**NGO ACTION NEWS**

February 6, 2017

<https://unispal.un.org/ngoactionnews.nsf/1c0b3ab87dc4f2f8852568f8007759fd/cbde8772a97b45aa852580c1005aecf5?OpenDocument>

* On 2 February the Palestinian Human Rights Organizations Council (PHROC) issued a statement [condemning recent violent attacks](http://www.addameer.org/news/phroc-strongly-condemns-israeli-prison-service-ips-special-units-violent-attacks-against) against Palestinian prisoners and detainees carried out by the Special Unit of the Israeli Prison Service.
* Badil and Jewish Voice for Peace have partnered to conduct a three-part webinar entitled [*“Forced Population Transfer and Colonization: Conversations on Palestine”*](http://www.badil.org/en/publication/press-releases/86-2017/4719-pr-en-020217-07.html) during the month of February. The first webinar, addressing the issue of forcible transfer in Hebron, took place on 2 February, with the remaining two webinars scheduled for 7 February and 13 February.
* On 31 January the Alternative Information Centre published a feature report entitled [*“A Dangerous Road to Education”*](http://alternativenews.org/index.php/features-02/335-a-dangerous-road-to-education)which documents multiple instances of negligence on the part of Israeli military escorts charged with protecting Palestinian children from settler violence on their daily commute to and from school in the West Bank village of At-Tuwani.

**Europe**

* The UK-based Palestine Solidarity Campaign has issued an [urgent call to action](https://www.palestinecampaign.org/urgent-action-settlements-debate-parliament-9th-february/) calling on its supporters to write to their Members of Parliament ahead of the 9 February parliamentary debate regarding the expansion of Israeli settlements in Palestine. The call to action aims to ensure that “as many MPs as possible speak out about the stark impact of settlement building on Palestinian lives and ask the government to take concrete steps to cease all trade and financial ties with settlements.”
* The University of Bristol, in partnership with the Higher Education Scholarship Palestine (HESPAL) scheme, is offering three [Ph.D. scholarships](http://www.palestine.mei.columbia.edu/cps-news-spring-2017/2017/1/31/phd-scholarships-for-palestinians-at-the-university-of-bristol) for the 2017/18 academic year to young Palestinian lecturers from universities in the West Bank and Gaza.
* Medical Aid for Palestine is organizing a fundraising cycle challenge entitled [*“London to Glasgow: Cycle for Palestine”*](https://www.map.org.uk/challenge-events/london-to-glasgow-bike-ride) from 4 July to 9 July. The proceeds of the fundraiser will be used to “help support the health and dignity of Palestinian people.”

**North America**

* Brown University is accepting applications for a [Post-Doctoral Research Associate in Palestine and Palestinian Studies](http://www.palestine.mei.columbia.edu/cps-news-spring-2017/2017/2/2/post-doctoral-research-associate-in-palestine-and-palestinian-studies-at-brown-university) as part of its ongoing initiative entitled *“New Directions in Palestinian Studies".*
* On 3 April, Columbia University’s Middle East Institute and Centre for Palestine Studies will hold a talk entitled [*“Seeking Like the Sea: The Politics of Solidarity and Pleasure Aboard the Ships to Gaza”*](http://www.palestine.mei.columbia.edu/cps-events-spring-2017/2017/4/3/seeing-like-the-sea-the-politics-of-solidarity-and-pleasure-aboard-the-ships-to-gaza). The talk will be presented by Professor Nikolas Kosmatopoulos from the American University of Beirut.

**Latin America**

* On 4 February, the UN Palestinian Rights Committee convened in Managua, Nicaragua a Roundtable to build bridges between Palestine and the Central American diaspora. Participants, representing Palestinian diaspora communities in Belize, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Costa Rica, Panama, Chile, Cuba and Nicaragua, and with the participation of the Mayors of Bethlehem and Beit Jala, adopted the [Managua Declaration](https://unispal.un.org/databases/dprtest/ngoweb.nsf/f12fded4d0597000852573fc005b9471/45363dbb05c2dbd6852580ac0047a8bf?OpenDocument).

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