**NGO ACTION NEWS**

**September 15, 2017**

https://unispal.un.org/ngoactionnews.nsf/1c0b3ab87dc4f2f8852568f8007759fd/6bc3901cab2ec505852581a30068b85b?OpenDocument

**Global**

Resources to join the World Week for Peace in Palestine and Israel (17 to 24 September) with educational activities, prayer and action for a just peace can be found on the websites of the [World Council of Churches](https://www.oikoumene.org/en/press-centre/events/world-week-of-peace-in-palestine-and-israel) (WCC) and [Pax Christi International](http://paxchristi.org.uk/campaigns/israel-and-palestine/world-week-for-peace-in-pi/).

On 13 September, [Human Rights Watch](https://www.hrw.org/news/2017/09/13/israel/palestine-israeli-banks-supporting-settlements) released a report *“Israeli Banks Supporting Settlements"*, challenging arguments by Israeli banks that domestic law obliges them to provide services that help support settlements, and calling on them to cease settlement-related activities.

**Middle East**

On 17 September, [Gisha-Legal Center for Freedom of Movement](http://gisha.org/UserFiles/File/publications/Graphs/Graphing-10-years-of-closure.EN.pdf) issued a new factsheet *“Graphing 10 Years of Closure and the Impact of Israel’s Policy on the Gaza Strip”*, concluding that “elements of the closure policy are actually viewed by Israel not as necessary for security but rather as bargaining chips.”

On 14 September, [Adalah-The Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights](https://www.adalah.org/uploads/uploads/New_Discriminatory_Laws_and_Bills_11.9.2017.pdf) updated its database of discriminatory Israeli legislation.

After ten years of litigation, on 13 September, [Adalah](https://www.adalah.org/en/content/view/9227) and the Association for Civil Rights in Israel (ACRI) welcomed a ruling by the Israeli Supreme Court, which established that the Jerusalem residency of four Palestinian parliamentarians could not be revoked by the Interior Minister on grounds of a “breach of loyalty”.

**North America**

On 17 November, the Jerusalem Fund in Washington, D.C. will hold its [Palestine Center Annual Conference](http://www.thejerusalemfund.org/18685/2017-palestine-center-annual-conference) *“The Palestinian Struggle: Adversity on all Fronts”*.

From 12 to 22 October, The Freedom Theatre production *“The Siege”*, an artistic reflection on the 2002 siege of the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, will be performed at the [New York University](https://nyuskirball.org/events/the-siege/) (NYU) Skirball Center.

To mark [International Day of Peace](https://www.facebook.com/RebuildingAlliance/), Palestinian children supported by Churches for Middle East Peace (CMEP) and the Rebuilding Alliance are speaking on 19 September about their vision for peace at a special Congressional Briefing *(#ICareAboutPeace*) in Washington, D.C., sponsored by the office of US Senator Bernie Sanders.

On 14 September, [Al Shabaka-The Palestinian Policy Network](https://al-shabaka.org/memos/chinas-new-plan-israel-palestine/) published a policy memo *“China’s New Plan for Israel-Palestine”*.

On 11 September, Susan Akram, Clinical Professor of Law at Boston University, published an article *“Thirteen Years Later, the ICJ Advisory Opinion on the Wall”* in [Palestine Square](https://palestinesquare.com/2017/09/11/in-depth-thirteen-years-later-the-icj-advisory-opinion-on-the-wall/), the blog of the Institute for Palestine Studies.

The [Mennonite Central Committee](https://mcccanada.ca/learn/where/middle-east/palestine-israel/cry-for-home) (MCC) has launched a new advocacy campaign *“A Cry for Home”*, which includes fact sheets on detention, house demolitions and settlements as well as short videos featuring personal stories of Palestinians and Israelis who explain what homes means to them.

**Australia**

On 7 October, the [Australian Friends of Palestine Association](http://www.afopa.com.au/afopa-events/2017/10/7/film-from-under-the-rubble) (AFOPA) will host a reception to celebrate the world premiere of the Gaza documentary “*From under the Rubble*” at the Adelaide Film Festival.

**United Nations**

The report on UN Conference on Trade and Development ([UNCTAD](http://unctad.org/en/pages/newsdetails.aspx?OriginalVersionID=1539&Sitemap_x0020_Taxonomy=Assistance%20to%20the%20Palestinian%20People;)) Assistance to the Palestinian People was released on 12 September *“Developments in the Economy of the Occupied Palestinian Territory”*.

UN Women posted an article on the visit of UN Secretary-General António Guterres on 29 August to the [One Stop Centre](http://palestine.unwomen.org/en/news-and-events/stories/2017/08/osc-sg-visit) in Ramallah, a facility supported by UN Women, UNDP and UNICEF to provide services to female survivors of gender-based violence.

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