

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

In DC, Abu Akleh's Family Says No Help from US For Full Probe into Killing, THE TIMES OF ISRAEL, July 28, 2022.

Relatives of slain US-Palestinian reporter say top US diplomat told them decision was up to Justice Department but declined to refer them to other officials.

Palestine Thanks South Africa for Hosting Conference of Palestine Ambassadors to Africa, WAFA News Agency, July 28, 2022.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates expressed the State of Palestine's "deep appreciation to the brotherly Republic of South Africa for graciously hosting the conference of Palestine Ambassadors to Africa," sending special appreciation to President Siryl Ramphosa for receiving Minister Riad Malki and to Foreign Minister Naledi Pandor for her gracious and important participation in the opening ceremony of the conference.

President Abbas Receives Russian Envoy in Ramallah, <u>WAFA News</u> Agency, July 27, 2022.

President Mahmoud Abbas today received Russian Special Envoy for the Middle East Vladimir Safronkov at the presidential headquarters in Ramallah.

Family of Slain Journalist Shireen Abu Akleh Demands 'Real Accountability' in Blinken Meeting, HAARETZ, July 26, 2022.

The Abu Akleh family called for a new U.S.-led investigation into the Palestinian-American reporter's death during an Israeli raid in Jenin in May. 'Secretary Blinken told us that he has a duty to protect every U.S. citizen. We will hold him to this,' her niece said.

Hundreds of Palestinian Lawyers Hold Rare Protest Against Abbas's 'Rule by Decree', <u>THE TIMES OF ISRAEL</u>, July 26, 2022.

Palestinian Bar Association president leading demonstration says his group will stand firm against legislation delivered by executive orders, which curb 'rights and freedoms.

Israel Arrests Nine Palestinians Suspected of Recruiting Hamas Members in East Jerusalem, HAARETZ, July 25, 2022.

The state attorney's office also revealed that several of the suspects were already under detention, which was extended multiple times.

'Apartheid' Is Not Sufficient: An Interview with UN Human Rights Commissioner Miloon Kothari, Mondoweiss, July 25, 2022.

UN Human Rights Commissioner Miloon Kothari explains why Apartheid is not enough to explain the root causes of the Palestinian crisis.

Ministry Condemns Israeli Mistreatment and Abuse of a Palestinian Prisoner That Caused His Loss of Memory, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, July 25, 2022.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates today condemned the inhuman treatment of and abuse by the Israeli occupation authorities and the Israel Prison Services (IPS) of the Palestinian prisoner Mohammad Obeid, from the village of Anza, south of the northern West Bank city of Jenin, that led to his loss of memory and considered it a crime that rises to the level of a crime against humanity.

Foreign Ministry Welcomes EU Report on Israeli Settlements, <u>WAFA News</u> <u>Agency</u>, July 24, 2022.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates welcomed today the report published by the European Union on 20 July 2022 regarding Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem.

Prime Minister Condemns Israeli Army Killing of Two Palestinians in Nablus, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, July 24, 2022.

Prime Minister Mohammad Shtayyeh today condemned the Israeli army killing of two young Palestinians in Nablus and held the Israeli occupation authorities fully responsible for it.

Israeli Supreme Court Rules Citizens Can Be Stripped Of Status For 'Breach Of Loyalty', Mondoweiss, July 23, 2022.

Rights groups expect the law to be used disproportionately against Palestinian citizens of Israel, who make up 20% of the state's population.

Presidency Denounces Israel's Killing of Two Palestinians in Nablus, <u>WAFA</u> <u>News Agency</u>, July 24, 2022.

Nabil Abu Rudeineh, spokesman for President Mahmoud Abbas, today condemned the Israeli crime in Nablus, north of the occupied West Bank, in which two young Palestinians, Mohammad Bashar Azizi, 25, and Abderrahman Jamal Soboh, 28, were shot dead by Israeli occupation soldiers after midnight.

The Fight To End Ahmad Manasra's Solitary Confinement Continues As His Health Deteriorates, Mondoweiss, July 22, 2022.

"The world needs to move urgently; time is not on our side. Every day that passes is a loss," Manasra's lawyer Khaled Zabarqa tells Mondoweiss.

Israeli Spyware Maker Behind New Attack on Journalists, Cybersecurity Firm Says, MIDDLE EAST EYE, July 21, 2022.

Security researchers have linked the discovery of an actively exploited, but since-fixed, zero-day vulnerability in Google Chrome to an Israeli spyware maker known to target journalists in the Middle East.

Palestine/Israel

Palestinian in Moderate Condition After Being Shot by Israeli Troops Near Nablus, <u>THE TIMES OF ISRAEL</u>, July 27, 2022.

Unarmed suspect approached security forces' post, failed to heed warnings to stop, military says.

The Settlements Council Obstructs the Work of Farmers in Khirbet al-Farisiyah in the Jordan Valley, WAFA News Agency, July 27, 2022.

Crews of the so-called Settlements Council today obstructed the work of Palestinian farmers in Khirbet al-Farisiyah community in the northern Jordan Valley.

Destruction of Properties Continues with The Israeli Demolition of Structures in The North of the West Bank, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, July 26, 2022.

The Israeli destruction of Palestinian properties in the occupied territories continued today with the demolition of agricultural structures and a mobile home and the razing of a rural road in Qusin village, west of Nablus in the north of the West Bank.

Israeli Army Bulldozers Tear Down Commercial Structures Near a Checkpoint in Jenin, WAFA News Agency, July 26, 2022.

Israeli army bulldozers today tore down several commercial structures near al-Jalama checkpoint, north of the northern West Bank city of Jenin, according to the head of al-Jalama village council Amjad Abu Farha.

Palestinian Prisoner Completes 36 Years Behind Israeli Bars, <u>WAFA News</u> Agency, July 24, 2022.

Ahmad Abu Jaber, 64, a Palestinian political prisoner serving a life sentence in Israeli prisons, completes today 36 years behind Israeli prison bars, according to a prisoner advocacy group.

Two Palestinians Killed in Israeli Raid on Occupied West Bank, ALJAZEERA, July 24, 2022.

Muhamad Azizi and Abdul Rahman Sobh were killed by the Israeli forces during an overnight raid on Nablus.

75 Palestinian Prisoners Go on Hunger Strike in Solidarity with Two Striking Detainees, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, July 24, 2022.

Some 75 Palestinian freedom fighters incarcerated in Israel for their resistance of the occupation started today an open hunger strike in solidary with the two striking administrative detainees Khalil Awawda and Raed Rayyan.

Extremist Israelis are Trying to Settle in Palestinian Territory, <u>THE RIGHT</u> FORUM, July 22, 2022.

Ten thousand Israelis took part in a campaign to establish as many "Jewish outposts" as possible in the occupied territory at once. The campaign failed, but shows the strength of biblical extremism in Israel. "We'll be back soon."

Regional

Israeli PM Lapid Meets in Jordan With King Abdullah, Discuss Strengthening Ties, <u>HAARETZ</u>, July 27, 2022.

Lapid and Abdullah discuss joint Israeli-Jordanian projects in a meeting that comes after a period of strained ties during Ramadan between the two neighbors.

Bahrain: Culture Minister Sacked for Refusing to Shake Hands with Israeli Envoy, <u>MIDDLE EAST EYE</u>, July 24, 2022.

Sheikha Mai bint Mohammed Al Khalifa was dismissed after snubbing the Israeli envoy at a US ambassador's home.

President Abbas Discusses Developments with Jordan's King Abdullah, WAFA News Agency, July 24, 2022.

President Mahmoud Abbas met today with King Abdullah II of Jordan in the Jordanian capital Amman and briefed him on the latest political developments in Palestine and the challenges facing our people as a result of the continuing Israeli crimes.

King Receives Palestinian President, THE JORDAN TIMES, July 24, 2022.

His Majesty King Abdullah on Sunday received Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and stressed the importance of joint Jordanian-Palestinian action at all levels to build on the diplomatic momentum in the region following US President Joe Biden's visit and the Jeddah Security and Development Summit.

International

Germany: Goethe Institute accused of censoring Palestinian voices, MIDDLE EAST EYE, July 25, 2022.

The withdrawal of poet Mohammed El-Kurd's invitation to speak at a festival highlights the growing exclusion of Palestinian artists in Germany.

Israel Threatens Russia with 'Consequences' amid Jewish Agency Row, THE PALESTINE CHRONICLE, July 25, 2022.

The anticipated closure of The Jewish Agency in Russia will have a serious impact on Russia-Israel relations, Israeli Prime Minister Yair Lapid warned Russia on Sunday.

France: MPs Sign Draft Resolution Condemning Israel's Apartheid, <u>MIDDLE</u> EAST MONITOR, July 24, 2022.

Some 38 far-left French MPs have signed a draft resolution condemning Israel's "institutionalisation of an apartheid regime against Palestinian people," news agencies reported on Friday.

EU Sounds Alarm over Higher Rate of Israeli Settlement Construction in 2021, THE PALESTINE CHRONICLE, July 22, 2022.

2021 experienced an even higher rate of settlement units' advancements in the West Bank and East Jerusalem in comparison to the previous year, enforcing the trend of a continuously increasing settlement expansion on occupied Palestinian territories, according to a new report by the Office of the European Union Representative to the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

U.S. Church Leaders Decry Biden Visit As 'Missed Opportunity', Mondoweiss, July 21, 2022.

Despite hearing a stirring call to protect the Palestinian Christian community while in Bethlehem, U.S. church leaders lament Biden's visit "did little to advance the cause of peace."

Palestinian Refugees and UNRWA

UNRWA Launches Its ICT for Education (Ict4e) Strategy, <u>UNRWA</u>, July 26, 2022.

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) is pleased to announce the launch of its ambitious Information and Communication Technology for Education (ICT4E) Strategy to support its students, teachers, and education staff in becoming independent actors who can actively and critically engage with digital technology. The strategy is expected to serve over 540,000 Palestine refugee students and approximately 20,000 education staff in over 700 schools across Gaza, the West Bank (including East Jerusalem), Jordan, Syria and Lebanon.

Italy Increases Support to Palestine Refugees In 2022, <u>UNRWA</u>, July 25, 2022.

The Government of Italy increased its contribution to the core budget of United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) in 2022 with a disbursement of EUR 7 million. This support will allow the Agency to continue delivering vital services, such as education to over 500,000 girls and boys.

PLO Official Says UNRWA Suffers Fiscal Crisis, Needs International Support, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, July 24, 2022.

Ahmad Abu Holi, the Head of the Refugees' Department in the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), said yesterday that due to its persisting financial crisis, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) has no longer been able to meet the growing needs of the Palestinian refugees.

INDIA Provides Us\$ 2.5 million To UNRWA for Palestine Refugees, UNRWA, July 22, 2022.

Today, the Government of India contributed US\$ 2.5 million to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) in support of the Agency's programmes and services, including education, health care, relief and social services for Palestine refugees. The contribution was presented to UNRWA by Mr. Sunil Kumar, Director of the West Asia and North Africa Division of the Indian Ministry of External Affairs.

UNRWA And German Delegation Inaugurate Al-Qastal Rehousing Project In Deir El-Balah And Visit UNRWA Food Assistance Programme And Summer Fun Weeks For Children In Gaza, <u>UNRWA</u>, July 21, 2022.

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) inaugurated yesterday the newly constructed al-Qastal rehousing project in Deir El-Balah, completed with the generous support of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) through KfW Development Bank. The inauguration was hosted by Thomas White, Director of UNRWA Affairs in Gaza, Oliver Owcza, Head of the German Representative Office in Ramallah, and guests from German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO) and KfW. Through this project, UNRWA finalized the construction of ten buildings consisting of 121 apartments in al-Qastal area to reallocate 121 Palestine refugee families (around 600 persons) currently living in Deir El-Balah camp as they evacuated their unlivable and dilapidated homes inside the camp.

Analysis & Opinions

Cruelty Against Gaza Patients Enabled by US and EU (Alice Rothchild), <u>THE ELECTRONIC INTIFADA</u>, July 26, 2022.

Israel is feeling no international pressure to end its tightened blockade on Gaza, which entered its 15th year this summer.

Constricting Palestinian Human Rights and the Right to Health: Israeli Apartheid Policies (Avraham Burg), <u>THE PALESTINE CHRONICLE</u>, July 26, 2022.

There is a growing consensus that the behaviors of the Israeli government fulfill the definition of an apartheid regime. There is also a growing consensus that Palestinians who are Israeli citizens or stateless in the occupied Palestinian territories or refugee camps lack civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights as a manifestation of the settler colonialism that characterizes the Israeli state. These structural issues, grounded in the colonialism and racism of the early 20th century British Empire and Zionist ideology, are distinctly threatening to Palestinian human rights and their right to health.

Germany Provides a Kosher Stamp for the Israeli Occupation (Avraham Burg), <u>HAARETZ</u>, July 26, 2022.

A few weeks ago, I took part in an important conference in Germany on the hijacking of Holocaust remembrance and the New Right. It was one of the deepest, most diverse and sensitive conferences I have ever attended.

Popular Arab Support for the Abraham Accords Is Dropping. Israel Must Take Notice (Ksenia Svetlova), HAARETZ, July 26, 2022.

"At the moment we're in a process of normalization with the Arab world without progress in the diplomatic process with the Palestinians... Arab states are looking for a connection with the strong. Cultivating strengths gives us diplomatic power," then-Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told Israeli diplomats back in December 2018, soon after his visit to Oman, where he met with Sultan Qaboos bin Said. Four years later, this assertion is still true – the normalization between Israel and the Arab states is moving forward, and there is still no prospect of a diplomatic process with the Palestinians.

Fassino vs Albanese: Is Italy on The Wrong Side of History When It Comes to Palestine? (Dr. Ramzy Baroud), MIDDLE EAST MONITOR, July 23, 2022.

The new United Nations special rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967, Francesca Albanese, is faced with a colossal task. She is expected to champion Palestinian human rights in a political institution that, for now, is largely dominated by the US and its Western allies.

Biden Signed on to Netanyahu's 'Vision' Of Crushing Palestinian Hopes (Dr. Ramzy Baroud), Mondoweiss, July 22, 2022.

Mainstream voices say the Trump-Biden policy of normalizing relations between Israel and Arab monarchies so as to crush Palestinian hopes is working. At what price?

In Palestine, Biden Is a False Prophet and The Two-State Solution Is a Delusion (Emad Mousa), THE NEW ARAB, July 21, 2022.

Biden's first trip to the Middle East as president payed lip-service to the two-state solution but made it clear that Palestine was not a priority. Palestinian leadership must stop waiting on external solutions, writes Emad Moussa.

The PA has Decades of Diplomatic Failures Behind it (Ramona Wadi), MIDDLE EAST MONITOR, July 21, 2022.

The Palestinian Authority is spending considerable time informing the US of its ambivalence towards Washington's foreign policy. From blind faith, to trust, to a sense of urgency because diplomatic rhetoric remains unaccounted for, PA leader Mahmoud Abbas has long hit a dead end built out of his own collaboration.

Publications and Statements

Palestine's Legal Scene | Issue. 133 | 17-23 July 2022, Law for Palestine, July 24, 2022.