Palestine's Legal Scene

Your weekly survey of the most important publications and activities related to Palestine, from local and international sources

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This weekly report reviews the legal dynamics of the Palestine question, and everything related to international law and Palestine. The report includes an account of the most important publications, activities, and conferences related to Palestine at the local, regional, international levels. The report further covers decisions, decrees, and judicial orders affecting the Palestinian cause, whether made at the official, academic or public levels. The report aims to be a reference for monitoring, documenting, and archiving the latest human rights developments related to Palestine, and to present them to individuals, researchers, study centers, and official, academic, and legal institutions concerned.

Legal Updates by Official Palestinian Bodies:

- **The Commission of Detainees Affairs and the Palestinian Prisoners' Club called for the immediate release of two Palestinian female detainees from the Gaza Strip, Amal Al-Rifi and her daughter Yasmin, holding the Israeli occupation authorities fully responsible for their lives.** (November 10, 2026)
- **The Palestinian Ministry of Foreign Affairs condemned the massacre perpetrated by the Israeli occupation forces through the targeting of the surgical department at Nasser Medical Complex in Khan Younis, as well as other ongoing attacks across several areas of the Gaza Strip. It called on the US administration and the international community to exert pressure on Israel to halt its crimes and hold all those involved in war crimes accountable.** (November 10, 2026)

Legal Updates by Official Israeli Bodies:

- **Yossi Dagan, head of the Samaria Regional Council in the northern West Bank, stated that the French authorities had denied him entry into France and imposed an administrative ban on him**

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due to his role in implementing settlement policies and expanding Israeli settlements in the West Bank. (November 11, 2026)

- Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu claimed that Israel was cooperating with the United States and the "Board of Peace" and was committed to implementing President Donald Trump's plan. He accused Hamas of failing to fulfil its commitments to disarm and relinquish power and of exploiting aid and dual-use materials for military purposes. (November 11, 2026)

United Nations Statements and Publications:

- The International Organization for Migration (IOM) warned that the vast majority of Gaza's population is in need of shelter assistance, calling for the accelerated delivery of humanitarian aid on a large and regular scale. The warning came amid flooding that swept through displacement sites following heavy rainfall, despite prior warnings of the associated risks. (November 8, 2026)
- UNICEF announced that three children and their mother were killed after a sand dune collapsed onto their tent in Deir al-Balah, in the central Gaza Strip, following heavy rainfall. UNICEF called on the international community to provide humanitarian supplies and urgent funding of USD 97.5 million to support the winter response in Gaza. (November 10, 2026)
- UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the occupied Palestinian territory, Francesca Albanese, called on Israel to immediately open all crossings into the Gaza Strip and allow humanitarian aid to enter. She also called for humanitarian vessels to be dispatched to break the blockade should humanitarian aid continue to be denied entry. (November 10, 2026)
- UN Secretary-General António Guterres stated that Israel is placing numerous obstacles in the way of implementing the peace plan in the Gaza Strip and obstructing the delivery of humanitarian aid, warning against its moves towards annexing further areas of the occupied West Bank. He also highlighted the international community's failure to address the humanitarian crisis in Gaza, stressing that certain actors bear responsibility for this failure. (November 10, 2026)
- The International Labour Organization (ILO) and its development partners called for increased investment to address deteriorating labour market conditions in the occupied Palestinian territory. (November 10, 2026)

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- **The UN Emergency Relief Coordinator, Tom Fletcher, stressed the need to end collective punishment, open all crossings into the Gaza Strip, and allow essential non-governmental organisations to operate.** (November 11, 2026)
- **The Second Committee (Economic and Financial Committee) of the UN General Assembly approved a draft resolution calling on Israel to cease the exploitation, damage, depletion or endangerment of natural resources in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan.** (November 11, 2026)
- **Acting UN Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process Ramiz Alakbarov, expressed grave concern over the Israeli airstrike on Nasser Hospital in Gaza and emphasised the obligation of all parties to respect and protect medical personnel and facilities.** (November 12, 2026)
- **The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in Palestine stated that years of continuous Israeli bombardment have pushed the healthcare system in the Gaza Strip to the brink of collapse, stressing that direct attacks on hospitals, medical personnel, patients and the wounded amount to war crimes.** (November 13, 2026)

Legal Updates by Regional and International Bodies:

- **The Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs condemned the storming of Al-Aqsa Mosque's courtyards by Israeli settlers under the protection of Israeli occupation forces. It denounced the recurrence and escalation of these violations and provocative practices, which constitute a flagrant violation of international law.** (November 8, 2026)
- **The "Board of Peace" expressed concern over the floods that hit the Gaza Strip, swamping tens of thousands of tents and makeshift shelters. It stated that it had called on Israel to allow the entry of essential supplies and shelter materials into the Gaza Strip and urged Hamas to lay down its weapons, but that these demands had not received an adequate response. It also called on the Israeli government to urgently allow the entry of shelter supplies, sanitation and drainage equipment and winterisation supplies.** (November 9, 2026)
- **Iowa Attorney General Brenna Bird announced that she had led a coalition of 13 U.S. state attorneys general in sending a letter urging the United Kingdom and the Netherlands to suspend the implementation of trade sanctions targeting Israeli economic activities in settlements in the occupied territories.** (November 9, 2026)

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- **Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif condemned Israel's continued violations of the ceasefire in Gaza and international law. He also condemned the ongoing aggression against the Palestinian people and the resulting deterioration of humanitarian conditions.** (November 9, 2026)
- **European Commission spokesperson Eva Hrnčířová emphasised that Israeli restrictions and the closure of certain crossings to humanitarian aid are exacerbating the humanitarian crisis in the Gaza Strip amid deteriorating weather conditions as winter approaches. She reiterated the European Union's call to ensure rapid, safe and unhindered access to humanitarian aid.** (November 9, 2026)
- **Japan provided two grants totalling approximately USD 15.37 million to support recovery and humanitarian response efforts in Palestine. It also provided a grant to the World Health Organization (WHO) to strengthen the emergency health response in Gaza.** (November 10, 2026)
- **U.S. Congressman Ro Khanna called on Democrats to prioritise the removal of a provision from the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2027, that strengthens military and technological cooperation between the United States and Israel, a top priority.** (November 10, 2026)
- **In a joint statement, 53 countries, alongside the European Commission, the League of Arab States and the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation, called for ensuring access to humanitarian and medical aid in the Gaza Strip, in accordance with the Comprehensive Peace Plan endorsed by UN Security Council Resolution 2803. The League of Arab States also issued an urgent appeal to the international community to take immediate and coordinated action to provide support and relief to the Gaza Strip.** (November 11–12, 2026)
- **The Arab Parliament welcomed the adoption of a UN resolution affirming the permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people over their natural resources and calling for an end to their plunder and exploitation by Israel, the occupying power.** (November 12, 2026)
- **The Ministries of Foreign Affairs of Egypt, Qatar, Jordan, and Libya condemned the Israeli bombardment of Nasser Medical Complex in the Gaza Strip, describing it as a flagrant violation of international humanitarian law. The Organisation of Islamic Cooperation, the Gulf Cooperation Council and the Arab Parliament also condemned the aggression, with the Arab Parliament stressing that targeting civilians and medical facilities constitutes war crimes that are not subject to any statutes of limitations.** (November 12–13, 2026)

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- **Former U.S. President Joe Biden expressed his frustration over Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's repeatedly broken promises to take measures to mitigate civilian harm in the Gaza Strip.** (November 13, 2026)

Publications of Human Rights NGOs:

- **The Palestinian Bar Association issued an urgent appeal to the international community and international institutions to take immediate and effective action in response to the humanitarian and living conditions facing Palestinians in the Gaza Strip, calling for the protection of civilians and displaced persons and respect for international humanitarian law.** (November 8, 2026)
- **Al Dameer Foundation for Human Rights published a report titled "Arbitrary Detention of Travellers and Returnees through the Rafah and Kerem Shalom Crossings" documenting cases of detention involving Palestinians returning to the Gaza Strip.** (November 9, 2026)
- **The Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS) emphasised that international humanitarian law obliges the occupying authorities to ensure the provision of food and medical supplies to the civilian population and facilitate access to humanitarian aid to areas experiencing shortages. It stressed that the continued deprivation of basic necessities constitutes a serious breach of these obligations.** (November 10, 2026)
- **Amnesty International emphasised that the destruction of infrastructure in the Gaza Strip has left Palestinian families vulnerable to extreme weather conditions and flooding, as they are forced to live in makeshift shelters and damaged buildings. The organisation called on governments to take action to pressure Israel to lift the blockade and ensure the entry of humanitarian aid and reconstruction supplies, rather than merely issuing statements.** (November 10, 2026)
- **Media reports revealed preliminary talks between Foundation Future Industries and Israeli military officials regarding the potential supply of up to 1,000 humanoid robots for use in the Gaza Strip.** (November 10, 2026)
- **An analysis by Tussell revealed that companies linked to illegal Israeli settlements had been awarded UK government contracts worth £10.7 million since British Foreign Secretary Ed Miliband pledged on September 8, 2026 to impose sanctions on companies and individuals involved in financing settlements or facilitating their activities.** (November 10, 2026)

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- **Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) highlighted the urgent need for blankets, tents and shelter materials among displaced families in the Gaza Strip, calling on Israel to allow the unrestricted entry of winter supplies.** (November 11, 2026)
- **Physicians for Human Rights Israel (PHRI) announced that the Israeli Supreme Court had rejected a petition filed against the Israeli military's Chief of Staff, which sought an end to the detention without trial of 14 Palestinian doctors from the Gaza Strip. The organisation stressed that the Israeli judiciary is complicit in violating the rights of Palestinian detainees.** (November 12, 2026)
- **Al Dameer Foundation for Human Rights emphasised that the repeated targeting of Nasser Medical Complex, which has been bombed for the seventh time, reflects a deliberate pattern and systematic policy aimed at undermining what remains of the healthcare system.** (November 12, 2026) Arabic version
- **Al-Haq described the Israeli occupation forces' prevention of its General Director, Shawan Jabarin, from travelling to Jordan via the King Hussein (Allenby) Bridge along with the imposition of a ban on his travel outside Palestine, as an arbitrary and politically motivated measure aimed at punishing him for his human rights work and silencing Palestinian human rights defenders.** (November 13, 2026)
- **An investigation published by the website Declassified revealed that British charities are illegally funding Israeli schools in occupied Palestinian Territory. Under British law, charities must not fund activities that facilitate breaches of international law or fail the public benefit test.** (November 13, 2026)
- **An investigation by the Channel 4 News's FactCheck team revealed that dozens of UK arms export licenses to Israel remained in effect during the war in Gaza. While some licenses for military equipment have been suspended, others remain active.** (November 13, 2026)

Opinion Pieces and Features:

- **Mondoweiss published an opinion piece by Yarden Azoulay Katz and Adi Saleem, titled: "*The U.S. government is escalating its attack on Palestine activism in Michigan*".** (November 10, 2026)
- **Mondoweiss published an opinion piece by Qassam Muaddi, titled: "*The Palestinians vote opened a path to ousting Netanyahu. Where does it lead?*".** (November 10, 2026)

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- **Mondoweiss published an opinion piece by Philip Weiss, titled: "*The American people have spoken, and across the political spectrum they don't like Israel*".** (November 10, 2026)
- **Arab News published an opinion piece by Daoud Kuttab, titled: "*Unrestricted humanitarian aid to Gaza can be delayed no longer*".** (November 11, 2026)
- **Foreign Policy published an article by Omar Shakir, titled: "*Congress Must Stop Arming Israel*"** (November 11, 2026)
- **AlJazeera published an opinion piece by Yossi Mekelberg, titled: "*Is Washington rethinking its relationship with Israel?*".** (November 11, 2026)

Upcoming Human Rights Opportunities and Events:

- **The European Legal Support Center (ELSC) announced an opening of applications for a Senior Legal Officer position in the Netherlands, with the option to work remotely. The position is expected to commence in January 2027.**

Human Rights Implications:

- **The Palestinian Campaign for the Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel (PACBI) announced that Israel's share of research grants under the European Union's Horizon Europe program had fallen by more than half, attributing the decline to academic boycott campaigns and pressure from students and universities across Europe. The organization called on students, university staff, and trade unions to intensify pressure on their respective governments and the European Union to terminate the EU-Israel Association Agreement and exclude Israel from the programme.** (November 6, 2026)
- **The Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement announced that Dana Petroleum had withdrawn from an Israeli energy consortium aimed at the illegal extraction of Palestinian offshore gas resources. The movement also called on Murphy Oil to withdraw from the consortium and end its complicity.** (November 11, 2026)
- **The Left alliance in the European Parliament submitted a petition to the European Commission calling for the full suspension of the trade partnership agreement between the European Union and Israel, following the collection of 1.1 million signatures through a European Citizens' Initiative.** (November 12, 2026)

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