



النهضة العربية للديمقراطية والتنمية  
Arab Renaissance for Democracy & Development

## **GNQP Newsletter**

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

*8th Edition*

**26 June 2021**

*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.*

<b>Top Stories:</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Latest Developments:</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>International:</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Palestinian refugees:</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Publications:</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Events:</b>	<b>7</b>

## Top Stories

### **Observations on the Human Rights Watch Report on Israeli Apartheid, [\*Jadaliyya\*](#), June 17, 2021**

The significance of A Threshold Crossed thus operates at multiple dimensions. The report itself provides opportunities to more systematically expose the institutional racism that lies at the heart of the Israeli state. The broader political context that produced the report provides opportunities to turn the tide.

### **Palestinians Offered Space in 'Opinion,' Israeli Talking Points Dominate 'News', [\*Institute of Palestine Studies\*](#), June 24, 2021**

Don't be fooled by those who say that a true sea change is happening in media coverage of Palestine. While more pro-Palestine op-eds might be appearing here and there, the day-to-day coverage found in the mainstream media remains one of Israel's most effective assets.

### **This Is the Biggest Problem Facing Israeli Public Diplomacy, [\*Haaretz\*](#), June 22, 2021**

With Israel's continued control over Gaza and with not even a trace of effort to reach a diplomatic solution, one cannot make a persuasive case to a liberal audience

### **62 Percent of Liberal Democrats Say U.S. Isn't Supportive Enough of Palestinians: Poll, [\*Newsweek\*](#), June 23, 2021**

The survey from the Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research found that 51 percent of Democrats and 62 percent of Democrats who describe themselves as liberal say the U.S. is not supportive enough of Palestinians. The survey from the Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research found that 51 percent of Democrats and 62 percent of Democrats who describe themselves as liberal say the U.S. is not supportive enough of Palestinians.

### **Ireland pushes Israel to resolve the Palestinian conflict, [\*The Jerusalem Post\*](#), June 23, 2021**

Ireland does speak out about what we believe Israel should do. We do so because we believe that it will encourage progress rather than entrenching positions.

### **Israel's Cruel Citizenship Law Is Rotten, Racist and Unredeemable, [\*Haaretz\*](#), June 24, 2021**

For 18 years, Israeli governments have backed a law built on faulty security arguments, explicit demographic engineering and pure human suffering. The Bennett coalition seems set to prolong ruining Palestinian and Israeli lives

### **Unauthorized Settlement Creates Stress Test for Israel's New Government, [NYT](#), June 24, 2021**

The outpost of Evyatar is illegal under Israeli law. Prime Minister Naftali Bennett will anger one wing of his coalition if he evicts the settlers, and another if he lets them stay.

### **Latest Developments:**

### **Palestinians demand end to Abbas presidency after activist dies during 'brutal beating and arrest', [CNN](#), June 25, 2021**

Large demonstrations are being held across the West Bank calling for an end to the Palestinian Authority (PA) and the Presidency of Mahmoud Abbas, after the funeral of Palestinian activist Nizar Banat, who died while in the custody of PA security forces on Thursday morning.

### **Can Abbas survive summer of Palestinian discontent?, [Al-Monitor](#), June 25, 2021**

Following killing of a political dissident, the Palestinian president's hold on power continues to weaken, while support for Hamas is growing.

### **West Bank town draws inspiration from Gaza 'night confusion' activities to confront settlers, [Al-Monitor](#), June 25, 2021**

As night falls, hundreds of young men head to Jabal Sbeih (Mount Sbeih) and the surrounding area in the town of Beita in the northern West Bank to start organizing various activities, including what is known as "night confusion," which lasts until dawn.

### **Amnesty: 'catalogue of violations' by Israeli police against Palestinians, [The Guardian](#), June 24, 2021**

Palestinians face repression from Israel and Palestinian Authority, human rights watchdog says

### **Breaking silence, Abbas says willing to work with new Israeli government, but..., [The Times of Israel](#), June 24, 2021**

'We will deal with whoever the Israeli people choose,' says Abbas, before adding that relations must be based on Israel stopping its 'aggression'

### **Israeli Police Arrested Thousands Following Gaza War. Four of Them Tell Their Stories, [\*Haaretz\*](#), June 18, 2021**

With the ratio of Arab-to-Jewish indictees at nine to one, a civil rights group is calling the action ‘a militarized war against Palestinian citizens of Israel.’ The police deny any accusations of discrimination

### **Israel blocks passports from entering or exiting Gaza, [\*The New Arab\*](#), June 19, 2021**

Thousands of residents of Gaza are without passports and are unable to travel for work or to receive medical attention.

### **Israel Allows Limited Resumption of Exports from Gaza, [\*Palestine Chronicle\*](#), June 21, 2021**

Israel has relaxed some restrictions on the export of commercial goods from Gaza. The ‘conditional’ measure comes a month after a truce ended the Israeli military offensive on the besieged Strip.

### **Gaza antiquities among casualties of Israel-Hamas war, [\*Al-Monitor\*](#), June 20, 2021**

Bitar went on, “As a result of the offensive, archaeological sites were almost completely abandoned as missions and public visits stopped,” noting that antiquities in Gaza also suffer from the Israeli siege imposed on Gaza that prevents much excavation, restoration and maintenance work.

### **Hundreds of settlers march against Palestinian construction, [\*Times of Israel\*](#), June 21, 2021**

Hundreds of right-wing activists demonstrated in the West Bank on Monday against unauthorized Palestinian construction in Area C, which constitutes some 60 percent of the territory, and is under full Israeli security and civil control.

### **Palestinians, Jewish settlers clash in tense Jerusalem neighborhood, [\*New Arab\*](#), June 22, 2021**

The Red Crescent said settlers threw stones at one of its ambulances and Israeli forces sprayed skunk water on a second ambulance belonging to the service.

### **'Targeted as a Palestinian and a Woman': Israel's Gendered Intimidation Campaign, [\*Haaretz\*](#), June 23, 2021**

Even during 'peacetime,' Palestinians know they are not safe. Palestinian women face a double threat: Sexualized insults and routine abuse from Israel's security forces and Jewish nationalists

### **Gaza Pepsi factory shuts down, owners blame Israeli restrictions, [France 24](#), June 23, 2021**

Gaza's Pepsi bottling company was forced to halt operations this week due to Israeli import restrictions that were tightened during an 11-day conflict between Israel and Palestinian militants last month, the company's owners say.

### **Israel Planning Road Through Land Belonging to Palestinian Village, [Haaretz](#), June 23, 2021**

The planned road connecting West Bank settlements will run through agricultural land, potentially hampering Palestinian farmers' access to it

### **Video footage shows Israeli special police unit carrying out targeted killing of Ahmad 'Abdu, a Palestinian sitting in his car and endangering no one, [Btselem](#), June 23, 2021**

B'Tselem published video footage in which officers are seen getting out of the vehicle and immediately firing several shots at the car. The apparently injured 'Abdu opens the right door, at which point the officers surround the car, open several of its doors, apparently dragging 'Abdu out, and then leave without extending him first aid.

### **Israel approves demolition of Palestinian home after attack, [WIVB4](#), June 23, 2021**

Israel's Supreme Court on Wednesday upheld the decision to destroy the family home of a detained Palestinian accused of a deadly shooting. It rejected a petition by his estranged wife, who lives in the house with their children and says she knew nothing about the attack.

### **Palestine Monetary Authority mulls digital currency, [Al-Jazeera](#), June 24, 2021**

The Palestine Monetary Authority is considering issuing a digital currency, in a move that could give it at least some symbolic monetary independence from Israel.

### **Israel resumes indoor mask requirement amid coronavirus spike, [Arab News](#), June 25, 2021**

Jump in new infections is a blow for a country which has prided itself on one of the world's most successful vaccine rollouts

## **International:**

### **US: no change to policy recognizing Israeli sovereignty on Golan, [The Jerusalem Post](#), June 25, 2021**

"US policy regarding the Golan has not changed, and reports to the contrary are false," the State Department tweeted under its Near Eastern Affairs account on Friday.

### **Israeli foreign minister Lapid to visit Emirates next week, [Al-Monitor](#), June 21, 2021**

Israeli Foreign Minister Yair Lapid will visit the United Arab Emirates (UAE) next week, the first by a senior Israeli official since the two countries normalized relations by signing the Abraham Accords last year.

### **Palestinian PM asks UN Secretary-General to put Israel on children's 'list of shame', [The New Arab](#), June 22, 2021**

The Palestinian prime minister has asked the UN chief to put Israel on a list of actors who breach the rights of children, after recent waves of deadly bombing raids on Gaza and other repression in the occupied West Bank.

### **US moving forward with plans to reopen Jerusalem consulate for Palestinians: spokesman, [The New Arab](#), June 23, 2021**

Addressing reporters at a White House press briefing, Secretary of State spokesman Ned Price said the US did not have a timetable for reopening the de facto diplomatic mission for Palestinians but said it was something that 'we are working on'.

### **Israel, Jordan Try to Rebuild Ties, Trust, [Al-Monitor](#), June 23, 2021**

Relations between Jordan and Israel deteriorated dramatically under outgoing Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, and rebuilding them won't be easy.

### **German publishing giant tells pro-Palestine employees to 'find new job', [The New Arab](#), June 25, 2021**

Axel Springer CEO Mathias Döpfner told employees to 'look for a new job' if they disagreed with the flying of the Israeli flag during the Jewish state's assault on Gaza.

## **Germany bans Hamas flag, PKK symbols under new ‘terror’ rules, [Al-Jazeera](#), June 25, 2021**

Move to ban Hamas flag is in response to reports of violence and anti-Semitism at demonstrations in Germany, official says.

## **Honduras opens embassy in Jerusalem, becoming 4th country to make the move, [Forward](#), June 25, 2021**

Honduras formally moved its Israeli Embassy to Jerusalem on Thursday, becoming the fourth country to make the move.

## **Palestinian refugees:**

## **UNRWA: Living Conditions in Gaza ‘Clearly Deteriorating’, [Palestine Chronicle](#), June 24, 2021**

“Living conditions” in Gaza are “clearly deteriorating” due to the ongoing Israeli siege which is entering its 15th year, Acting Director of UN Refugee and Works Agency (UNRWA) in Gaza, Sam Rose, said yesterday, according to Anadolu Agency.

## **UNRWA Hosts A High-Level Delegation From The Qatar Fund, [UNRWA](#), June 23, 2021**

the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) hosted a high-level Qatari delegation headed by H.E. Ambassador of the State of Qatar to Lebanon, Mr. Mohammed Hassan Al-Jaber, and H.E. the Director General of Qatar Fund for Development, Mr. Khalifa bin Jassim Al-Kuwari, at the UNRWA Nablus School in Sidon, Lebanon.

## **Muntada Aid supports UNRWA emergency appeal for Palestine refugees in Gaza, [UNRWA](#), June 23, 2021**

This contribution will provide food assistance to Palestine refugees across the besieged Gaza Strip, now facing fourteen years of a land, air and naval blockade.

## **Publications:**

## **The “Palestinian exception”: Social media censorship of Palestinian activism, [Middle East Institute](#), June 23, 2021**

In a landscape of suppression and retaliation against Palestinian journalists and activists at the hands of Israel, social media networks have been at once critical organizing platforms and tools for exacerbating censorship.

**Narratives and Social Media: Palestinians' Uphill Battle, *The Tahrir Institute for Middle East Policy*, June 16, 2021**

Palestinians faced an escalation in the suppression of their voices and narratives through social media platforms—specifically Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, and TikTok—whether by taking down content, suspending accounts, or even deleting archival stories, as happened on Instagram specifically related to ethnic cleansing in the Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood of Jerusalem.

**Palestine's forgotten oil and gas resources, *Al-Jazeera*, June 21, 2021**

A lasting end to conflict between Israel and Palestine will not be possible without long-term investment in Palestine's economic and human development, running into billions of dollars per year.

**Events:**

**The Future of Hamas and Gaza: Integration or Continued Isolation?, *Middle East Institute*, July 01, 2021**

Will the precarious ceasefire give way to renewed fighting? What will it take to end the crippling blockade on Gaza? More fundamentally, can (or should) Hamas be integrated into Palestinian politics? Is it time for Israel, the United States and the broader international community to acknowledge Hamas as a political reality?

**Panelists:**

**Aaron David Miller:** Senior fellow, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

**Mouin Rabbani:** Co-editor, Jadaliyya

**Celine Touboul:** Co-executive director, Economic Cooperation Foundation

**Khaled Elgindy:** Senior fellow and director, Program on Palestine and Palestinian-Israeli Affairs, MEI



**Palestine: Uniter of All National Liberation Struggles, International Manifesto Group, July 11, 2021**

Our panel discussion will explore the historic and contemporary bonds of solidarity between anti-racist, anti-imperialist, anti-colonial struggles of African Americans, Third World and Indigenous struggles, as expressed in their common support for the cause of Palestine.

**Eco-Politics of Settler Colonialism, Development and the Palestinian Space, Topological Atlas & Arazi Assembly, July 17, 2021**

Slow Violence explores the precarious political-ecology in Palestine as settler colonialism and failed Palestinian "developmental" chaos converge in rendering Palestinian rural space uninhabitable. Amira will focus on the proliferation of wild boars in the last 20 years as a lens to explore deeply seated processes that engender such affliction and a host of interrelated phenomena, at the nexus of settler colonialism, development, and environmental violence.

**Panelist:**

**Saad Amira:** PhD Candidate and Lecturer at the University of Basel. His research interests include settler colonialism, the social history of Palestine and social movements.