the illegal Israeli settlements built on Palestinian land to distinguish them from Israeli products, a decision which yesterday sparked the ire of the Israeli government.

Shireen Abu Akleh: US Still Thinks Israel Should Lead Probe, <u>ALJAZEERA</u>, June 9, 2022.

Antony Blinken had called for 'independent' investigation, but State Department says US position has not changed.

Palestinian Refugees and UNRWA

Lazzarini and Shmeitelli, and the Consul of the United Kingdom in Jerusalem Diane Corner Spoke at the Opening, Annahar, June 15, 2022.

A few days ago, the Arab countries hosting Palestine refugees rejected any measures or attempts to target UNRWA's mandate under Resolution 302 (1949), through some international organizations carrying out UNRWA's tasks on its behalf, or shifting its function. Arab countries stressed the necessity of UNRWA's commitment to prior coordination with representatives of host countries in any steps related to the refugee issue, whether at the level of UNRWA services and development, or at the level of refugee rights.

The UNRWA AdCom Advisory Committee, chaired by Lebanon and With the Participation Of 28 Countries and International Bodies, Opened Its Two-Day Meetings This Morning at the Movenpick Hotel in Beirut, NNA, June 14, 2022.

Discussions are over several issues related to the Agency's activities, programmes, strategies, services it provides to refugees, the challenges it faces, and the financial crisis. It will conclude its work tomorrow (today) with a joint press conference held by Lazzarini and El Hassan on the recommendations of the meetings.

The "Palestinian Joint Palestinian Action Committee" In Lebanon Organized a Sit-In on Tuesday in Beirut to Reject Any Alternatives for UNRWA And Further Reduction in Its Services Hadfnews, June 15, 2022.

The sit-in, which was held in front of the Movenpick Hotel where the AdCom meets, was titled "Our word is one - our demands are one," in which hundreds of Palestinian refugees participated and raised slogans calling on UNRWA to "declare a state of emergency. They also announced their rejection of reduction of services, as it is a conspiracy and not a crisis." In turn, the official in charge of the "UNRWA" file in the PFLP in Lebanon, Aref Abu Khalil, said, "The Palestine refugees in Lebanon came today to deliver a message to the participants in the UNRWA AdCom and the international community, that our people adhere to the agency, as it is the living witness to The Palestinian Nakba and the refugee issue.

It Is One of The Rare Times That the Meeting of The UNRWA Adcom Receives This Amount of Attention, Since Its Establishment In 1949, AlModon, June 14, 2022.

the main source of interest is because of the increasing fears against the liquidation of this international agency, after successive statements by the UNRWA Commissioner-General about transferring some of its missions to other organizations.

UNRWA Commissioner-General Highlights Dire Situation Of Palestine Refugees On Official Trip to the main source of interest is because of the increasing fears against the liquidation of this international agency, after successive statements by the UNRWA Commissioner-General about transferring some of its missions to other organizations. o Switzerland, UNRWA, June 10, 2022.

The Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), Philippe Lazzarini, has completed a visit to Switzerland, during which he met with State Secretary of Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs Livia Leu, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) senior officials, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), and members of parliament to highlight the critical needs of Palestine refugees and the key role of Switzerland's support to the Agency.

UNRWA Delegation Concludes Visit to The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, UNRWA, June 10, 2022.

Today, a delegation from the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) concluded a three-day visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA). The visit, led by the Acting Director of External Relations Tamara Alrifai, highlighted the longstanding, strategic partnership between UNRWA and the Government of Saudi Arabia through its humanitarian and development organizations. The Director of UNRWA Affairs for Jordan, Marta Lorenzo, Director of Infrastructure and Camp Improvement Munir Manneh, and Director of Finance Shadi Al-Abed were also part of the mission.

Analysis & Opinions

For Israelis and Palestinians, Confederation Is a Disastrous Fantasy (Eric Yoffie), HAARETZ, June 14, 2022.

All of a sudden, the idea of an Israel-Palestine confederation is everywhere, not least among progressive Zionists. It's not a new idea – but it's a terrible one.

The Zeitoun's Old Sewing Machine Repairman: Zakaria Al-Jayyar is a Legacy, (Omar Zahzah), THE PALESTINE CHRINICLE, June 14, 2022.

In the heart of the Zeitoun neighborhood in Gaza City, there is a small sewing shop, which contains a treasure of antique sewing machines.

Do Israelis Believe That They Have Lost America's Support? (Dr Adnan Abu Amer), MIDDLE EAST MONITOR, June 14, 2022.

An increasingly fragmented society in America, especially acrimonious between politicians and activists, has raised fears among Israelis about the number of left-leaning members of the House of Representatives and Senate. Political and societal disputes are expected to increase in frequency and intensity as November's mid-term elections approach.

Masafer Yatta Evictions Enabled by British-Born Judge, (Omar Zahzah), The Electronic Intifada, June 13, 2022.

To Israel – and in keeping with the aseptic detachment common to colonial regimes – it has been Firing Zone 918 since 1981, when then agriculture minister Ariel Sharon decided on that designation explicitly in order to force out the area's residents.

Palestinians 'are Bound to Win': Why Israelis are Prophesying the End of their State, (Ramzey Baroud), Middle East Monitor, June 13, 2022.

Barak, Netanyahu and Morris are all right: Israel will not exist as a 'Jewish state' for much longer. Speaking strictly in terms of demographics, Israel is no longer a Jewish-majority state. History has taught us that Muslims, Christians and Jews can peacefully coexist and collectively thrive, as they have done throughout the Middle East and the Iberian Peninsula for millennia. Indeed, this is a prediction, even a prophecy that is worth striving for.

Upgrading US-Palestinian relations in Jerusalem Impacts Status as Israel's Capital – Editorial, (JPost Editorial), <u>The Jerusalem Post</u>, June 12, 2022.

The issue is not about whether there should be a consulate to handle Palestinian affairs, but why a US Consulate for the Palestinians should be based in Jerusalem and not, for example, in Ramallah.

Standard Israeli Army Issue (Gideon Levy), HAARETZ, June 12, 2022.

They promised Gabi Ashkenazi. They promised Benny Gantz. Like the Hebrew song says, they promised a dove. Moshe Ya'alon was also a promise. Not to mention Amnon Lipkin-Shahak and Shaul Mofaz. Since the second IDF chief of staff, Yigael Yadin, almost all of them have gone into politics and they all had great promise. Since Ehud Barak, not one of them fulfilled that promise.

Shireen Abu Akleh, One Month On: 'The Days Have Not Passed', (Zena Al Tahhan), AlJAZEERA, June 11, 2022.

Journalists at the scene of the Al Jazeera reporter's killing on May 11 remain in shock and trauma.

Denying Palestine While Protecting Israel from Itself, (Dr. Mohammad Balawi), Middle East Monitor, June 12, 2022.

Many acts regarding Palestine are an enigma. Everything is convoluted, and you do not know who is killing who and for what reason; a "mad house" where nothing makes much sense.

How Israel Wins Even When the EU Doesn't Buy Its Lies (Maureen Clare Murphy), THE ELECTRONIC INTIFADA, June 10, 2022.

European countries aren't buying Israel's "terror" designations imposed against several Palestinian human rights and social services organizations last year, diplomatic sources told Israeli media this week.

Publications and Statements

Statement: Opening Statement by UNRWA Commissioner-General Philippe Lazzarini to The Advisory Commission On UNRWA, June, 14, 2022.

Palestine's Legal Scene | Issue. 127 | 5- 11 June 2022, Law for Palestine, June 12, 2022.

NGO Action News – United Nations Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, <u>UNITED NATIONS</u>, June 9, 2022.

Events

Virtual high-level event <u>"Apartheid, International Law, and the Occupied</u> Palestinian Territory" June 16, 2022.

The UN Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People (CEIRPP) will be holding a Virtual High-Level Event "Apartheid, International Law, and the Occupied Palestinian Territory" featuring a conversation between Zeid Ra'ad Al-Hussein, President and Chief Executive Officer of International Peace Institute, former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and Agnès Callamard, Secretary General of Amnesty International.