NGO Action News

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https://unispal.un.org/ngoactionnews.nsf/1c0b3ab87dc4f2f8852568f8007759fd/11d59de99558ceea85257c6f007220dd?OpenDocument

**AFRICA**

[**The Free Marwan Barghouthi and all Palestinian prisoners international campaign**](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Free-Marwan-Barghouthi-and-all-Palestinian-prisoners/400192043422318)announced on its [Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=205508766317046&id=400192043422318&stream_ref=10)on **27 January 2014** that **Dr. Theo Ben-Gurirab**, former President of the United Nations General Assembly, and honorary President of the International Parliamentary Union, joined the International High Level Committee of the campaign.

**ASIA**

[**The Palestine Solidarity Campaign - Thailand**](http://www.thaingo.org)will hold its Annual General Meeting at 7.30 p.m. on **6 February 2014** at the Grand President Executive Serviced Apartments in Bangkok. For more information please contact: [palestinesolidaritythailand@gmail.com](mailto:palestinesolidaritythailand@gmail.com).

**EUROPE**

[**L’Association belgo-palestinienne**](http://www.association-belgo-palestinienne.be)is organizing a civilian observers mission in the West Bank during the second week of April 2014. A first preparatory meeting will take place at the CNCD in Brussels on **5 February 2014**. A training session is also scheduled on **22 February 2014**. For more information please contact: [abp.eccp@skynet.be](mailto:abp.eccp@skynet.be), [communication.abp@gmail.com](mailto:communication.abp@gmail.com).

[**Le Comité pour une Paix Juste au Proche-Orient**](http://www.blog.paixjuste.lu/)and[**Pax Christi-Luxembourg**](http://www.paxchristi.net) are hosting the [exhibition](http://www.blog.paixjuste.lu/?p=7357) *La Nakba – La Catastrophe* designed by the association [Flüchtlingskinder im Libanon](http://www.lib-hilfe.de/) from **24 January to 14 February 2014**.

[**Medical Aid for Palestinians**](http://www.map-uk.org) published on **9 January 2014** a [summary](http://www.map-uk.org/news/occupied-palestine-%E2%80%93-2013-summarised.aspx) of the year 2013.

[**Le Mur a Des Oreilles – Conversations For Palestine**](http://lemuradesoreilles.org) posted on **22 January 2014** a new [podcast](http://lemuradesoreilles.org/2014/01/21/conversation-avec-nadia-farkh-kasia-lemanska-fr/) featuring a conversation with **Nadia Farkh** (Association belgo-palestinienne) and **Kasia Lemanska** (CNCD-11.11.11).

[**The Palestine Solidarity Campaign**](http://www.palestinecampaign.org)is convening its [Annual General Meeting](http://www.palestinecampaign.org) on **4 February 2014** in Newcastle.

[**L’Union des Progressistes Juifs de Belgique**](http://www.upjb.be/) is organizing on **31 January 2014** a [conference-debate](http://www.upjb.be/activites/a-l-upjb/article/veronique-de-keyser) with **Véronique De Keyser**, Member of the European Parliament (MEP) and President of the Group of Socialists and Democrats. Ms. De Keyser will discuss [*Palestine-La Trahison Européenne*](http://www.fayard.fr/palestine-la-trahison-europenne-9782213678078), a book she co-authored with Stéphane Hessel.

**ISRAEL AND PALESTINE**

[**Al-Shabaka-The Palestinian Policy Network**](http://www.al-shabaka.org) published a new [policy brief](http://al-shabaka.org/policy-brief/economic-issues/palestinian-capitalists-have-gone-too-far?utm_source=Al-Shabaka+announcements&utm_campaign=4ef07ecc01-Policy_Brief_Announcement+7_19_2011_PA&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_a9ca5175dc-4ef07ecc01-257272173) on **14 January 2014** entitled *The Palestinian Capitalists That Have Gone Too Far*.

[**The Alternative Information Center**](http://www.alternativenews.org/english/) (AIC)held its most recent [AICafé](http://alternativenews.org/english/index.php/aicafe/7685-aicafe-28-january) on **28 January 2014** to discuss the situation in Yarmouk refugee camp, as well as the broader impact of the conflict in Syria on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and Palestinian refugees. **Husam Arafat**, Palestinian lawyer and long-time political activist, took part in the discussions.

[**The BDS Movement**](http://www.bdsmovement.net)issued a [statement](http://www.bdsmovement.net/2014/2014-begins-with-boycott-success-11650) on **21 January 2014** under the title *UN Year of Solidarity with the Palestinian People begins with boycott success*. The coalition also updated on **10 January 2014** its [round-up](http://www.bdsmovement.net/2014/2013-round-up-11579) of 2013 BDS successes.

[**B'Tselem - The Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories**](http://www.btselem.org)and[**HaMoked**](http://www.hamoked.org)published on **20 January 2014** the [report](http://www.hamoked.org/Document.aspx?dID=Updates1268) *So near and yet so far: Implications of Israeli-imposed seclusion of the Gaza Strip on Palestinians’ right to family life*.

[**Defence for Children International Palestine**](http://www.dci-palestine.org/)issued on **23 January 2014** its new [violations bulletin](http://www.dci-palestine.org/documents/violations-bulletin-issue-36-december-2013) covering the month of December 2013.

[**The Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions**](http://www.icahd.org/node/524) published its most recent [newsletter](http://www.icahd.org/node/524) on **17 January 2014** including an opinion piece by its co-founder and Director, **Jeff Halper**.

[**The Palestinian Center for Human Rights**](http://www.pchrgaza.org/portal/en/) (PCHR) released on **23 January 2014** its 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=10059:weekly-report-on-israeli-human-rights-violations-in-the-occupied-palestinian-territory-16-22-january-2014-&catid=84:weekly-2009&Itemid=183) covering the period 16 to 22 January 2014.

[**The YWCA-YMCA Joint Advocacy Initiative**](http://www.jai-pal.org/) and the [**Alternative Tourism Group**](http://www.atg.ps/)will organize their [7th Olive Planting Program](http://www.atg.ps/index.php?page=olive_planting) from **8 to 17 February 2014**. Besides olive planting, the programme features introductory presentations about the current situation in Palestine and the effects of the Separation Wall, tours in the old city of Jerusalem, Hebron, Bethlehem, as well as Ramallah, in addition to cultural events and social gatherings.

**NORTH AMERICA**

[**Adalah-NY – The New York Campaign for the Boycott of Israel**](http://adalahny.org/)launched on **14 January 2014** a [petition](http://www.change.org/petitions/statement-of-support-for-the-american-studies-association?share_id=clVPTplbgm&utm_campaign=twitter_link_action_box&utm_medium=twitter&utm_source=share_petition) to show solidarity with the American Studies Association's decision to endorse academic boycott against Israeli academic institutions.

[**The American Task Force on Palestine**](http://sendgrid.atfp.net/wf/click?upn=SXYfstTyYKhh626CoZF3nDyWPOPr8-2Bt1EDlyYVJ2GIaVlwkrI2uo7VppEu9JmdyTM4Qvj2CFQuq6KplFQllxzjTMaEWoWNa5-2BvmQmglQtjNMrZ7qEGyRaxHs3eLlm91CEhK3KDoEZwnVGAakv-2BFFEA-3D-3D_lZ2pj12m0-2BiDFWXpm01KT6aCDKxdW2EuUa-2BNGnHZ3yee2tOXLqLrQF-2FBDvKDavBaUdUYQzhpniOK3U7pMxNgPranyOBzkGRXA5USWpBaqqOVajrhrb-2Fw-2Fpr28zJSP7-2B1QkLyE2L2NCrAGPPjcyp0TrBM458u4vVMw-2BH7y7yP9fAq1mEucGc1W3NJFfZHBoWg)(ATFP) hosted a [briefing](http://www.americantaskforce.org/civicrm/event/info?reset=1&id=17) on Palestinian refugees in Syria and the crisis at Yarmouk refugee camp on **22 January 2014**. Panelists included **Christopher McGrath** (UNRWA), **Andrew J. Tabler** (Washington Institute for Near East Policy), and **Hussein Ibish** (ATFP).

[**The Campaign to Free Ahmad Sa’adat**](http://freeahmadsaadat.org/) is still mobilizing for [Freedom Weeks](http://freeahmadsaadat.org/2014/01/05/freedom-weeks-call-to-action-january-15-30-2014/) until **30 January 2014**, a call to action to free all Palestinian political prisoners and to end the Palestinian Authority security coordination with Israel. Posters and materials are available [here](http://freeahmadsaadat.org/resources/).

[**The Canada Palestine Association**](http://www.cpavancouver.org)(CAP) and [**the Voice of Palestine**](http://www.voiceofpalestine.ca/) issued a [joint statement](http://www.cpavancouver.org/index.php/2014/01/22/denounce-assault-on-palestinian-journalists-by-harpers-security/) on **22 January 2014** to denounce the behavior of the Canadian security forces accompanying Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper at the Nativity church in Bethlehem.

[**The Center for Palestine Studies**](http://www.columbia.edu/cu/palestine/)at Columbia University seeks applicants for a residential Fellowship in “Palestine & Law” for the 2014-2015 academic year. Interested applicants should propose a course of research and scholarship relating to a range of domestic, regional or international legal issues concerning Palestinians and/or Palestine. The deadline for application is **3 February 2014**. Please click [here](http://www.columbia.edu/cu/palestine/about/fellowships.html) for more information.

[**Code Pink - Women For Peace**](http://www.codepink.org) updated the [actions](http://www.codepink.org/article.php?id=6609) of its [Boycott SodaStream!](http://www.codepink.org/article.php?list=type&type=470) initiative which now features a [letter campaign](http://codepink.salsalabs.com/o/424/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action_KEY=7193) asking Scarlett Johansson to end her PR contract with SodaStream, a factory operating in the Israeli settlement of “Ma'ale Adumim”.

[**Churches for Middle East Peace**](http://www.cmep.org/)(CMEP) is calling on its supporters to [protect the Cremisan Valley](http://action.cmep.org/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action_KEY=16377) near Bethlehem against the construction of the Separation Wall. CMEP is also [campaigning](http://action.cmep.org/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action_KEY=16261) against the expansion of Israeli settlements activities.

[**The Institute for Middle East Understanding**](http://imeu.net/)(IMEU) published on **21 January 2014** a [new fact sheet](http://imeu.net/news/article0024811.shtml) entitled *Occupation Profiteering: The SodaStream Model for Success*, in reaction to the current controversy surrounding actress Scarlett Johansson's endorsement deal with SodaStream, a factory operating in the Israeli settlement of “Ma'ale Adumim”.

[**Jadaliyya**](http://www.jadaliyya.com)published on **24 January 2014** an [open letter](http://www.jadaliyya.com/pages/index/16159/open-letter-to-scarlett-johansson-and-oxfam) to Scarlett Johansson and Oxfam, concerning the actress’ involvement with SodaStream.

[**Jasiri X**](https://www.facebook.com/jasirixofficial?fref=ts) released on **28 January 2014** a new [song](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dq6Y6LSjulU) entitled *Checkpoint* and inspired by his recent trip to Israel and Palestine.

[**The Palestine Awareness Coalition**](http://palestineawarenesscoalition.wordpress.com/) organized on **24 January 2014** the event *The Historical Context of the Palestinian Maps: Fact and Fiction* featuring **Dr.** **Hani Faris** (University of British Columbia).

[**The US Campaign to End the Israeli Occupation**](http://endtheoccupation.org/) launched on **21 January 2014** the [campaign](http://www.endtheoccupation.org/section.php?id=465) *Scarlett Johansson: Don't Be the Face of Occupation!* inviting its supporters to share [social media graphics](http://www.endtheoccupation.org/article.php?id=3818), sign a [petition](http://org.salsalabs.com/o/641/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action_KEY=14890), etc.

[**The Voice of Palestine**](http://www.voiceofpalestine.ca/) presented on **26 January 2014** a new [interview](http://www.voiceofpalestine.ca/?p=4248) with **Bruce Katz**,President of the [Palestinian and Jewish Unity](http://www.pajumontreal.org/paju_en), to talk about his organization’s recent statement entitled [*The Indecency of the Harper Government’s Support for Israel*](http://www.pajumontreal.org/paju_en/?/End-the-occupation-PAJU-Vigil-676-Jan).

**Global**

[**The Israeli Apartheid Week**](http://apartheidweek.org/)(IAW) will launch its 10th edition on **24 February 2014**. To organize an activity or to support the initiative, please contact [iawinfo@apartheidweek.org](mailto:iawinfo@apartheidweek.org) or follow IAW on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Israeli-Apartheid-Week/129266200471771?fref=ts).   
  
[**The Russell Tribunal on Palestine**](http://www.russelltribunalonpalestine.com/en/) (RToP) organized at Sciences Po Paris on **25 January 2014** an [event](https://www.facebook.com/events/576539375764459/?source=1) to discuss the conclusions and recommendations of the Tribunal. Panelists included **Véronique de Keyser** (MEP), **Ilan Pappé** (University of Exeter), **Miguel Angel Estrella** (Argentina Ambassador to UNESCO), **Jean-Guy Greilsamer** (BDS France), **Taoufik Tahani** (Association France Palestine Solidarité), **Pierre Galand**, **Frank Barat** and **Brahim Senouci** (RToP).

**UNITED NATIONS**

[**The Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People**](http://unispal.un.org/unispal.nsf/com.htm)launched the [International Year of Solidarity with the Palestinian People](http://unispal.un.org/unispal.nsf/solidarity.htm) (hashtag: #2014forPalestine**)** at the opening of its 2014 session on **16 January 2014**. The webcast of the event is available [here](http://webtv.un.org/watch/launch-of-the-international-year-of-solidarity-with-the-palestinian-people/3062938087001/). For more information about the International Year please contact: [2014forPalestine@un.org](mailto:2014forPalestine@un.org).  
  
[**OCHA oPt**](http://www.ochaopt.org/)released a its [December 2013 Humanitarian Bulletin](http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_the_humanitarian_monitor_2014_01_20_english.pdf) on **21 January 2014**. The update covers the period from 1 to 31 December 2013.  
  
[**The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East**](http://www.unrwa.org) (UNRWA) ended on **21 January 2014** a [social media campaign](https://www.thunderclap.it/projects/8170-yarmouk-how-much-longer) which reached more than 11 million people to demand access to Yarmouk refugee camp and all vulnerable civilians in Syria. The campaign was supported by several International/local NGOs and UN agencies from all across the world.   
  
[**The Working Group of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People**](http://unpfp.un.org/)organized under the umbrella of the [International Year of Solidarity with the Palestinian People](http://unispal.un.org/unispal.nsf/solidarity.htm) a screening of the documentary [*Where Should The Birds Fly*](http://whereshouldthebirdsfly.org/), about the situation in the Gaza Strip at the UN Secretariat on **20 January 2014**. A conversation between the director **Fida Qishta,** and the author-journalist **Laila El-Haddad** followed the event.

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