NGO Action News

March 12, 2014

https://unispal.un.org/ngoactionnews.nsf/1c0b3ab87dc4f2f8852568f8007759fd/40170aafc7f9bfb785257c99007011f4?OpenDocument

**EUROPE**

[**L’Association belgo-palestinienne**](http://www.association-belgo-palestinienne.be) is organizing in Brussels on **22 March 2013** a carnival entitled [*Unmask the oranges of occupation*](http://www.association-belgo-palestinienne.be/agenda/grand-cortege-carnavalesque-pour-le-boycott-8-mars-de-15-a-17h/) *.*

[**CAABU**](http://www.caabu.org/) is organizing a private briefing with UNRWA's Director of Operations in Gaza, **Robert Turner** on **14 March 2014** at the Boardroom of the [Arab British Centre](http://www.arabbritishcentre.org.uk/contact-us/how-find-us). Please contact Joseph Willits,[willitsj@caabu.org](mailto:willitsj@caabu.org), for more information and to RSVP.

[**Le Comité pour une Paix Juste au Proche-Orient**](http://www.blog.paixjuste.lu/)(CPJPO), [**Fairtrade Lëtzebuerg**](http://www.fairtrade.lu/) and [**Slow Food Luxembourg**](http://www.slowfood.lu/%E2%80%8E) are organizing the event [*CarréRotondes : Zestes amers*](http://rotondes.lu/agenda/details/event/zestes-amers/) on **12 March 2014**.

[**The European Coordination of Committees and Associations for Palestine**](http://www.eccpalestine.org)posted on **10 March 2014** the [annual EU Heads of mission’s report on the Gaza Strip](http://www.eccpalestine.org/eu-heads-of-missions-report-on-gaza/).

[**The Ireland Palestine Solidarity Campaign**](http://www.ipsc.ie) (IPSC) is hosting human rights activist and journalist **Eva Barlett** on **29 March 2013** in Dublin for a [talk](http://www.ipsc.ie/event/dublin-eva-bartlett-human-rights-activist-talks-on-gaza-independent) about the situation in the Gaza Strip. As well, IPSC is organizing an [open meeting](http://www.ipsc.ie/event/dublin-open-ipsc-meeting-13th-march-2014) on **13 March 2014**.

[**Medical Aid for Palestinians**](http://www.map-uk.org) issued a [press release](http://www.map-uk.org/news/press-releases/stop-the-home-demolitions-now.aspx) on **28 February 2014** calling on the British public and the UK Government to apply all available pressure to bring an immediate end to Israel’s systematic demolition of Palestinian homes and structures in West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and to fulfil its legal and moral obligations under international law.

[**Palestinagruppen i Stockholms**](http://www.palestinagrupperna.se/taxonomy/term/92)is co-organizing the festival [2014 Cinema Palestine](https://www.facebook.com/events/602108019876875/?ref_newsfeed_story_type=regular) on **23 March 2014**.

[**The Palestinian Return Centre**](http://www.prc.org.uk), **the General Secretariat of the Palestinians in Europe Conference** and **the Palestinian Forum** announced the launch and preparation for the [*12th Palestinians in Europe Conference*](http://www.prc.org.uk/portal/index.php/centre-activities/conferences/3237-palestinians-in-europe-conference-to-be-held-in-paris)to be held in Paris on **3 May 2014**.

[**The Palestine Solidarity Association of Sweden**](http://www.palestinagrupperna.se/palestinagrupperna-i-sverige-pgs/english/about-palestine-solidarity-association-of-sweden) and [**Isolera Israel**](file:///C:\Users\Wolfgang.Grieger\AppData\Local\Temp\)are organizing on **13 March 2014** the event [*Culture and Politics against Israel's Occupation of Palestine*](https://www.facebook.com/events/435896999846587/?ref=22&source=1) with Palestinian spoken word artist **Rafeet Ziadah**.

[**The Palestine Solidarity Campaign**](http://www.palestinecampaign.org) launched a new [initiative](https://email.number10.gov.uk/) on **12 March 2014** asking its supporters to contact UK Prime Minister David Cameron and demand him to recognize Palestinian rights and the urgent need to end Israel's violations of international law; to call for an immediate and final lifting of the Gaza blockade, to exclude settlement goods from UK markets; and to ban all military sales and imports to and from Israel.

**Mairead Maguire** (1976 Nobel Peace Prize) [said](http://morallowground.com/2014/03/08/nobel-peace-laureate-mairead-maguire-support-boycott-divestment-sanction-against-israel/) on **8 March 2014** that she would support the BDS movement until the Palestinian right to self-determination is recognized by Israel.

**ISRAEL AND PALESTINE**

[**The Alternative Information Center**](http://www.alternativenews.org/english/) (AIC) is organizing a [two-day field visit](http://www.alternativenews.org/english/index.php/aicafe) on **15-16 March 2014** in the Jordan Valley.

[**Breaking The Silence**](http://www.breakingthesilence.org.il/) (BTS) posted on **9 March 2014** on its [Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/BreakingTheSilenceIsrael?fref=ts) a photo series by **Daniel Roth**, who recently joined BTS on a tour in Hebron. Photos are available on Daniel’s [blog](http://www.allthesedays.org/3/post/2014/03/in-hebron-today.html).

[**One Voice Palestine**](http://www.onevoicemovement.org/programs/onevoice-palestine.php) and the [**Palestinian Center for Research and Strategic Studies**](http://www.pcpsr.org/) (PCRSS) organized on **20 February 2014** a [town hall](http://onevoicemovement.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=dd27a789c14bd9408fad796fd&id=f0c984e7e9&e=bcc079bbc3) in Qalqilya with 150 activists and political and military elites on security issues in a final status agreement, presenting Palestinians with an opportunity to engage with their leaders on one of the core aspects of the conflict.

[**The Palestinian Center for Human Rights**](http://www.pchrgaza.org/portal/en/) (PCHR) released its latest weekly [Report on Israeli Human Rights Violations in the Occupied Palestinian Territory](http://www.pchrgaza.org/portal/en/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=10152:weekly-report-on-israeli-human-rights-violations-in-the-occupied-palestinian-territory-27-february-05-march-2014-&catid=84:weekly-2009&Itemid=183) covering the period **27 February to 5 March 2014**.

[**The Palestinian Human Rights Organizations Council**](https://www.unodc.org/ngo/showSingleDetailed.do?req_org_uid=16894) issued a [statement](http://www.pchrgaza.org/portal/en/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=10171:appeal-to-open-rafah-crossing&catid=36:pchrpressreleases&Itemid=194) on **10 March 2014** expressing its deep concern about the continued deterioration of living conditions of Palestinian civilians in the Gaza Strip.

**NORTH AMERICA**

[**Americans for Peace Now**](file:///C:\Users\Wolfgang.Grieger\AppData\Local\Temp\),[**Churches for Middle East Peace**](http://www.cmep.org/)and [**the Foundation for Middle East Peace**](http://www.fmep.org)are organizing the event *Crossing the Divide: How Zionism and Palestinian Nationalism Can Coexist* on **24 March 2014** in Washington DC with **Rabbi Arik Ascherman** and **Zakaria Sadeh** ([Rabbis for Human Rights](http://rhr.org.il/eng/)). For more information and to RSVP please contact: [info@fmep.org](mailto:info@fmep.org?subject=RSVP%3A%20Arik%20Ascherman).

[**The American Task Force on Palestine**](http://www.americantaskforce.org/)(ATFP)issued on **10 March 2014** on the occasion of its 10th anniversary a detailed set of explanations of exactly what AFTP is, what it does and why.

[**Friends of Sabeel – North America**](http://fosna.org/)(FOSNA)delivered on **5 March 2014** an [open letter to Pope Francis](http://fosna.org/content/advocacy-campaign) signed by over 200 bishops, clergy, members of religious orders, and theologians asking the Pope to speak out against the targeting and systematic abuse of Palestinian children by the Israeli military. FOSNA’s supporters can now add their names in support to the petition.

[**Friends of Sabeel – North America**](http://fosna.org/) is organizing a two-day conference, [*Voices for Justice and Peace in the Holy Land*](http://fosna.org/content/pleasant-hill-ca-conference-march-21-22-2014)*,* on **21-22 March 2014** in Pleasant Hill (CA). **Illan Pappé** (Exeter University), **Omar Barghouti** (Researcher and human rights activist), **Richard Falk** (Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the OPT) will speak at the event. Please register [here](http://fosna.givezooks.com/events/pleasant-hill-ca-conference-march-21-22-2014).

[**KinderUSA**](http://kinderusa.org/)is hosting in Pasadena (CA) its annual fundraiser *Food Four Thought, Food for the Soul and Food for Gaza* on **19 April 2014** with guest speakers **Laila El-Haddad** ([Gaza Mom](http://www.gazamom.com/), [The Gaza Kitchen](http://www.gazakitchen.com/)) and **Ali Abunimah** (Electronic Intifada). Registration is available [here](http://kinderusa.org/events/).

[**The Middle East Institute**](https://www.mei.edu)hosted in Washington DC a [discussion](http://www.mei.edu/events/advancing-kerry-peace-process) on **11 March 2013** about the current status of the peace process. The talk featured three veteran peace process experts - **Daniel Levy**, Director, Middle East and North Africa Programme at the European Council on Foreign Relations; **Aaron David Miller**, Vice President for New Initiatives and Distinguished Scholar, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars; and **Shibley Telhami**, Anwar Sadat Professor for Peace and Development, University of Maryland.

[**OneVoice International**](http://www.onevoicemovement.org)Youth Leaders **Mattan Peretz** (OneVoice Israel) and **Obada Shtaya** (One Voice Palestine) [spoke](http://onevoicemovement.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=dd27a789c14bd9408fad796fd&id=e34440911b&e=bcc079bbc3) on **3 March 2014** to NPR’s Pittsburgh affiliate, 90.5 WESA, about the concerns of everyday Israelis and Palestinians, prevailing views on the peace talks, and the importance of grassroots action to realize the two-State solution.

[**Philly FOSNA**](http://phillyfosna.org/)is organizing a [two-day conference](http://phillyfosna.org/) in Philadelphia on **28-29 March 2014** entitled *The Role of the US in Israel-Palestine: Current Realities & Creative Responses*.**Ali Abunimah**(The Electronic Intifada), **Phyllis Bennis** (Institute for Policy Studies), **Riham Barghouti** (Adalah-NY) and **Josh Ruebner** (US Campaign to End the Israeli Occupation) will speak at the event along with other experts. Please register online [here](http://phillyfosna.bpt.me/).

**Ali Abunimah** (Electronic Intifada) is on a [US tour](http://www.haymarketbooks.org/pb/The-Battle-for-Justice-in-Palestine) for his book *The Battle for Justice in Palestine* until **23 April 2014**.

**GLOBAL**

[**Amnesty International**](http://www.amnesty.org)publisheda new report entitled[*Syria: Squeezing the life out of Yarmouk: War crimes against besieged civilians*](http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/asset/MDE24/008/2014/en/c18cfe4d-1254-42f2-90df-e0fce7c762fc/mde240082014en.pdf)on **10 March 2014**. The report reveals that war crimes and crimes against humanity have been carried out on Palestinian and Syrian civilians in Yarmouk refugee camp, on the outskirts of Damascus.

**UNITED NATIONS**

[**The Arab League**](http://www.arableagueonline.org) and the [**Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People**](http://unispal.un.org/unispal.nsf/com.htm) (CEIRPP) jointly appealed on **10 March 2014** for international support to the Palestinians. The two sides convened a meeting under the co-chairmanship of the League's Secretary General Nabil Elaraby and CEIRPP Chairman Abdou-Salam Diallo.  
  
[**The International Year of Solidarity with the Palestinian People**](http://unispal.un.org/unispal.nsf/solidarity.htm)has a [Twitter account](https://twitter.com/IYSPP) and an official hashtag **#2014forPalestine**. Share the word and let us know about your International Year plans at [2014forPalestine@un.org](mailto:2014forPalestine@un.org)!   
  
[**OCHA oPt**](http://www.ochaopt.org/)released its latest [Weekly Report on the Protection of Civilians](http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_3_7_english.pdf) covering the period **25 February to 3 March 2014**.  
  
[**The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East**](http://www.unrwa.org) (UNRWA) launched a [Thunderclap](https://www.thunderclap.it/projects/9565-letusthrough?locale=en) for Syria. More than 130 organizations support the initiative which lasts until **18 March 2014**. Add your voices #WithSyria **#**LetUsThrough.   
  
**The Deputy Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process**, **James W. Rawley**, voiced in a [statement](http://unispal.un.org/UNISPAL.NSF/0/700F07E6EEFA313E85257C98005EB8AF) on **11 March 2014** his deep concern at reports that three Palestinians died in separate security-related incidents in the West Bank within a 24-hour period, and called for restraint by all concerned.

\*\*\*

\* \* \*

This page may contain links to third-party Web sites. The linked sites are not under the control of the United Nations and the United Nations is not responsible for the content of any linked site or any link contained in a linked site. The United Nations provides these links only as a convenience, and the inclusion of a link or reference does not imply endorsement of the linked site by the United Nations. This newsletter is a project of the Division for Palestinian Rights, and is intended to provide information on NGO activities relevant to the question of Palestine . NGOs interested in contributing information on their activities should communicate it by Email The Division reserves the right to make the final selection with regard to material to be included in this newsletter. It cannot take responsibility for the accuracy of the information.