

القانون من أجل  
فلسطين



LAW FOR  
PALESTINE

# Law for Palestine Annual Report

to **1 Oct** 2024  
**30 Sep** 2025



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# Letter from the Governing Council

**This past year** has carried both the weight of unfathomable loss and the urgency of unwavering resolve. There has been a “ceasefire” in Gaza but the lived reality shows that the settler colonial genocide has not ended; it has merely shifted in form. As global actors rush to restore “normalcy”, we see efforts to gloss over atrocities, recast structural violence as peacebuilding, and move forward without accountability or confronting the truth that no peace is possible without decolonisation.

Across the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, State and settler violence has expanded exponentially, annexation accelerates at an unprecedented speed, forcible displacement has affected far more communities than ever before, and the policies and practices of apartheid are further entrenched. There is no alternative to dismantling the Israeli apartheid regime imposed on the Palestinian people across the region and in the diaspora and bringing to an end Israel’s unlawful presence in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

Repression has deepened, and the silencing of pro-Palestinian solidarity has intensified worldwide, from students to scholars, civil society to intergovernmental legal institutions. Yet, these voices have not been extinguished; they have only multiplied. The demand for justice grows louder and more fearless, driven by people who refuse the erasure of the Palestinian people’s inalienable right to return and self-determination.

We recognise the despair felt by many: the path to justice appears long and the forces against it powerful. This ongoing attack is not only a mass violation of Palestinian rights but a grave assault on the very idea of the international order. In such moments, hope must become an active commitment. ***At Law for Palestine, hope is something we build through engaging with the law and its institutions, our community, and the movement at large.***

**Over the past year,** we have worked to turn the crisis into a catalyst for legal mobilisation, engaging international bodies, pressing States to uphold their legal obligations, producing legal analyses, convening experts, supporting cases before national and international courts and strengthening networks dedicated to ending impunity. As attempts at normalisation rise, our work ensures that the legal record cannot be rewritten and that justice remains non-negotiable.

Until the Palestinian people attain their right to self-determination, Law for Palestine will continue its work. Supported by our Board, volunteers, Forum members, partners and wider community, we remain steadfast, drawing strength from all who fuel our work. At a time when our efforts are more urgently needed than ever, your continued support, in any form, helps sustain and expand this vital work. As you read this report, we hope you will see not only the challenges we confront but the momentum we are building, to ensure that we build a better world.

“

**Thank you for standing with us. Together, we will continue to push forward, grounded in truth, guided by a framework of justice and driven by an unwavering belief in a liberated future for the Palestinian people.**

”



**Ihsan Adel**  
Founder and Chair



**Anisha Patel**  
Governing Council Member



# About Law for Palestine

*Harnessing international law as a  
strategic tool for Palestinian  
self-determination*



## Law for Palestine (L4P)

Is a UN-accredited (CEIRPP) non-profit, Palestinian-led international human rights organisation working at the intersection of law, justice and self-determination. We exist to transform, harness and uphold the power of international law in the service of the Palestinian struggle for self-determination and to strengthen the broader human rights ecosystem.

**We connect, equip and develop strategies** for and in collaboration with our global network of:



Legal scholars  
and practitioners



Human rights defenders and  
civil society organisations



Movement lawyers,  
students and everyday people

We translate complex legal rulings into **actionable strategies**, support the **legal actions** and advocacy of our partners through **research** and **legal advice**, and provide **training, coordination, and legal support** to grassroots efforts that seek to **disrupt complicity**, such as halting arms transfers or challenging state and corporate complicity.



## How we work

Across the Americas, Europe, Africa, Asia and Oceania, Law for Palestine's working units are driven by the dedication of 100+ volunteers, guided by our Governing Council, supported by our Board of Trustees and informed by the expertise of our global network. Our team represents over 36 nationalities, including a significant number of Palestinian colleagues. The General Assembly convenes annually to approve budgets and priorities, promoting transparency and inclusion.



## Mission

Through building a global network of legal professionals, Law for Palestine facilitates legal action, and influences public narratives, specialised discourses, and official policies toward a rights-based approach in the Palestinian context. We empower affected communities by centring their voices, strengthening their legal capacity and connecting them with international legal mechanisms. By engaging diverse expert perspectives, providing comprehensive, objective legal content, and documenting key international legal developments related to Palestine, we strive to uphold and defend the rights of the Palestinian people worldwide in accordance with international law.



## Vision

We envision a world where Palestinian rights are internationally recognised and protected through a unified commitment to justice, accountability, and the effective application of international law.



# Impact Snapshot

*Where grief and hope  
become action*

# While much of the work

we engage in cannot be quantified, Here are a few statistics on our activities over the past year:



“

Law for Palestine is one of the most positive developments I've seen in the scene of advocacy for Palestine in quite a long time.

”



UN Special Rapporteur on the Occupied Palestinian Territory,  
*Francesca Albanese*



# Research and Discourse

*Shaping legal knowledge for a  
rights-based shift in discourse  
on Palestine*



## Research and Discourse

Over the past year, Law for Palestine's Research and Discourse Unit has produced timely and rigorous analysis that translates legal developments into concrete tools for action and shapes the broader discourse on Palestine and international law. Through Weekly Legal Scene Updates, legal summaries and briefs, blog posts and long-form reports, the Unit has provided critical commentary on key legal questions – monitoring proceedings before the International Court of Justice (ICJ), **engaging with UN mechanisms and responding directly to the wider movement's evolving needs.**

**A central focus has been leveraging recent legal decisions in service of Palestinian self-determination,** particularly the July 2024 Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice. As a core pillar of L4P, the Unit also drives progress across the organisation, feeding into work on legal action and movement building.

**L4P's research** is designed to empower the movement and inform policy, turning legal analysis into accessible, actionable resources for activists, campaigners, students, legal practitioners, and policymakers. The Unit cultivates projects and partnerships across the movement, bringing together legal scholars and practitioners.

***Through this work, L4P seeks to ensure that international law becomes a living instrument of resistance, transformation and informed decision-making for everyone working to dismantle systems of oppression, advance accountability and drive meaningful change.***

# Third State Economic Responsibility

in light of the International Court of Justice's  
Advisory Opinion on the  
*Legal Consequences arising from the Policies and Practices of Israel  
in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem*

April 2025



## Third State Economic Responsibility

A central focus of the Research and Discourse Unit's work has been the continued exploration of economic responsibility, **a long-overlooked dimension of Third State accountability**. In April 2025, L4P published a [long-form report](#) on Third State Economic Responsibility, released in the wake of the ICJ's 2024 Advisory Opinion.

**Initiated following a L4P webinar**, the report brought together legal scholars, economists and human rights practitioners to connect legal reasoning with financial and trade realities. It outlines a clear legal framework for assessing economic responsibility, highlighting how Third States' trade, investment and corporation relations with Israel contribute to its settler-colonial project and unlawful acts, including apartheid, annexation, and genocide, themes later echoed in the reports of the UN Special Rapporteur Francesca Albanese.

The report also sets out concrete measures Third States must take to end their complicity and equips policymakers with **the legal language and frameworks to advance economic accountability** and ensure compliance with international law.

# 12-Month Deadline Ends: UN Experts Offer Legal Insights on Next Steps After Israel's Non-Compliance with ICJ and UNGA Demands to End the Occupation



Alexandra Xanthaki

*UN Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights*



Michael Fakhri

*UN Special Rapporteur on the right to food*



Farida Shaheed

*UN Special Rapporteur on the right to education*



George Katrougalos

*UN Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order*



Balakrishnan Rajagopal

*UN Special Rapporteur on the right to adequate housing*




Reem Alsalem

*UN Special Rapporteur on violence against women and girls, its causes and consequences*



Francesca Albanese

*Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the oPt since 1967*

 [www.law4palestine.org](http://www.law4palestine.org)

 LAW FOR PALESTINE

 INDEPENDENT COMMISSION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ICHR

 [www.ichr.ps](http://www.ichr.ps)

## Legal Insights from UN Special Rapporteurs

Another central focus of the Research and Discourse Unit has been assessing the integrity of the international legal system and identifying ways to strengthen it.

In collaboration with the Independent Commission for Human Rights (ICHR), L4P published a [long-form report](#) drawing on interviews with seven UN Special Procedures mandate holders, released as the UN General Assembly's 12-month deadline for Israel to end its unlawful presence in Occupied Palestinian Territory expired in September 2025.

The report examines the legal consequences of Israel's non-compliance and the wider implications for Third State responsibility, the role of the UN, civil society mobilisation and the structural challenges faced by mandate holders themselves.

The findings, accompanied by a short paper identifying key themes, underline the core challenges confronting the future of international law and outline concrete steps States must take to fulfil their obligations.

By situating this work within the larger context of State responsibility, L4P continues to help focus international attention toward the responsibilities of States and multilateral mechanisms alike.

# INTENT

Under international law, the crime of genocide requires **acts of genocide** and the **intent** to destroy a group of people, or a part of that group.

## Visualising the Road to Genocide

**The crime of genocide is among the most difficult to prove in international law**, primarily because it requires clear evidence of intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a protected group

**Israel has been very explicit about their intention to eradicate the Palestinian people in Gaza. Beginning in October 2023**, Law for Palestine undertook a systematic effort to document and record instances of genocidal incitement by Israeli officials and decision-makers. In 2024, and in partnership with Visualizing Palestine, L4P created an [interactive database](#) and visual timeline that compiles hundreds of statements made by Israeli political leaders, military figures, and other public officials.

The timeline situates these statements alongside **Israel's major military operations and actions in Gaza, illustrating the direct relationship between rhetoric and atrocity.**

By translating complex legal evidence into a clear, accessible visual format, the database outlines Israel's genocidal intent along with events on the ground, as they transpired, enabling scholars, advocates, and the broader public to understand and articulate Israeli actions within the framework of genocide under international law.



# Legal Action

*Turning legal expertise and knowledge  
into legal action and strategic litigation  
across jurisdictions*



## Legal Action

Law for Palestine's Legal Action Unit engages with international law across the different Courts and UN systems, translating it into strategic interventions that shift policy, shape discourse and create legal avenues for **the Palestinian people to exercise their right to self determination at the international and domestic level.**

In 2024-25, L4P prioritised making international legal frameworks and jurisprudence useful to both grassroots organisations and decision-makers, by documenting legal and factual shifts, applying progressive interpretations of international law norms and leveraging this analysis towards achieving strategic objectives of the movement.

By combining evidence gathering, **direct legal input, litigation support, movement** wide collaboration and targeted communication for States and UN bodies, L4P works to ensure that what happens inside the courtroom drives accountability, builds political momentum and contributes to the broader movement for justice and Palestinian self determination.

# Litigating for Palestine Toolkit

Law for Palestine seeks to ensure that strategic litigation efforts in national jurisdictions aimed towards realising the rights of the Palestinian people are centred around Palestinian voices, grounded in international law, supported by solid evidence and underpinned by legal expertise and accumulated experiences. As a core step toward this vision, Law for Palestine has developed a comprehensive Strategic Litigation Toolkit for lawyers and activists, which will be published in 2026. Developed in close collaboration with key stakeholders in the movement, the Toolkit consolidates legal pathways, case strategies, filing options, advocacy components, and practical guidance to support the initiation of cases in national jurisdictions.

It draws directly on experience accumulated through the work of Law for Palestine, its partners, and other organisations involved in pursuing accountability and litigation for Palestinian rights worldwide and contributing to coalition building.



JLAC

## Palestinian families file a **legal complaint** in Germany against the media conglomerate **Axel Springer**

accusing it of facilitating illegal land grabs through its Israeli subsidiary, Yad2.



## L4P Strategic Litigation in action

In 2024-25, Law for Palestine's strategic litigation team, in collaboration with a lawyers collective in Berlin, supported **legal action** led by the Jerusalem Legal Aid and Human Rights Centre (JLAC) against the German mass media company, Axel Springer SE, under the German Supply Chain Act.

The case, submitted on behalf of Palestinian communities, concerned Axel Springer's role in facilitating land grabbing and human rights violations in the Occupied Palestinian Territory through its Israeli subsidiary Yad2, which operates a real estate platform. The case is an exercise in using domestic tools to challenge corporate involvement in settlement expansion and Israel's continued unlawful presence in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

The German Federal Office responsible for overseeing adherence to the legislation **rejected the complaint** on the basis that the Palestinian complainants declined to publicly reveal their full identities due to serious concerns about their safety, a position which is legally flawed and morally indefensible. The appeal filed against this decision is under consideration and aims to identify the legal and political fault lines in reparation for future actions.



### Law for Palestine at the Hague Group Emergency Conference:

Global Majority commits to Six Actions to End Genocide and Occupation



## State briefings: UN CEIRPP, ICC ASP, The Hague Group & Multilateral Engagement

Recognising States as key actors of international law and their influence on legal developments, L4P's Legal Action Unit complemented court-oriented work with targeted communication towards State actors.

This included briefing State delegations at the [UN Headquarters](#) in New York and providing legal inputs to The Hague Group and for emergency ministerial conferences that considered State measures capable of changing on-the-ground realities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

Through organizing events at State gatherings such as the [ICC Assembly of State Parties](#) and the UN [Human Rights Council](#), Law for Palestine created spaces for State actors, Civil Society Organisations, and affected communities to come together to identify key international legal challenges and develop mitigation strategies. Aligned with judicial developments throughout the year, these engagements sought to convert legal findings into coordinated State action, including sanctions, arms-control measures, and other policy levers to reduce harm and end impunity.



# **Empowerment and Networking**

*Strengthening legal work through  
education, collaboration, and  
cross-sector networks*



# Capacity Building and Global Legal Movement Development

**Over the past year**, Law for Palestine has strengthened the international legal ecosystem for Palestine by building capacity, fostering networks and advancing strategic legal dialogue. Through trainings and webinars, **L4P has reached researchers, journalists**, civil society actors, academics and policymakers, deepening legal understanding, equipping participants with practical tools for field research and inspiring the active application of international law to advance justice and accountability.

Law for Palestine has cultivated a diverse and inspiring network of **legal professionals and grassroots actors**, facilitating meaningful synergies across regions, sectors, institutions and organisations united by a shared mission to support the realisation of Palestinian rights and ensure accountability.

# Targeted Trainings and Skills Development

This year, L4P delivered a series of strategic trainings tailored for legal students, institutional and civil society partners, state actors and media professionals. Key highlights include:

- ▶ **Training over 100 field researchers in Palestine**
- ▶ **Participation in a regional media conference in Jordan, as well as workshops and dialogues in London, Berlin, Colombia, Istanbul, New York, Geneva, Tunis, and The Hague.**
- ▶ **Conducting two specialised courses for media professionals on documenting war crimes**

These initiatives expand the movement's capacity for research, advocacy, and legal action while cultivating networks that cross disciplines, regions, and professional sectors.

# Webinar Gaza/West Bank: Expanding Genocide, UNRWA Ban & Essential Protection Measures for Palestinians



## Jurists for Palestine Forum

Through the Jurists for Palestine Forum, L4P's discourse-oriented program now connecting **1,300+ members worldwide**, the organisation hosted ten digital or hybrid webinars over the past year.

These sessions brought together leading experts, practitioners, and campaigners to engage with current developments, international litigation strategies, and emerging legal opportunities for Palestine.

Topics discussed ranged from international litigation and policy mechanisms, to the Law of the Sea, State and corporate accountability, and reflections on the work of international institutions. One of the events held at [New York University](#), brought together participants from across the globe. Each session attracted hundreds of live participants and up to **1,500 recorded** viewers, creating dynamic platforms for knowledge transfer, policy exchange and movement-strategy alignment.

Through the Jurists for Palestine Forum, L4P empowers legal professionals, amplifies civil society voices and strengthens the global legal infrastructure supporting Palestine, ensuring that justice is pursued collectively, strategically and with sustained impact.





## Our Network & Partners

Law for Palestine is driven by a core, dedicated team with guidance from our esteemed Board of Trustees and the support of **over 100 volunteers from around the globe**.

The efficacy of L4P's research, data collection, legal analysis, training programmes and provision of legal strategy and guidance is made possible through collaborations with our network of **over 1,300 legal practitioners and 40 collaborating organisations** – civil society **organisations, universities and media groups** – both within Palestine and across six continents.



# Join the Movement

*Not just for Palestinians or lawyers, but  
for all who believe in equality and dignity*



# Join the Movement

**History has shown us that systems of domination can be dismantled when people unite.**

Over the past year, we have witnessed unprecedented support for the people of Palestine through the growth of a global movement. Law for Palestine stands within this movement, **reclaiming law as a tool for justice, accountability and self determination .**

**This is not a fight for Palestinians or lawyers alone, but for everyone who believes humanity can be reshaped toward equality and dignity. Whoever you are, whatever skills or resources you bring, you can help build a movement powerful enough to transform the course of history.**

# Ways to Get Involved

## Help Sustain Us



Make a [direct donation](#) no amount is too small.



Open doors to institutional grants or connect us with major donors who share our vision for the future.

## 01 Partner With Us

We collaborate with civil society organisations, universities, and legal practitioners on litigation, training and research projects. Our work connects organisations in Palestine with allies and stakeholders

## 02 Volunteer Your Skills

Join our network of 100+ volunteers working worldwide.

### Activities include:

- 1- Legal & academic research
- 2- Supporting strategic litigation
- 3- Organising events & capacity building sessions for movement members
- 4- Communications & website design
- 5- Translation (Arabic/English)
- 6- Fundraising

## 03 Stay Informed

[Subscribe](#) to our [newsletter](#) to receive information on events and publications, as well as a curated Weekly Update on legal developments related to Palestine.

For partnership, volunteer or financial support inquiries, contact [partnerships@law4palestine.org](mailto:partnerships@law4palestine.org)

