



النهضة العربية للديمقراطية والتنمية
Arab Renaissance for Democracy & Development

GNQP Newsletter

A weekly overview of the most relevant developments on
Palestine and Palestinian refugees

Issue No. 9/2021

3 July 2021

A weekly newsletter on the latest news, developments, relevant publications and upcoming events on the QoP. This newsletter aims to help the general public stay abreast with relevant developments and particularly, 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.

Top Stories	1
Latest Developments:	2
International:	4
Palestinian refugees:	6
Events:	6
Publications	7

Top Stories

Confident of Support From the West, the Palestinian Authority Violently Suppresses Protests, [Haaretz](#), June 28, 2021

The PA knows that uncertainty about what would happen if it collapsed scares the public, and that the West and Palestinian public can't do without the modicum of stability it provides.

How the autocratic rule of Mahmoud Abbas fails Palestinians, [Los Angeles Times](#), June 26, 2021

The world was sickened by the assassination of Saudi dissident journalist Jamal Khashoggi. There is similar outrage in Palestine over the killing of activist Nizar Banat at the hands of Palestinian police. The Saudi leadership appears to have gotten away with murder; will the Palestinian leadership be held accountable?

Hamas wins Palestinian hearts as Gaza conflict threatens broader shift, [NBC News](#), June 28, 2021

Forty-nine percent said they thought the most effective way of ending Israel's occupation would be through armed struggle, while 27 percent preferred negotiations, and 18 percent picked popular resistance, according to the June poll. Three months ago, 37 percent chose armed struggle and 36 percent chose negotiations.

Palestinians tell Abbas to 'leave.' Did he ignite a new 'Spring'?, [Christian Science Monitor](#), June 30, 2021

"It all depends on whether the international community will put pressure on Abbas to reform and put his house in order," says Mr. Kuttab. "If they give Abbas a pass for this killing, it becomes a slippery slope."

U.S. Support Is Keeping the Undemocratic Palestinian Authority Alive, [Foreign Policy](#), July 02, 2021

As such, the killing of Banat should be viewed as part of the PA leadership's ruthless effort to crush dissent and hold on to power, with the U.S. government and Israel complicit by funding, training, and coordinating with the PA to serve U.S. and Israeli interests. Unless those dynamics change, the authoritarianism of the PA is only likely to deepen at the expense of the Palestinian people.

The precarious life of a Gaza fisherman, [BBC](#), June 30, 2021

A fragile ceasefire continues to hold, after the most recent war between Israel and Hamas in Gaza. At least 250 Palestinians and 13 people in Israel were killed during 11 days of fighting in May. Gaza's 4,000 fishermen have returned to sea but Israeli restrictions make survival difficult as their livelihood remains precarious.

Latest Developments:

Palestinian Authority detains security officers over Nizar Banat death, [The New Arab](#), July 02, 2021

The arrests come after the head of a preliminary PA probe into Banat's death found that the activist had been subjected to violence and that his death was 'unnatural'.

Israel and Hamas Hold Indirect Talks in Cairo on the Return of Captives, [Haaretz](#), June 30, 2021

Hamas sources say no progress has been achieved so far in the Egyptian-mediated talks, which cover the repatriation of Israeli citizens and soldiers' bodies, as well as the reconstruction of Gaza.

Palestinian labour minister to quit amid anti-government protests, [The New Arab](#), June 27, 2021

The labour minister in the Palestinian Authority will resign, a member of his party said Sunday, as protesters marched for a fourth day demanding president Mahmoud Abbas step down.

Palestinian Authority gives Biden administration 30 objectives for Israel negotiations, [The New Arab](#), June 29, 2021

The Palestinian Authority (PA) has provided the United States with a number of objectives it seeks to work on in its negotiations with Israel while US President Joe Biden is in office, including regaining its rights as a body, boosting the Palestinian economy and improving its people's circumstances.

New Israeli government to renew controversial law banning Palestinians from uniting with their families in Israel, [Al-Monitor](#), June 29, 2021

The new Israeli government is expected to renew in early July the Citizenship and Entry into Israel Law, which prohibits Israelis married to Palestinians residing in the Gaza Strip or in the West Bank from passing on the Israeli citizenship or residency to their spouses for family reunification purposes.

Israel is Using Robots with Machine Guns to Patrol Gaza Border, [National Interest](#), June 27, 2021

In combat, that mode might be desirable when facing possible disruption to the Jaguar's command link. But in areas proximate to civilians, such a mode could pose ethical issues because that could mean entrusting an artificial intelligence to make decisions on whether or not to kill a human being.

Report: Palestinian Authority seeks Israel's permission to get more anti-riot equipment, [Middle East Monitor](#), June 30, 2021

The Palestinian Authority (PA) has recently asked Israel for permission to restock its supply of anti-riot equipment, including teargas and stun grenades, in anticipation of protests across the West Bank over the Palestinian security services' extrajudicial murder of political opponent Nizar Banat in Hebron last week, Israel's Ynet News reported yesterday.

Israeli settlers agree to leave flashpoint West Bank outpost, [The New Arab](#), June 28, 2021

Jewish settlers agreed to leave a new outpost in the occupied West Bank that has stirred weeks of Palestinian protests following a deal with Israel's government, officials said.

Palestinian Monetary Authority Considering a Digital Currency, [Nasdaq](#), June 28, 2021

According to Feras Milhem, the Governor of the Palestinian Monetary Authority, in an interview with Bloomberg Television, the hope is to eventually institute a digital currency for payment systems both within Palestine and with Israel and other countries.

Marginalization leads Fatah in Gaza to stage coup against Abbas, [Al-Monitor](#), June 29, 2021

In a dramatic development within the Fatah movement, its members in Gaza announced their resignation in protest against the policy of marginalization and exclusion by President Mahmoud Abbas.

Israeli military's TikTok attempt to make propaganda cool, [Al-Jazeera](#), Jul 01, 2021

With more than 100,000 followers and almost 100 videos, the Israeli army's TikTok mirrors typical influencer content. On the official profile, one can find fitness tutorials, food recipes, hide-and-

seek games and “soldier-training hacks” such as scuba diving techniques and Krav Maga workouts.

International:

Israel's ambassador to US steps down hours after welcoming Rivlin to Washington, [The New Arab](#), June 28, 2021

Gilad Erdan, a former Likud party politician and anti-BDS campaigner, has stepped down from his role as US ambassador but will continue serving as UN ambassador.

US teachers union to vote on support for ‘heroic struggle’ of Palestinians, [Al-Monitor](#), Jul 02, 2021

The National Education Association (NEA) represents American public school teachers, and is the largest such organization in the country, will vote on resolutions in support of the Palestinian cause and against US backing for the Israeli and Saudi governments.

Israeli foreign minister Yair Lapid opens embassy in Abu Dhabi, [The Guardian](#), June 29, 2021

“Israel wants peace with its neighbours – with all its neighbours. We aren’t going anywhere. The Middle East is our home ... We call on all the countries of the region to recognise that, and to come talk to us,” he said, according to a transcript released by the Israeli foreign ministry.

Etihad, El Al to offer joint flight booking, [Al-Monitor](#), July 01, 2021

The flagship airlines of Israel and the UAE agreed to establish a joint codeshare network last year after the two states' normalization agreement.

Israel, Morocco take baby steps on diplomatic, social, economic ties, [Al-Monitor](#), July 01, 2021

Contrary to the rapidly developing relations between Israel and the United Arab Emirates and with Bahrain, ties with Morocco are taking their time, even regressing at points.

Palestine, Britain launch work of joint committee to develop economic relations, [Wafa](#), July 01, 2021

Minister of Economy Khaled Ossaili and UK Secretary of State for International Trade Elizabeth Truss, launched today the work of the Palestinian-British Joint Committee to develop and strengthen economic and trade cooperation relations in various fields.

On Israel and Palestine, It's Time for Canada to Recognize Reality, [*Human Rights Watch*](#), June 30, 2021

Minister Garneau should start this trip by dispensing with Canada's tired talking points, acknowledge the reality on the ground for what it is, and press Israeli authorities to take steps to end apartheid and persecution.

For This Congressman, Support for the Palestinians Is Rooted in His Blackness, [*Haaretz*](#), July 01, 2021

'I will always speak out in defense of the Jewish community but will also unapologetically speak out for my Palestinian brothers,' says Indiana Rep. Andre Carson, one of four Muslims ever elected to Congress

The politics of Ireland's enduring support for Palestinians, [*The World*](#), June 29, 2021

The Ireland Palestine Solidarity Campaign wants the government to enact the Occupied Territories Bill that would ban imports from illegal Israeli settlements in the Palestinian territories. Aisling Micklethwaite, the vice-chair of the campaign, said this would show the Irish government is serious about the motion it passed.

Palestine calls for international sanctions against Israel, [*Global Times*](#), June 27, 2021

The Palestinian Ministry of Foreign Affairs said in a press statement that it supports an Amnesty International report issued on Thursday saying Israeli security forces committed violations against the Palestinians.

Haniyeh meets Nasrallah over latest resistance developments, [*Middle East Monitor*](#), June 29, 2021

The Head of the political bureau of the Palestinian Islamic Resistance Movement, Ismail Haniyeh, met with Hezbollah Secretary General Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah today. According to the Lebanese movement's Al-Manar TV, the two leaders discussed the latest developments related to resistance against the Israeli occupation.

Palestinian refugees:

UNRWA has 'resolved its problems', Swiss chief says, [Expatica](#), July 02, 2021

In 2018 Swiss Foreign Minister Ignazio Cassis described the agency as a hindrance to the peace process. Last year Switzerland temporarily suspended its payments, and the Swiss head of the agency, Pierre Krähenbühl, resigned over allegations of misconduct, which he denied.

Events:

Asia Against Apartheid - 5 ways to challenge Israeli apartheid, [BDS Movement](#), July 03, 2021

A public discussion on how to mobilise and build a united struggle, from grassroots to UN, from universities to parliaments.

Latin America Against Apartheid - A Conversation on Apartheid, [BDS Movement](#), July 04, 2021

Panelists:

Omar Shakir: Israel and Palestine Director, Human Rights Watch

Nadia Silhi: Legal Scholar on International Law and Human Rights

Right to the City Under Occupation: The Case of Palestine, [United Cities & Local Governments Middle East & West Asia](#), July 07, 2021

This webinar aims to examine the humanitarian crisis in Palestine through the lenses of the local on the basis of the right to the city. Two special sessions will give the local representatives and experts the opportunity to present and discuss the impact of the occupation on the daily lives of the people.

A conversation with Dr. Hanan Ashrawi on recent developments in Palestine, their implications, and the way forward, [Culture, Politics And Global Justice Research Cluster](#), July 08, 2021

The session will discuss the role that academic communities can play to support the Palestinian struggle for freedom, the barriers to constructing solidarity networks between activist groups and universities, and what actions might address these issues.

Gaza's Struggle: Between Fading Hope and Growing Resilience, [Middle East Forum of Falmouth](#), Aug 01, 2021

Panelists:

Yasser Abu Jamei: The director of the Gaza Community Health Programme

Sara Roy: Senior research scholar at Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Harvard University.

Publications:

Unmet Legal and Protection Needs of Palestinian Refugee Youth, [ARDD](#) (Arabic and English)

An important exploratory investigation into the unmet legal aid needs of Palestinian refugee youth living in camps in Jordan, Lebanon, and the Occupied Territory of the West Bank and Gaza, this report builds on previous efforts by ARDD on making the situation of Palestinian refugee youth in the region known and acted upon.

In the wake of the ICC Pre-Trial Chamber's decision concerning the Court's territorial jurisdiction over the Palestinian territories occupied by Israel in 1967: Challenges and Opportunities, [ARDD](#), 30 June 2021 (Arabic and English)

This paper, authored by Palestinian Judge Dr Ashker and edited by Palestinian lawyer Dr Anis Kassim, provides an overview of the general context surrounding the ICC decision to investigate the situation in Palestine, unpacking some of the main legal and political implications, including recommendations for Palestinian stakeholders.