**NGO Action News**

March 17, 2017

<https://unispal.un.org/ngoactionnews.nsf/1c0b3ab87dc4f2f8852568f8007759fd/6a5c1ce834f31e09852580e60073d211?OpenDocument>

**NGO ACTION NEWS**

On 14 March, the Palestinian Centre for Human Rights (PCHR) called on the international community to advocate with the Israeli authorities for the re-opening of the [Maps and Survey Department](http://pchrgaza.org/en/?p=8906) of the Arab Studies Society in East Jerusalem and the release of its director, Mr. Khalil Toufakji, reportedly arrested by Israel Police during a raid of the office.

On 28 February, [BADIL](http://www.badil.org/en/publication/press-releases/86-2017/4738-pr-en-280217-16.html) – Resource Centre for Palestinian Residency and Refugee issued a report entitled “Coercive Environments: Israel’s Forcible Transfer of Palestinians in the Occupied Territory”.

**Europe**

To mark multiple anniversaries in 2017, the [European Coordination of Committees](http://www.eccpalestine.org/justice-for-palestine-now-end-european-complicity-a-call-from-organizations-throughout-europe/) and Associations for Palestine issued a call (“Justice for Palestine now – end European complicity”), stating that a sustainable peace will only be achieved through enforcement of international law.

**North America**

On 13 April, the Jerusalem Fund in Washington, D.C. is hosting the screening of an interactive documentary entitled “[**Jerusalem**](http://www.thejerusalemfund.org/events/upcoming/jerusalem-interactive-documentary), We Are Here”. Film director and producer Dorit Naaman will introduce the film.

From 31 March to 2 April, [Jewish Voice for Peace](https://nmm.jewishvoiceforpeace.org/program/) will hold its 2017 National Member Meeting in Chicago.

On 12 March, [Al Shabaka](http://al-shabaka.org/briefs/israel-uses-gas-enforce-palestinian-dependency-promote-normalization/)-Palestinian Policy Network issued a brief entitled “How Israel Uses Gas to Enforce Palestinian Dependency and Promote Normalization”.

On 9 March, Churches for Middle East Peace held a webinar with Tania Hary, Executive Director of the Gisha-Legal Centre for Freedom of Movement, entitled “Hand on the Switch: [A Conversation about Gaza](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AUJkrIDUlZg&feature=youtu.be)”.

On 8 March, [Palestine Legal](http://palestinelegal.org/news/2017/3/8/legal-orgs-condemn-anti-bds-bills-fast-tracked-in-new-york-state-senate-today-1) and the Centre for Constitutional Rights issued a statement criticizing the passage of three anti-BDS bills by the New York State Senate as unconstitutional attacks on First Amendment rights to protest and dissent.