

#### **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

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Soldiers have 'full backing' of Israeli government,' Yair Lapid says regarding killing of Al Jazeera journalist Shireen Abu Akleh.

# US Senator Rejects Israeli Army Report on Killing of Palestinian American Reporter, The Guardian, September 7, 2022.

A US senator has dismissed an Israeli army report that claims a soldier accidentally killed the Palestinian American journalist Shireen Abu Aqleh in the midst of a gun battle, saying it is unsupported by the evidence.

# PLO Launches a National Campaign to Demand the UN Uphold the Right of Palestinians to Self-Determination, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, September 7, 2022.

The Human Rights Department in the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) today launched from Ramallah a national popular campaign to demand the United Nations General Assembly and Security Council adhere to their mandate and uphold the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and the establishment of their state on their national land as per international resolutions.

# Israel's Shifting Narratives on The Killing of Shireen Abu Akleh, ALJAZEERA, September 6, 2022.

Changing its tune several times, Israel has now concluded it is 'highly possible' one of its soldiers killed Shireen Abu Akleh.

# Israel Army Says 'High Possibility' Israeli Soldier Killed Shireen Abu Akleh, THE JORDAN TIMES, September 6, 2022.

The Israeli occupation army said on Monday there was a "high possibility" that Palestinian-American reporter Shireen Abu Akleh was shot dead by an Israeli soldier who mistook her for a militant.

# B'Tselem on the Israeli Report on The Killing of Shireen Abu Akleh: It's Not an Investigation, It's Whitewash, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, September 6, 2022.

The Israeli human rights organization, B'Tselem, dismissed the Israeli military's new report on the killing of Al Jazeera journalist Shireen Abu Akleh saying what the military has produced was not an investigation, rather a whitewash.

# Palestinians Stage Protest outside UNRWA Headquarters, Burn Tires, <u>THE</u> PALESTINE CHRONICLE, September 5, 2022.

For eight years, thousands of victims of one of Israel's most destructive wars on Gaza are still waiting for promised support from the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA).

#### Israel Advances Plans for Another East Jerusalem Settlement, <u>ARAB NEWS</u>, September 5, 2022.

Israeli authorities on Monday advanced a plan to build nearly 500 homes in a new settlement in east Jerusalem that rights groups say will further sever it from the nearby Palestinian city of Bethlehem and the southern West Bank.

# PM Shtayyeh Says Israeli Entry Rules for Foreigners Are Racist and Aim at Palestinian Holders of Foreign Passports, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, September 5, 2022.

Prime Minister Mohammad Shtayyeh today said that the new Israeli restrictions related to the entry of foreigners into the Palestinian territories, which will be implemented next month, are racist and aim at Palestinians holding international nationalities, particularly American and European, activists who express solidarity with Palestine, volunteers who work in the country, employees of foreign companies, and lecturers at Palestinian universities.

# Israel to Approve 3,412 New Settlement Units in Jerusalem, <u>THE</u> PALESTINE CHRONICLE, September 4, 2022.

The Israeli occupation's Planning and Building Committee is considering the approval of two settlement plans in Jerusalem, comprising a total of 3,412 housing units, the PLO's Colonization & Wall Resistance Commission said on Sunday.

# Two Suspects Arrested After Six Israeli Soldiers, One Civilian Injured in West Bank Bus Shooting, <u>HAARETZ</u>, September 4, 2022.

A shooting attack on an Israeli bus in the Jordan Valley left at least four passengers injured near the West Bank town of Hamra.

# Minister of Education Rejects Any Interferences in The Palestinian Curriculum, WAFA News Agency, September 4, 2022.

Minister of Education Marwan Awartani affirmed that the current school year is the year of education sovereignty, especially in the city of Jerusalem, rejecting any dictations or interferences in the Palestinian curriculum.

Five wounded in shooting on an Israeli bus in West Bank, <u>ARAB NEWS</u>, September 4, 2022.

Five people were wounded on Sunday in a shooting attack on an Israeli bus in the occupied West Bank, medics said.

# PCHR Calls for Prompt, Impartial Investigation into Death Circumstances of Palestinian Prisoner in Israeli Prison, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, September 4, 2022.

The Palestinian Centre for Human Rights (PCHR) called for a prompt and impartial investigation into the death circumstances of a Palestinian prisoner in Israeli prison Mousa Abu Mehamid, expressing strong concern that he might be a new victim of medical negligence policy in the Israeli jails.

# UN: Underfunding for Palestinian Refugees Risks Regional Stability, **Euractiv**, September 2, 2022.

The United Nations's agency for Palestine refugees (UNRWA) is "an agent of stability" in the region, but the lack of funds and the deprioritization of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict threatens the agency's work in a "volatile region", the agency's head warned European lawmakers.

#### Palestine/Israel

Israeli Forces Kill Palestinian Man near Ramallah in West Bank, **ALJAZEERA**, September 8, 2022.

Israeli forces have killed a Palestinian man near the occupied West Bank city of Ramallah.

# Stable, Barns Demolished by Israel in A Town Northeast of Jerusalem to Prevent Palestinian Presence, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, September 7, 2022.

Israeli occupation forces today demolished a stable and two poultry and sheep farms leased from the Islamic Waqf at the entrance to Anata town, northeast of Jerusalem, according to the mayor of Anata Taha al-Rifai.

#### Israeli Forces Kill Palestinian in Firefight in West Bank, <u>ARAB NEWS</u>, September 6, 2022.

Israeli troops killed a Palestinian man during a firefight Tuesday in the occupied West Bank, the Palestinian Health Ministry said. The violence erupted after Israel demolished the home of a Palestinian who killed three Israelis in an attack earlier this year.

### Israeli Authorities Isolate 400 Palestinian Prisoners, <u>THE PALESTINE</u> CHRONICLE, September 5, 2022.

Israeli occupation authorities have isolated 400 Palestinian prisoners for 11 days, the Palestinian Prisoners' Club (PPC) said in a statement on Sunday.

### Palestinians: Israeli Forces Kill 19-Year-Old Militant, AP, September 5, 2022.

Israeli forces shot and killed a 19-year-old Palestinian militant in the occupied West Bank in clashes that broke out early Monday during an Israeli arrest raid, Palestinian officials said.

### Israel Orders Removal of Utility Poles Supplying Electricity to Dozens of Houses in Bethlehem, WAFA News Agency, September 4, 2022.

Israeli occupation forces today ordered the removal of utility poles that distribute electricity to dozens of houses in Um al-Rokba area in the town of al-Khader to the south of Hebron, according to local activist Ahmad Salah.

### Palestinian Killed After Stabbing, Wounding Israeli Soldier, AP, September 2, 2022.

An Israeli soldier was stabbed and wounded in the West Bank on Friday by a Palestinian assailant who was then shot and killed, officials said.

#### Regional

# Arab League Chief, UNRWA Chief Discuss Financial Problems Impeding the UN Agency, WAFA News Agency, September 5, 2022.

Arab League chief and UNRWA chief today discussed the financial problems impeding the work of the UN agency at the headquarters of the League in Cairo.

# FM Malki Urges Ecuador to Close its Innovation Office in Jerusalem, <u>WAFA</u> News Agency, September 4, 2022.

Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates, Riyad al-Malki urged today Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ecuador, Luis Vayas, to close the Ecuadorean Innovation Office in Jerusalem.

#### International

# Grant Signing Ceremonies for Three GGP Projects In Palestine Funded by Japan, WAFA News Agency, September 7, 2022.

Grant contracts for three Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) were exchanged today by Masayuki Magoshi, Ambassador for the Palestinian Affairs and Representative of Japan to Palestine, and the representatives of SAMED Agricultural Society for Wall Affected, Burin village council, and Yasuf village council, at the Representative Office of Japan to Palestine in Ramallah, for a total amount of \$274,350.

### UN Gives Gaza Children Tablets to Connect with World, <u>ARAB NEWS</u>, September 7, 2022.

The United Nations said Wednesday it was helping connect Palestinian children in the blockaded Gaza Strip to the outside world by distributing tablets to hundreds of pupils.

# EU Missions in Jerusalem and Ramallah Condemn Executions Carried out in Gaza, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, September 5, 2022.

The EU Missions in Jerusalem and Ramallah condemned in a statement the execution of five prisoners carried out in Gaza on the 4th of September 2022. This was the first execution since 2017.

### UN Report: Israeli Occupation Forces Demolished 9,000 Palestinian Buildings Since 2009, WAFA News Agency, September 4, 2022.

The United Nations said yesterday that the Israeli occupation authorities have demolished close to 9,000 Palestinian-owned structures and displaced thousands of Palestinians since 2009.

### Google & Amazon Workers to Protest on Thursday Against \$1.2 Billion Deal with Israel, WAFA News Agency, September 4, 2022.

On September 8, hundreds of employees of the American tech giants Google and Amazon are expected to organize three vigils outside the headquarters of the two companies calling for the cancellation of Project Nimbus, a \$1.2 billion deal with Israel that will provide it with cloud storage services and artificial intelligence tools.

#### **Palestinian Refugees and UNRWA**

# GIZ and UNRWA Come Together In Kick-Off Workshop To Discuss Future Partnership Under Part II, UNRWA, September 6, 2022.

From 31 August – 1 September 2022, the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) hosted an introductory workshop to discuss continued cooperation under the "PART II" Programme at the Landmark Hotel in Amman, Jordan.

# The Financial and Political Challenges Facing UNRWA Require Arab and International Support, Says Official, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, September 5, 2022.

Member of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, head of the Refugee Affairs Department Ahmad Abu Houli today called on the Council of the League of Arab States at the level of Arab foreign ministers to adopt a draft resolution setting up a mechanism to urge Arab countries to fulfill their prescribed contributions at 7.8% of the general budget of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA).

# Address By UNRWA Commissioner-General To The European Parliament's Committee On Foreign Affairs, UNRWA, August 31, 2022.

On 31 August 2022, Commission-General Philippe Lazzarini briefed Members of the European Parliament's Committee on Foreign Affairs about the deteriorating situation of Palestine

refugees in the Middle East, including the impact of the Ukraine crisis and the last escalation in Gaza earlier this month. During the exchange of views in Brussels, the Commissioner-General also addressed the critical financial situation of the Agency and thanked the Members of the European Parliament for playing a key role in the fruitful EU-UNRWA partnership.

# Japan Contributes Us\$ 1.5 Million In Food Assistance For Palestine Refugees In The Gaza Strip, UNRWA, August 31, 2022.

The Government of Japan today signed a contribution agreement worth JYP 200,000,000 (approximately US\$ 1.5 million) with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).

#### **Analysis & Opinions**

# The EU is not an Honest Broker between Israel and Palestine, <u>ALJAZEERA</u>, September 8, 2022.

The very DNA of the Israel-EU relationship reveals that on Palestinian rights, Brussels won't do much.

### Israel's Security Officials Warn of West Bank Eruption, and They are Right (Osama Al-Sharif), <u>ARAB NEWS</u>, September 6, 2022.

The attack by three armed Palestinians on a bus carrying Israeli soldiers in the occupied Jordan Valley on Sunday should come as no surprise, least of all to the Israeli government. Israeli security officials have been warning that the West Bank is a tinderbox that could explode at any time. They have talked about a third intifada in the making. Some even hinted that the fragile security situation in the West Bank could be more dangerous than the one in Gaza.

### Israel Increasingly Resorting to Administrative Detention of Palestinians (Yossi Mekelberg), <u>ARAB NEWS</u>, September 6, 2022.

Last week, Khalil Awawdeh, a 40-year-old Palestinian father of four from the occupied West Bank, ended a six-month hunger strike after Israeli authorities agreed to have him released from administrative arrest.

### Who's Afraid of the Green Line? (Michael Sfard and Oren Yiftachel), HAARETZ, September 6, 2022.

The laudable decision of the Tel Aviv-Jaffa Municipality to hang maps in classrooms showing the Green Line – the internationally recognized border between Israel and the West Bank – has created a storm. The Education Ministry and the State Mapping Center have opposed the move, which challenges the 55-year-old ban that the government imposed on the Green Line. This ban has left most Israelis, young and old, ignorant of its existence.

### The Palestinian March for Freedom Is Relentless (Ramzy Baroud), <u>ARAB NEWS</u>, September 5, 2022.

Former Palestinian prisoner Jalal Lutfi Saqr once told me: "As soon as I left prison, I went to (my brother) Nael's grave. It is adorned with the colors of the Palestinian flag and verses from the

Holy Qur'an. I told my little brother how much I loved and appreciated him and that, one day, we would meet again in paradise." This testimony was published two years ago in my book "These Chains Will Be Broken."

### The EU is Israel's Friend. But the Occupation Limits Our Potential (Sven Koopmans), THE PALESTINE CHRONICLE, September 4, 2022.

The European Union is a strong friend and partner of Israel. Together, we can greatly improve regional security, freedom and prosperity. But that requires all of us to face hard questions: about peace and the Palestinians.

#### Top EU Diplomat Admits Double Standards on Palestine (Ali Abunimah), THE ELECTRONIC INTIFADA, September 2, 2022.

That the European Union adores Israel should come as no surprise to anyone. But in case anyone had doubts, the bloc's regional "peace process" envoy Sven Koopmans decided to make that clear in an op-ed for Haaretz this week. Almost every sentence oozes with praise and deference for the apartheid regime – Koopmans of course never uses the A-word.

### Mickail Gorbachev's Legacy: Was the Last Soviet Leader a Zionist? (Iqbal Jassat), THE PALESTINE CHRONICLE, September 1, 2022.

Though there are contrasting views on Gorbachev's legacy, it is important to recall that as leader of the Soviet Union he oversaw the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan in 1989, after Moscow's failed decade-long war there.

### The Cherry Orchard: 350 Actors of Resistance (David Harrop), <u>THE PALESTINE CHRONICLE</u>, September 1, 2022.

"Eat your homeland's lolium, but not the crusader's wheat" (Traditional Palestinian saying) We were wrapping up the interview and standing under the monumental key atop the archway into the Aida refugee camp in Bethlehem. For the last hour or more we had been discussing the role of grassroots, street-based social work in the context of occupation. Palestinian social workers practice building resilience and resistance in individuals and communities experiencing extreme psycho-social attrition with visceral and often lethal oppression.

#### **Publications and Statements**

UNRWA Commissioner-General Appeals to the Arab Region to Provide Support to Palestine Refugees During his Visit to Egypt, <a href="UNRWA">UNRWA</a>, September 6, 2022.

Statement Of Mr. Philippe Lazzarini, The Commissioner-General Of UNRWA to The 158th Session of The League of Arab States Council, UNRWA, September 6, 2022.

Statement on Stabbing of Girl in An UNRWA School In Gaza, <u>UNRWA</u>, September 6, 2022.

Palestine's Legal Scene | Issue. 139 | 28 Aug – 3 Sept 2022, <u>Law for Palestine</u>, September 4, 2022.