



النهضة العربية للديمقراطية والتنمية
Arab Renaissance for Democracy & Development

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

Jerusalem Police Uses Excessive Force Against Palestinians, Senior Officials Accuse, (by Josh Breiner), [HAARETZ](#), March 2, 2022.

Sources in the forces criticize the Jerusalem District commander's policies, saying officers seem like they're preparing for battle in East Jerusalem and warning of escalation in the city and elsewhere.

Israel's Top Court Lets Palestinian Families Keep Sheikh Jarrah Homes for Now, (by Nir Hasson and Chen Maanit), [HAARETZ](#), March 1, 2022.

The court partially grants Palestinian' appeal, allowing them to stay in their East Jerusalem homes until a final decision in the ongoing property dispute with an Israeli settler organization.

Israel Freezes Palestinian Evictions in East Jerusalem, [THE JORDAN TIMES](#), March 1, 2022.

Israel's supreme court on Tuesday froze the forced displacement of four Palestinian families from the flashpoint East Jerusalem neighborhood of Sheikh Jarrah, where Jewish settler groups have sought to seize control.

Israeli Top Court Suspends Palestinian Evictions in Sheikh Jarrah, [ALJAZEERA](#), March 1, 2022.

The ruling is a culmination of a decades-long struggle for Palestinian residents to stay in their homes.

Jerusalem Board Approves Old City Promenade on Remains of Muslim Cemetery, (by Nir Hasson), [HAARETZ](#), March 1, 2022.

Israeli government agencies say they do not actually intend to expropriate the contested area, which was the site of mass protests last year.

PM Shtayyeh: The Occupation Is the Main Cause Behind the Financial Crisis We Are Facing, [Wafa News Agency](#), February 28, 2022.

On Monday, February 28, 2022 - Prime Minister Mohammed Shtayyeh said that the Israeli occupation is the main cause behind the financial crisis we are facing.

PLO Says Banning Palestinians from Ibrahimi Mosque A Violation of International Law, [Wafa News Agency](#), February 27, 2022.

On Sunday, February 27, 2022– The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) announced has said that preventing Palestinians from accessing the Ibrahimi Mosque in the West Bank city of Hebron was “a violation of international laws and conventions.”

US Christian Mission Describes Israel as an 'Apartheid' Regime, [Wafa News Agency](#), February 26, 2022.

On Saturday, February 26, 2022— Global Ministries, a North American Christian mission, has described Israel as an apartheid state, with the Palestinian people denied equal access to water, jobs, the ability to travel, etc.

Another North American Church Denomination Sees Apartheid in Israel, (by Jeff Wright), [Mondoweiss](#), February 25, 2022.

In a Pastoral Letter leaders of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) write, “Israeli policies and practices that discriminate against Palestinians—Christians and Muslims alike—are consistent with the international definition of the crime of apartheid.”

France Rejects Apartheid Label for Israel, (by Ali Abunimah), [The Electronic Intifada](#), February 25, 2022.

President Emmanuel Macron has rejected the finding by several major human rights organizations that Israel perpetrates the crime of apartheid against the Palestinian people.

Israel Rejects Palestinian Accusations of 'Apartheid' at UN Meeting, [Haaretz](#), February 24, 2022.

Israel's ambassador accused rights organizations and the UN, which has opened a war crimes probe against Israel, of waging 'a Jihad war against the only vibrant democracy in the Middle East.

Palestine's UN Envoy Wears An 'End Apartheid' Mask at The Security Council Meeting, [Middle East Eye](#), February 24, 2022.

Israel Police suspect the eight punched and hit victims after a military force prevented them from passing a checkpoint to enter an illegal outpost last month.

Palestine/Israel

Eight Settlers Arrested for Attacking Soldiers, Palestinians Near Illegal West Bank Outpost, (by Hagar Shezaf), [Haaretz](#), March 2, 2022.

The Palestinian health ministry says one person was killed in Beit Fajar, two others were killed in Jenin in the occupied West Bank.

Top Court Rules Against Returning Palestinian Land in Hebron Due to Security Concerns, (by Hagar Shezaf), [Haaretz](#), March 2, 2022.

Israel's High Court of Justice upheld the military's use of a Palestinian-owned compound in Hebron, arguing that 'returning the land ... would significantly harm the security of the Israeli population in the area'.

Several Palestinians were killed by Israeli forces: Ministry, (by Jack Khoury and Fadi Amun), [ALJAZEERA](#), March 1, 2022.

The Palestinian health ministry says one person was killed in Beit Fajar, two others were killed in Jenin in the occupied West Bank.

Two Palestinians, Including an Unarmed 18-year-old, Killed in Israeli Raid in Jenin, (by Jack Khoury AND Fadi Amun), [HAARETZ](#), March 1, 2022.

Israeli forces entered the Jenin refugee camp to arrest a suspect – who turned himself in – but two others were killed in the firefight.

Israeli Forces Detain 20 Palestinians in Clashes in Jerusalem’s Old City on Muslim Holiday, (by Nir Hasson), [HAARETZ](#), February 28, 2022.

The Palestinian Red Crescent said 14 were wounded in confrontations near Jerusalem’s Damascus Gate, signaling mounting tensions ahead of Ramadan.

Palestinian girl assaulted by Israeli forces during Muslim festival in Jerusalem, [MIDDLE EAST EYE](#), February 28, 2022.

Two arrested and several injured near Damascus Gate in occupied East Jerusalem during festival marking Prophet Muhammad's journey to the heavens.

Israel Forces Palestinian Family to Demolish Jerusalem Home, [MIDDLE EAST MONITOR](#), February 27, 2022.

Israeli municipal authorities have forced a Palestinian family to demolish their home in occupied East Jerusalem.

Occupation Forces Open Gunfire at Palestinian Lands East of Deir El-Balah, [Wafa News Agency](#), February 27, 2022.

On Sunday, February 27, 2022 – Israeli occupation soldiers stationed along the seam zone with the Gaza Strip opened a barrage of gunfire towards Palestinian lands east of Deir el-Balah city, in the center of the Gaza Strip.

Israel Must End Unjustified Incarceration of Palestinian Humanitarian Worker, Al-Halabi, (by Paul Salvatori), [THE PALESTINE CHRONICLE](#), February 26, 2022.

The Israeli state continues to detain, contrary to international law, former World Vision Canada (WVC) aid worker, Mohammad al-Halabi. He’s been in prison now for over five years, without any formal charges, and last week had yet another hearing (there have been upwards of 160) in an Israeli court. They decided, against his 23rd request, to keep him in prison.

Trial Begins Against Israeli Officer Accused of Killing Autistic Palestinian Man, (by Josh Breiner and Nir Hasson), [HAARETZ](#), February 27, 2022.

Eyad al-Hallaq, a 32-year-old Palestinian, was shot and killed by an Israeli officer in Jerusalem's Old City while on his way to his special needs school in May 2020.

Palestinian Shot in Attempted Attack at West Bank Checkpoint, Israeli Military Says, (by Jack Khoury), [HAARETZ](#), February 25, 2022.

The man was seriously wounded by Israeli fire and taken to hospital in Jenin. Israel says he threw an explosive device at soldiers, but none were hit.

Regional

Qatar: Israel Occupation is 'One of Worst Ongoing Humanitarian Crises', [MIDDLE EAST MONITOR](#), March 2, 2022.

Qatar's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Sheikh Mohammed Al Thani, on Monday described Israel's occupation of Palestinian land as "one of the worst ongoing humanitarian crises."

Patriarch Theophilos: Our Orthodox Church Insists On Defending Its Real Estate And Sanctities In Palestine, [ALGHAD](#), March 1, 2022.

The Patriarch of Jerusalem and all other works of Palestine and Jordan, Theophilos III, affirmed the insistence of the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Jerusalem to defend its right and protect its real estate and sanctities, and that the battle to protect the properties of Bab Al-Khalil is still ongoing as it is part of the battle to strengthen the authentic Christian presence in the city of Jerusalem and the Holy Land in general.

Egyptian Football Player Aboutrika Slams FIFA for Applying 'Double Standards', [THE PALESTINE CHRONNICLE](#), March 1, 2022.

Former Egyptian football player Mohamed Aboutrika on Monday slammed the Federation of International Football (FIFA) for their failure to punish Israel, after the decision to ban Russia from all football competitions.

International

Palestine And Mexico Sign Memorandum of Understanding in Development Cooperation, [Wafa News Agency](#), March 2, 2022.

On Wednesday, March 2, 2022 - The Palestinian International Cooperation Agency (PICA) and the Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID) signed a memorandum of understanding to strengthen cooperation and development programs between the two agencies and develop strategic partnerships.

Foreign Minister Malki Holds Official Talks with The President of Switzerland, [Wafa News Agency](#), March 2, 2022.

On Wednesday, March 2, 2022 - Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates, Riyad Malki, met with the President and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Swiss Confederation, Ignazio Cassis, during which they discussed issues of common interest, including the latest developments on the international scene, the situation on the ground, and the continuous Israeli violations and its systematic destruction of the political process with its colonial policies, in addition to cooperation at the international level and developing areas of joint cooperation between their two countries.

Prime Minister Shtayyeh meets Norwegian envoy, discusses upcoming donors meeting, [Wafa News Agency](#), March 1, 2022.

On Tuesday, March 1, 2022– Prime Minister Mohammad Shtayyeh met at his Ramallah office with the Norwegian Special Envoy for the Peace Process John Hensen and discussed with him the upcoming meeting of the donor countries.

U.S. Jewish Leaders Prepare for Crucial Meeting With Bennett Over Kotel Deal, (by Judy Maltz), [Haaretz](#), February 27, 2022.

On Friday, February 25, 2022 - The UK should recognize Palestine as an independent state, Birmingham MPs have told the Government. Khalid Mahmood, MP for Perry Barr, Tahir Ali, MP for Hall Green, and Liam Byrne, MP for Hodge Hill, called for the UK to formally recognize Palestine.

Birmingham MPs Say the UK Should Recognize Palestine as an Independent State, [Wafa News Agency](#), February 25, 2022.

The heads of the Reform and Conservative movements voice optimism that a proper prayer space can still be implemented: 'This is the government and this is the prime minister that can make it happen'.

UN Envoy Voices Concern About Israeli Settler Violence in Palestinian Territories, [Middle East Monitor](#), February 24, 2022.

The United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Tor Wennesland, has expressed concern about the continuing destabilizing deterioration in the occupied Palestinian territories, and the Israeli settlers' continuing violence against the Palestinians.

Almost All European Aid To The PA Held Up As Officials Discuss Reform Of Textbooks, (by Aaron Boxerman), [The Times of Israel](#), February 24, 2022.

The EU is Ramallah's single largest donor, but has sent almost no aid since 2020; Brussels has repeatedly raised concerns of incitement in Palestinian education.

Palestinian Refugees and UNRWA

President Abbas Stresses the Importance of UNRWA Continuing to Provide Services to Palestine Refugees, [Wafa News Agency](#), March 1, 2022.

On Tuesday, March 1 - President Mahmoud Abbas stressed the importance of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) continuing to provide services and emergency assistance to Palestine refugees.

This came during a meeting with UNRWA Commissioner-General Philippe Lazzarini at the presidential headquarters in Ramallah.

Imprisoned Without Charge: Teenager Amal Muamar Nakhleh's Story of Administrative Detention, [UNRWA](#), March 1, 2022.

Amal Muamar Nakhleh, who has just turned 18 years old, is a Palestine refugee from Jalazone camp near Ramallah. Amal spent the last year of his childhood in Israeli administrative detention – imprisonment without charge or trial. Access to visit Amal in prison and updates on his health situation remain very limited. Three days prior to his 18th birthday, Israeli authorities renewed Amal's administrative detention for a third time – to 18 May 2022. Amal suffers from a rare and serious autoimmune disease and requires close medical monitoring.

Young Scientists: UNRWA Students Sweep the Board in Syria, [UNRWA](#), February 25, 2022.

In a small, prefabricated classroom at the UNRWA Ras al-Ein School in Qudsaya, Damascus, Syria, 25 Palestine refugee students, all members of the Informatics Club, enthusiastically try to catch the attention of their information technology (IT) teacher Rana Kamleh.

Five rows of benches seat the students, each of whom are barely able to contain their excitement for informatics and their curiosity to learn, explore and experiment.

Analysis & Opinions

Sheikh Jarrah Ruling Will Likely Calm Jerusalem Tensions – for Now, (by Nir Hasson), [Haaretz](#), March 2, 2022.

Legal wrangling over evictions in Sheikh Jarrah have been ongoing for decades. This time, justices finally took history into account.

On Palestine's Everyday Victories: Why Israel Is No Longer The Exception, (by Ramzy Baroud), [The Jordan Times](#), March 1, 2022.

Can Israel be pressured? Or is Tel Aviv the only exception to the global political order in which every country, big or small, is subjected to pressures and subsequent change in attitude and behavior?

There is No Ideology whatsoever Behind Settler Violence, (by Yair Assulin), [HAARETZ](#), February 27, 2022.

The big problem with the discourse about the increasingly extreme violence being committed by a small proportion of the settlers is the insistence on framing it as ideological violence, and inserting into the discussion about these shocking – there is no other word for it – acts of violence highly loaded terms that have nothing to do with it, terms such as messianism, Judaism and nationalism. The violence of these Jewish rioters contains no trace of messianism or nationalism, let alone Judaism. This is not what motivates this violence, this is not where it draws its inspiration from.

Those Loyal to Democracy in Israel Must Wake Up, (by Zehava Galon), [HAARETZ](#), February 27, 2022.

Lawmaker Miri Regev, who is also a candidate for prime minister once Benjamin Netanyahu is out of our lives, said last week: “There are enough democratic countries. Another democratic country is not what is needed. What we need here is the only Jewish state in the world, which must be protected.”

The Israeli Kettle and the Russian Pot, (by Gideon Levy), [HAARETZ](#), February 27, 2022.

Israel has no right to criticize Russia. A country that has more than once acted exactly like Russia, going wild, has no right to criticize aggression and invasion. A country that had imposed violent occupation for more than 50 years cannot criticize a three-day occupation.

Israel-Palestine: Why Sheikh Jarrah and al-Aqsa could ignite a new intifada, (by Awad Abdelfattah), [MIDDLE EAST EYE](#), February 25, 2022.

As the month of Ramadan approaches, all the conditions for another explosion are still in place.

Uproar as Draft Decree Places PLO As Organ Of Palestinian State, (by Daoud Kuttab), [AL-MONITOR](#), February 25, 2022.

A post-central committee scandal appears to have opened up a deep wound in Palestinian internal politics. The controversy was initiated when a draft of a presidential decree turning the PLO into an organ of the State of Palestine became public Feb. 19. The Ramallah-based presidential leadership quickly put out the storm that erupted by claiming that this was a mere recommendation by a legal adviser and that it was never issued nor was it published in the official gazette. The reason for the storm is that the proposed idea reflects the fact that what was a leading revolutionary movement has become an organ of a yet-to-be-declared state.

The Bedouins: Kings of the Palestinian Negev (by Doaa Alremeili), [Mondoweiss](#), February 25, 2022.

For generations, the semi-arid region of the an-Naqab was inhabited mostly by semi-nomadic Bedouin tribes until this life was destroyed by Israeli colonialism. Still, a strong Bedouin identity lives on in Gaza and across the region.

Publications and Statements

Book: The End of the Middle East Peace Process, The Failure of US Diplomacy, (by Samer Bakkour), 2022.

Presenting the Middle East peace process as an extension of US foreign policy, this book argues that ongoing interventions justified in the name of ‘peace’ sustain and reproduce hegemonic power.

With an interdisciplinary approach, this book questions the conceptualization and general understanding of the peace process. The author reinterprets regional conflict as an opportunity for the US through which it seeks to achieve regional dominance and control. Engaging with the different stages and components of the peace process, he considers economic, military and political factors which both changed over time and remained constant. This book covers the US role of mediation in the region during the Cold War, the history and present state of US-Israel relations, Syria’s reputation as an opponent of ‘peace’ compared with its participation in peace negotiations, and the Palestinian-Israel conflict with attention to US involvement.

The End of the Middle East Peace Process will primarily be of interest to those hoping to gain an improved understanding of key issues, concepts and themes relating to the Arab-Israeli conflict and US intervention in the Middle East. It will also be of value to those with an interest in the practicalities of peacebuilding.

Occupied Palestinian territory: Protection of Civilians Report | 8 - 21 February 2022, UNITED NATIONS February 28, 2022

Palestine’s Legal Scene | Issue. 112 | 20-26 February 2022, Law for Palestine, February 27, 2022

EVENTS

Together Against Apartheid campaign launch! SUNDAY, 20 MARCH 2022 at 1 9:00 UTC+02.

Join Independent Jewish Voices Canada as we launch our brand-new national campaign, Together Against Apartheid! Hear from exciting speakers, and find out how you can take action to end Israeli apartheid.