

# **SPEAKING TRUTH TO POWER: A TESTIMONY BASED SOLIDARITY TOOLKIT**



# INTRO:

This toolkit was developed as part of the Palestine Dialogues: Testimonials of a Genocide and Advocacy Workshop series to support participants and broader communities in engaging in meaningful, rights-based solidarity with the Palestinian people, who continue to endure colonial occupation and genocide.

Rooted in survivor testimony and shaped by the knowledge shared during the workshop sessions, this resource compiles a wide array of tools and materials to support informed action grounded in a human rights approach. It brings together curated external toolkits, media resources, legal and historical documentation, and cultural materials that center Palestinian voices, resistance, and calls for justice.


Whether you are an educator, activist, researcher, student, or simply someone seeking clarity beyond dominant media narratives, this living document is designed to help connect understanding with responsibility and action.

At its core, it affirms the importance of defending and upholding human rights for all, reminding us that solidarity with the Palestinian people is part of a global struggle for dignity, justice and liberation.




# THE TOOLKIT INCLUDES:

- Selected quotes and insights from witness testimonies
- Summaries and key takeaways from each session
- A directory of existing advocacy toolkits and action guides
- A curated archive of documentary films, interviews, and narrative media by and about Palestinians
- Media literacy and decolonial discourse resources
- Practical guides to countering anti-Palestinian racism, media bias, and colonial erasure



This is not a comprehensive archive, but a focused and evolving collection meant to empower those engaging in solidarity, organizing, education, and policy work. It will continue to grow with future sessions focusing on topics such as apartheid and digital rights.



# SURVIVING GENOCIDE: THROUGH THE EYES OF GAZANS

In this opening session, we centered the voices of Palestinians living through the ongoing genocide in Gaza. Participants listened to firsthand testimonies of displacement, loss, and survival under Israel's total siege and bombardment. Their stories exposed the collapse of basic infrastructure, the destruction of homes and communities, and the psychological toll of continuous attacks. These narratives push back against media dehumanization and affirm the necessity of listening to Palestinians as primary witnesses to their own experiences.



## ZAINAB



as a Palestinian and someone who has spent every day of the past months carrying the weight of distance and the fear of loss. While I am physically away from Gaza my heart has never lifted. Every message from my family is a lifeline. Every missed call is a moment of panic. I have watched from afar as my home was turned into rubble, as my loved ones were forced to be displaced, and as their voices grow fainter under the noise of war and destruction. Trying to live a normal life. In exile, going to work, attending meetings feels very hard, even wrong. How can anything feel normal when the people you love are not safe? How do you carry on when survival feels like a privilege you didn't choose? And yet, like so many Palestinians, I have learned to hold two truths at once: deep sadness and deep strength. This is what we call sumud. It's not just survival. It is the decision to exist with dignity. To speak even when you are silenced. To remember when. To remember even when the world forgets.



## REEMA

“

I speak today to you as someone who carries the weight and the pain, the loss and the resilience in my heart and mind as well. Before October 7, life in Gaza was full of its own challenges and obstacles. It turned much more horrible after October 7th. Since then, there has been no normal, no safety, no peace. The sound of explosions. Only the fear of everything. The constant threat of death. These are the daily realities my family and countless others face. For those of us who are still fortunate enough to be alive, every day is a fight for survival. Every night is a gamble with it. Will we wake up again? Will our loved ones be there in the morning? In my case, I have been forced to witness my family's displacement, starvation, pain, loss and fear from a distance. Separated from them. I have spent two years, six months and three weeks away from Gaza and away from my people. And 19 months helplessly watching as they endure displacement, hunger and grief and unrelenting violence of this genocide. I have seen my home burned then completely bombed, my family members torn apart by the brutality of this war and my heart broken as I am unable to offer them anything but my prayers and love. On the other hand, I was forced to continue my life, to study, to graduate, to work alone. Yet, amid this profound pain, there is something that continues to drive us forward, Sumud. It is belief. Deeply rooted in our spirit as Palestinians. And it is what keeps us standing even when we feel we can't. It is the belief that despite everything that has been lost, despite the darkness around us, we will continue. We will hold onto hope. Even it feels like hope is slipping through our fingers.

”



## HASSAN

“

Every moment I look at my children, I don't know if I will see them again or not. On the number of people who lost their children. The number of children who were martyred. This makes me even more careful in taking care of them. Because I don't know. How hard it will be for me to lose them and for them to lose me. This feeling is something that not everyone can understand, and I know very well the people who have gone through this experience and how difficult it is. The experience of loss. All the time I say, "Oh God, don't let me lose someone." Because this is very difficult.

”

## TAREQ

“

Suddenly, there is displacement. Suddenly, you are standing in your room. What do you want to take with you? This question that always confuses everyone, you want to take clothes, you want to take your memories, you want to take the scent of your childhood, you want to take everything with you, but in the end, you can't take all the things, you will take two outfits to walk around in them and leave behind your memories, your years, and your connection to your home. We are all connected to the home, the home in which we were born and in which we had long memories.

”  
→



# AHMAD

“

As I said before, we are not numbers. This is a very important point because at a certain moment the world deals with us, or gets used to the idea and image of killing, or death, as just a scene, the way the world reads the numbers is like a normal reading, but I repeat by saying that We are not Numbers. We are people who love, love life, who love life very much and are always looking for opportunities, spaces and avenues of hope. Every person we are losing is someone who had the best dreams and ambitions returning to the loss of my friends Mohamed Sani is an artist and also Darghami Grigar is an artist too. The news may not have mentioned their names much, but they are the most important artists and they also draw very beautifully.

”



BISAN

“

Everywhere, there is the sound of bombing. Every now and then you prepare yourself for bad news, meaning news of someone being martyred, or someone dear to your heart being gone. This was the worst thing in my life. So I was always saying that I wish I was the news and I never heard news of anyone, but unfortunately until now I have not been the news. I always receive the news. The feeling was oh God why why why why why I have to feel every day the loss of a new person.

”



Yousif Maher Dawas, twenty years old. He always looks dreamer, pretty from inside and outside. His words were gentle as a cool breeze through high temperatures rise. We dreamed of creating a law firm that included a therapy section to grant the appropriate treatment to our clients. Also, Yousif was a talented writer. In the North of the Gaza Strip where Yousif and his family lived in their house where the olive trees grow just like Yousif in both love and care. On October 14th, the Israeli soldiers had launched bombardments to kill Yousif with his father and three of his siblings. Yousif couldn't achieve his dreams, didn't see his best version that he worked his best for.

Info provided by Ahmad and Bisan from Gaza



Mohammad Sami Qurayqa/24, Mohammad fled his home with his family to Baptist Hospital, trying to find a safe area in light of the continued Israeli bombing of the Gaza Strip.

On October 17, 2023 the Israeli occupation massacred its targets in the courtyard of the Baptist Hospital in Gaza, killing more than 500 civilians, most of whom were women and children, among them was the Palestinian artist Mohammad Sami Qariqa.

Info provided by Ahmad and Bisan from Gaza



Mohammad Saed Al-Halimi, 19 years old, was part of the "Voices from Palestine" team at Tamer Institute. He was a young man with a head full of dreams and hopes, unaware that a small piece of shrapnel could penetrate all that and end his entire life.

Mohammad, whom we affectionately called "Mido," was sitting with his friend Talal Murad on Al-Bahr (Sea) Street. Their conversation was casual, perhaps about friends, the siege, or their modest dreams crowded under a closed sky. Neither of them knew that the sky held a missile that would nearly wipe them out.

When the missile struck, everything ended in an instant. A small piece of shrapnel hit Mohammad's head and put him into a coma. Moments later, he passed away. There was no large wound on his body, no excessive bleeding—just a small piece of shrapnel, but it was enough to take away a beloved friend.

As for Talal, he was injured in his back and now lies in the hospital, battling a pain that reminds him of what happened—and what was lost.




# MAIN TAKEAWAYS

- **Gaza is experiencing a genocide – physically, emotionally, and culturally.** The Israeli state is not just killing the people of Gaza; they are erasing them as families, communities, artists, students, and as a people with dreams and history.
- **Palestinians in Gaza are not numbers – they are individuals with names, stories, and aspirations.** The world often reduces them to casualty counts, but behind every statistic is a lost child, a broken family, or a silenced artist.
- **Psychological suffering is constant and immense.** The trauma of nightly bombings, the fear of loss, and the anxiety of displacement have become daily realities. Many live with untreated psychological wounds.
- **Despite destruction, there is collective strength and solidarity.** From sharing water and opening homes to one another, to organizing theater for children and standing together during bombings, Gazans create support systems rooted in love, care, and resistance.
- **Children are bearing the heaviest burdens.** They are living without education, taking on adult responsibilities, and losing their innocence to war. Over 1,500 children have survived as the only remaining members of their families.




# MAIN TAKEAWAYS

- **Life continues, but not as it should.** People mourn their losses while continuing to care for others, initiate creative projects, and express a relentless desire to live with dignity, peace, and joy.
- **Global discourse often erases Gaza's humanity and creativity.** Testimonies challenge the media's portrayal of Gaza, emphasizing its history of beauty, resilience, education, and innovation.

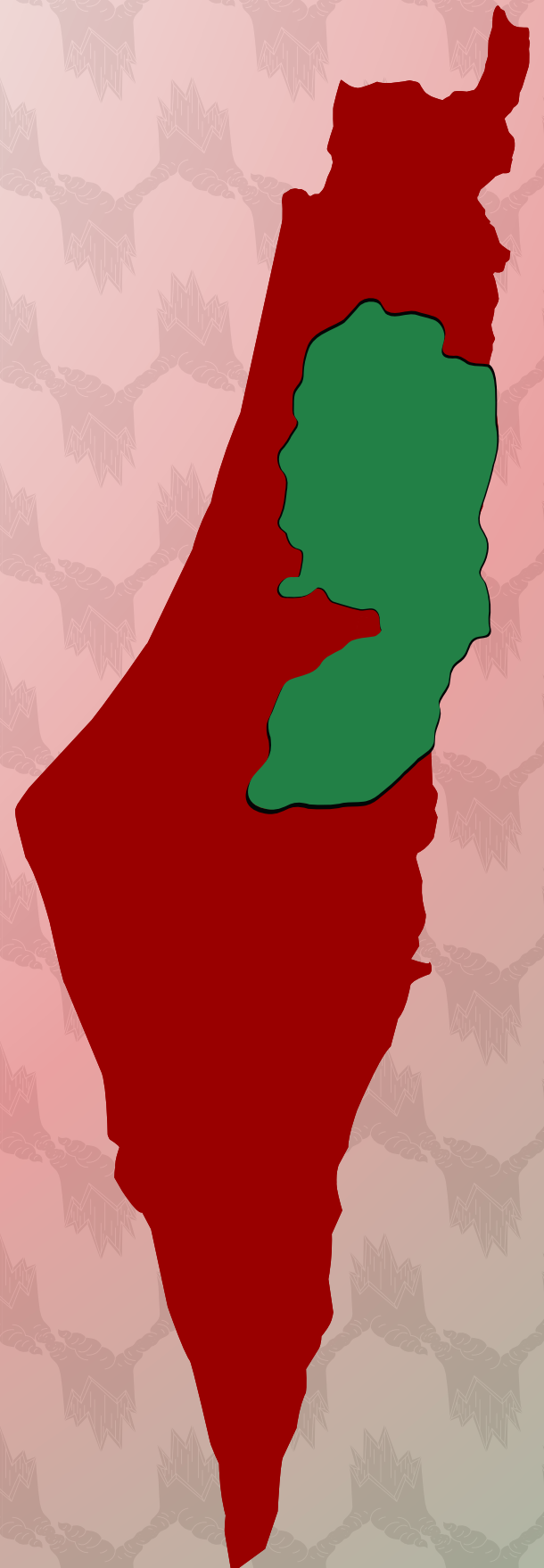


**The call to the world is urgent and moral. Gazans ask not only for empathy but for action: solidarity, accountability, and a real effort to stop the genocide and allow them to live as any human deserves – free from fear, with dignity and hope.**



# VOICES FROM THE WEST BANK: LIFE UNDER OCCUPATION

This session brought together testimonies from Palestinians living in the West Bank, highlighting the daily realities of military occupation, settler violence, and apartheid infrastructure. Participants described forced evictions, arbitrary checkpoints, home demolitions, and the persistent threat of imprisonment. Their testimonies underscore the continuity between Gaza and the West Bank as sites of Israeli settler-colonial violence and Palestinian sumud.



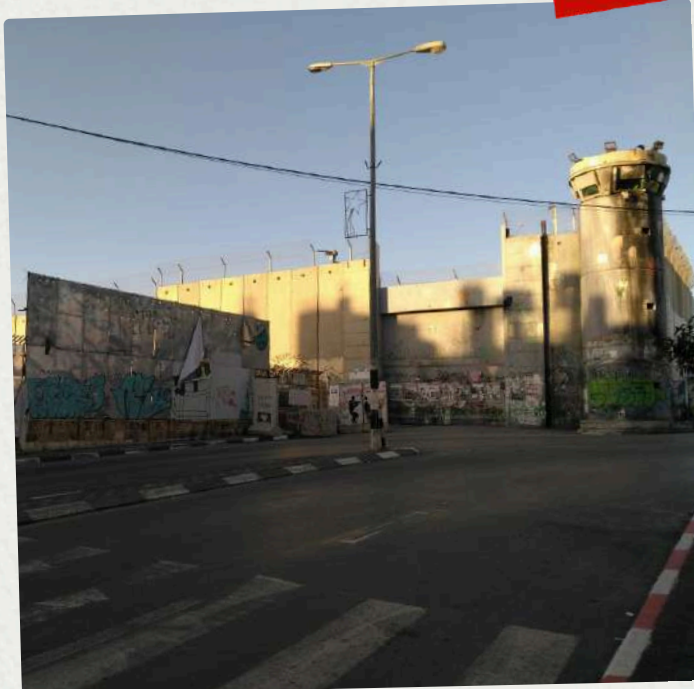
# ANONYMOUS 1

“

Honestly, the checkpoints in Palestine are very difficult. Every checkpoint has a story. Every checkpoint has a tale. Honestly, the checkpoints separate many things. It separates me from my family, from my friends, from the people I love. Just by looking at the wall, I feel psychological pressure. It affects me deeply as a young Palestinian man who has ambitions and dreams in Palestine. I love to move around and go and see my country, but I can't see it the way I want to, it is very difficult to move around I feel like I am traveling to a faraway place while I am in the same place

”

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## ANONYMOUS 2



I see that the international media does not convey the truth sufficiently. Rather, it looks at issues from a political perspective and does not look at them from a human perspective. It considers us to be victims and numbers, but it does not see that we are stories of success, culture, and determination. We need media agencies that convey the reality and the truth as it is. I see that the role of international organizations is insufficient. They only work in the field of documentation, advocacy, and annual reports, and this is not enough because they go in vain with the wind. We demand that they take action in a real and serious manner, that they find radical solutions. Despite everything, we still cling to hope, the hope that we take from the children who continue their education despite the difficult circumstances.



How does the process of applying for a permit to travel to Jerusalem work? Are there a list of accepted reasons, where do you submit your application and how long does it usually take?

Before applying for any permit, individuals must obtain a magnetic card: this card is issued by the Israeli Civil Administration and includes biometric data. Where to get it? At one of the DCO (District Coordination Office) branches such as in Bethlehem, Hebron, or Ramallah.

Who needs it? All individuals aged 16 and above who wish to apply for a permit.

What's required? ID, photos, and possibly supporting documents depending on the type of permit you'll be applying for later.



Types of Permits and  
Accepted Reasons:

**A. Religious Permits (e.g., Ramadan Permits):**

Issued during Ramadan to allow access to Al-Aqsa Mosque on Fridays.

Criteria vary each year but typically: Women above 50 Men above 60 Sometimes younger people are included based on political/security conditions. Where to apply? Through the Palestinian DCO or sometimes through online coordination platforms (when open).

**B. Medical Permits:** Granted to those who have appointments at hospitals in East Jerusalem (e.g., Augusta Victoria, Al-Makassed).

Requires: A formal hospital appointment letter.

Referral documents from the Palestinian  
Ministry of Health.



**C. Work Permits:** Permits for employment in Jerusalem. Currently suspended for most sectors due to the ongoing war. Previously coordinated either by employers or through labor unions.

**D. NGO / INGO Permits:** For staff of international and some local organizations. The organization applies on behalf of the staff through a coordination process. Requires: Official employment confirmation. Justification for the need to work in Jerusalem. Often requires clearance and vetting.

**E. Humanitarian and Family Visits:** Previously included reasons such as visiting a sick relative, attending a funeral, or weddings. Many of these permits have been suspended or highly restricted post-October 2023 war.



## Where to Submit the Application:

*Palestinian DCO:* The application usually goes through the Civil Affairs Office. Online systems: Sometimes used for Ramadan or medical permits.

*INGOs/Employers:* Submit through the Israeli Civil Administration directly.



## How Long Does It Take?

**Magnetic card:** Typically issued within a few days to a week.

**Permit approval:**

**Medical permits:** Often processed within 24–72 hours.

**Ramadan permits:** May be issued days before Ramadan or each Friday.

**INGO permits:** 1–2 weeks or more depending on security clearance.

**Others (when available):** Vary widely.

### Important Notes:

Permits can be rejected without explanation.

Approval is heavily affected by security conditions, age, gender, and the current political situation.

Post-war (since October 2023), most permits, especially for work and family visits, are severely restricted or frozen.



Have there been cases where people were unable to return to their homes due to road closures? If so, how do they cope with or respond to these situations? and how about the roads at night?

Yeah, this happens often. Just last week, my girl cousins were stuck at the Enab checkpoint for over six hours. They faced harassment there, and the worst part was that all communication got cut. Their parents thought they were already home, so they were panicking the whole time. It was terrifying for everyone.



How are students and teachers coping with the instability and restrictions in the West Bank?

It's tough, but we're doing our best. Whether it's school or university, some days we just can't make it because of checkpoints or clashes. Most teachers get it, but it still messes with our heads and focus. We lean on each other and try to push through, because honestly, education feels like the only thing we have control over. But all of this it's not just about us. It's shaping a whole generation that's growing up with stress, fear, and constant uncertainty.



## The Case of the Jerusalemites

Most Palestinians in East Jerusalem are not Israeli citizens. Instead, they hold “permanent residency” status granted by the Israeli Ministry of Interior. This status is tied to their Jerusalem ID (blue-colored).

While some East Jerusalemites also hold Jordanian passports, they do not have Jordanian citizenship unless separately granted. They are considered Palestinians under international law, but Israel does not recognize Palestinian nationality.



The Jerusalem ID (Blue ID): Issued by Israel. Confirms permanent residency, not citizenship. Allows: Freedom of movement inside Israel and East Jerusalem. Access to Israeli healthcare (with conditions). Social services (if eligible).

Can be revoked if: You live outside Jerusalem for an extended period.

East Jerusalem Palestinians are classified as "stateless" by international standards, despite holding travel documents.



There are a few types East Jerusalem Palestinians might hold:

1. **Israeli Travel Document (Laissez-Passer)** Issued to those with permanent residency but no citizenship. States that the holder is "undefined nationality." Needed to travel abroad. Not equivalent to a passport and less accepted globally.
2. **Some families have Jordanian temporary passports**, often without a national number (so, limited rights). These are usually used for travel or residency in Jordan, but do not mean Jordanian citizenship unless otherwise granted.



I was born in Jerusalem, and my place of birth is officially listed as "Jerusalem" on my ID.

However, I hold a West Bank ID, not a Jerusalem ID. That's because, back in 1992, Palestinians from the West Bank were still able to enter Jerusalem freely without a permit. At that time, it was common for many to give birth in Jerusalem hospitals. But being born in Jerusalem alone doesn't grant you the right to hold a Jerusalem ID. Since my parents were registered as West Bank residents, I was also registered under the West Bank system, despite my birth taking place in Jerusalem.



# MAIN TAKEAWAYS

- **Military occupation profoundly disrupts everyday life.** From arbitrary checkpoints to settler violence and the omnipresence of soldiers, the occupation imposes physical, emotional, and psychological barriers on movement, connection, and safety.
- **Checkpoints are not just physical barriers, they are tools of psychological warfare.** Testimonies reveal how checkpoints isolate people from their communities, dreams, and freedom of movement, generating lasting trauma.
- **Expressions of identity are criminalized.** Wearing traditional Palestinian dress or even carrying a keffiyeh can result in harassment or assault, turning cultural heritage into a site of struggle.
- **The genocide in Gaza reverberates across Palestine.** Though geographically separated, people in the West Bank feel profound grief, fear, and solidarity with those in Gaza, reminding us that the violence is systemic and national.
- **Media and international actors are failing Palestinians.** Testimonies challenge the role of international media and organizations that reduce Palestinians to statistics rather than recognizing their humanity, resistance, and culture.
- **Despite immense suffering, hope and steadfastness remain.** Whether through acts of joy, cultural expression, or the commitment to stay on the land, Palestinians continue to resist erasure and dream of a free future.



# RESILIENCE AND RESISTANCE - LEGAL AND GRASSROOTS PERSPECTIVES

**Palestinian Centre for Human Rights (PCHR) - Gaza**

In this session, Basel Sourani, a representative of the Palestinian Centre for Human Rights (PCHR), joined us. Based in Gaza, Palestine, PCHR is a leading human rights organization working to protect civil liberties, uphold international law, and seek justice for Palestinians living under military occupation and now genocide. The organization provides legal aid, monitors rights violations, and documents war crimes to support accountability efforts and fight Israeli impunity in international forums.



**PALESTINIAN CENTRE  
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS**



# RESILIENCE AND RESISTANCE - LEGAL AND GRASSROOTS PERSPECTIVES

Palestinian Centre for Human Rights (PCHR) - Gaza

## Focus Areas:

- International humanitarian law
- Civil and political rights
- Legal representation for victims of Israeli military actions

## Contact:

- Palestinian Centre for Human Rights



[Website](#)



[@pchrgaza](#)



PALESTINIAN CENTRE  
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS



# RESILIENCE AND RESISTANCE - LEGAL AND GRASSROOTS PERSPECTIVES

## Youth Against Settlements (YAS) - Hebron

Muhanned Qafesha, a representative of Youth Against Settlements (YAS), also joined us for this session. YAS is a grassroots, nonviolent direct action group based in Hebron. The organization works to end illegal Israeli settlement expansion and military occupation in the city, where Palestinian residents face daily harassment, displacement, and severe movement restrictions. Through community organizing, media advocacy, and international solidarity campaigns, YAS empowers Palestinian youth to resist systemic oppression and assert their right to live with dignity in their own homes.



# RESILIENCE AND RESISTANCE - LEGAL AND GRASSROOTS PERSPECTIVES

Youth Against Settlements (YAS) - Hebron

Focus Areas:

- Nonviolent direct action
- Community organizing
- International advocacy

Contact:

- Humans of Hebron:

 [Humans of Hebron](#)

 [@humansfromhebron](#)

- Youth Against Settlements

 [Youth Against Settlements](#) [شباب ضد الاستيطان](#)

 [@muhannedqafesha](#)

Video Links

- Soldier on the roof: <https://vimeo.com/659905812>

- Skies above Hebron:

<https://www.2doc.nl/documentaires/2020/11/skies-above-hebron.html>

- Settler Attack: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aBrBBqOqeVo)

[v=aBrBBqOqeVo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aBrBBqOqeVo)



# MAIN TAKEAWAYS

- **Palestinians are being systematically denied the right to life:** Whether in Gaza or the West Bank, the occupation enforces policies that deliberately make survival difficult, cutting off access to water, electricity, movement, and medical care.
- **Medical apartheid is killing people in real time:** In Hebron's H2 area, ambulances are effectively blocked by the Israeli army. Emergency care requires six bureaucratic approvals to move across town, causing preventable deaths, like that of a neighbor who died waiting. These delays are not isolated—they are structured and widespread.
- **The occupation weaponizes time:** Every second of delay at checkpoints – deliberate, bureaucratized, and enforced by the military – is designed to turn critical moments into death sentences. The system functions with precision to let people die.
- **Settler violence is state violence:** Settlers are not rogue actors – they are the state. They are armed, empowered, and protected by the Israeli government. Ministers live in Hebron settlements. The system arms settlers and criminalizes Palestinian existence.
- **The imbalance is total:** Settlers enjoy complete freedom and impunity. Palestinians live under a 24/7 threat – from being killed for crossing a street, opening a window, or defending themselves. Even digital and physical privacy is stripped away by military surveillance.




# MAIN TAKEAWAYS (CONT.)

- **There is no safety, not even at home:** The army uses facial recognition, drones, and checkpoint surveillance to monitor Palestinians inside their own homes. This creates a constant state of psychological occupation, especially for women who feel watched and violated even in their private spaces.
- **Nonviolent resistance is criminalized and attacked:** Peaceful protest, filming abuse, and even existing in one's home is met with violence, arrest, or death. Activists are targeted, blacklisted, and threatened. Yet communities continue to resist through steadfast presence, mutual support, and visibility.
- **Existence itself is resistance:** Youth Against Settlements supports families under threat – legally, emotionally, logistically – so they do not leave because staying, helping others remain, and exposing the occupation is an act of collective defiance.
- **The camera is the only defense:** Palestinians are not allowed to defend themselves physically – doing so can mean execution. Their only shield is documentation. Filming is dangerous, but it's also one of the few ways to protect others and hold the occupation accountable internationally.
- **Life was already unbearable before October 7:** Gaza's population endured economic collapse, broken infrastructure, and movement restrictions under a suffocating blockade. Repeated military assaults compounded the crisis. Even before the war, human rights work was a battle – activists faced enormous risks simply trying to document abuses and engage international legal systems.



# MAIN TAKEAWAYS (CONT.)

- **October 7 marked a shift from crisis to catastrophe:** Genocide didn't begin on October 7, but what followed intensified and confirmed long-held fears. The scale of bombing, mass displacement orders, and dehumanizing rhetoric like "human animals" and "Amalek" were clear early indicators of genocidal intent.
- **Displacement was not for safety – it was strategic:** The forced evacuation of over a million Gazans was not about protection. It was seen as a pretext for permanent removal, potentially into Sinai. The goal was not to save lives, but to erase a people from their land.
- **Human rights workers became victims themselves:** Those who had long documented suffering found themselves displaced, traumatized, and grieving. Dana Yaghi and Noor Abu Noor, both from the Palestinian Centre for Human Rights, were killed, along with members of their families. The work of advocacy blurred with the pain of personal loss.
- **Documenting became a lifeline, not a task:** Despite unimaginable strain, human rights defenders continue collecting testimonies and preserving evidence. Survivors want to be heard. Sharing their stories has become both an act of resistance and a demand for recognition.
- **International law is limited – but not useless:** International law won't liberate Palestine, but it holds moral weight and long-term relevance. While global institutions like the ICC and UN have moved slowly, the genocide case brought to the ICJ by South Africa is a rare example of decisive action. 

# MAIN TAKEAWAYS (CONT.)

- **This is genocide, by the legal definition:** Four of the five acts listed in the Rome Statute have been met in Gaza: killing members of a group, causing serious bodily or mental harm, creating conditions to destroy life, and preventing births. What is unfolding fits the textbook definition of genocide.
- **Legal cracks are forming in Israel's impunity:** ICC arrest warrants for Netanyahu and Gallant are a breakthrough, but they came too late and did not include genocide charges. Still, they mark a significant shift in international accountability.
- **South Africa is leading where others stay silent:** South Africa is acting with courage by taking legal steps at the ICJ. In contrast, most Arab and European governments have remained silent, even in the face of overwhelming evidence.
- **Testimonies are building a genocide case:** Human rights groups are collecting evidence for the ICJ genocide case, citing four qualifying acts: killings, serious harm, conditions aimed at destruction, and prevention of births. Provisional measures from the ICJ already demand a ceasefire – implicitly recognizing the threat.
- **Humanitarian devastation is ongoing and documented:** Reports include mass displacement, starvation, congenital disabilities, and the killing of civilians, doctors, and journalists. Medical care, clean water, food, and shelter are largely inaccessible. A dossier of 85 cases has been submitted, though full justice will take years.



# MAIN TAKEAWAYS (CONT.)

- **Legal strategies face systemic obstruction:** International law requires exhausting domestic remedies, but the Israeli system is widely viewed as unwilling and incapable of holding itself accountable. Most investigations focus on minor breaches, not international law violations.
- **Palestine is the test case for global justice:** The credibility of international law is on the line. If the system fails Palestine, it will fail everywhere. What's at stake is not just accountability for Israel, but the future of human rights worldwide.
- **Gaza and the West Bank are under one regime with many tools:** What happens in Gaza is not separate from the West Bank. Both are part of a single oppressive structure. In Gaza, the method is genocidal. In the West Bank, it's forced displacement, settler violence, and criminalization of protest. The shared goal is domination and removal.
- **There are only four directions, and all are dead ends:** The regime's trajectory offers four paths:
  - A one-state solution is politically impossible.
  - A two-state solution is no longer viable.
  - Apartheid is the current reality, with dual legal systems.
  - Ethnic cleansing is actively being pursued, with Genocide in Gaza as the first target due to its resistance.



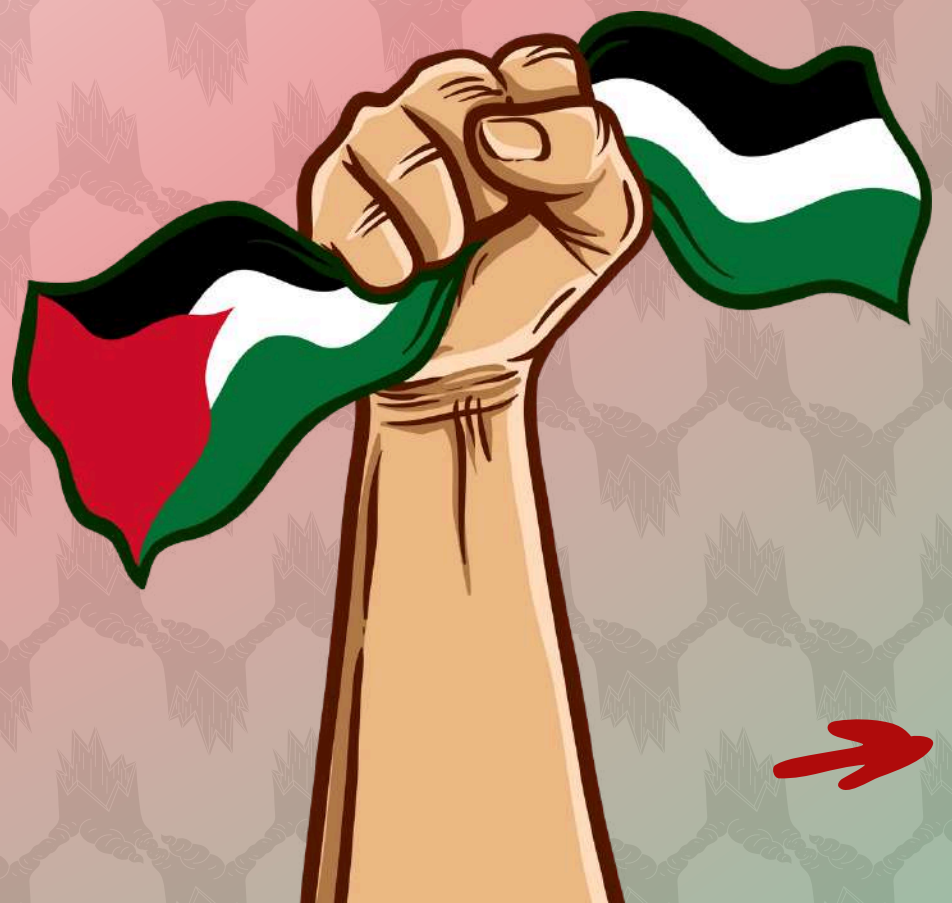
# MAIN TAKEAWAYS (CONT.)

- **Belief survives even in the rubble:** Despite mass death and displacement, hope remains. Arrest warrants, ICJ rulings, and global attention prove that cracks are forming. The struggle is not only for Palestine – it is for every place where justice is delayed.
- **International solidarity is a vital lifeline:** Support from outside Palestine, through awareness, advocacy, and visits, is more important than ever. Israel's international image is weakening, but we must sustain our pressure. The fight continues not just on the ground, but in global public discourse.
- **The world must act now:** There is an urgent call to document evidence, challenge military aid and arms deals, and pressure governments to end complicity. Justice is slow, but public action can accelerate it.



# DECOLONIZING NARRATIVES AND BUILDING GLOBAL SOLIDARITY

In our final session, we heard from international solidarity activists based in Bosnia, who shared reflections on decolonial struggle, media complicity, and the role of transnational grassroots organizing. Drawing connections between Palestine and other histories of resistance, resilience, and survival, the conversation emphasized the urgency of dismantling colonial narratives and forging sustained, people-led solidarity beyond borders.



# MAIN TAKEAWAYS: THINK GLOBAL, ACT LOCAL

## Art, Culture, and Symbols Are Powerful Tools for Resistance

- Events like Eurovision revealed how deeply cultural platforms are entangled in political power.
- Art, music, and symbolic acts (like boycotts, performances, and visible solidarity) can spark global outrage and mobilization.
- Wearing the keffiyeh, flash mobs, protest art, and symbolic visibility in public spaces help normalize the conversation and challenge silence.

## Speak Out Relentlessly and Accurately

- Use the right terms: *genocide*, *apartheid*, *settler colonialism*, *occupation* → this language matters and shapes public perception.
- Correct misleading narratives. Call out euphemisms and media silence.
- Do not stop talking about Gaza and Palestine, especially as global attention often fades/ is shifted away.



# MAIN TAKEAWAYS: THINK GLOBAL, ACT LOCAL (CONT.)

## Education and Reframing Are Critical

- Keep teaching and talking at homes, schools, universities, on WhatsApp, and at the dinner table.
- Challenge indifference. Share personal stories, images, and materials that humanize the reality in Gaza.
- Help others understand that Palestine is not a distant issue; it connects to global systems of racial capitalism, militarism, and imperialism.

## Challenge Systems of Power

- Pressure universities, institutions, and governments to cut ties with Israel, especially military, research, or economic partnerships.
- Take legal routes → use petitions, connect with local legal organizations to file lawsuits in local courts,
- Demand accountability from the media through open letters, audience pressure, and journalistic coalitions.



# MAIN TAKEAWAYS: THINK GLOBAL, ACT LOCAL (CONT.)

## Challenge Systems of Power

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## Act Collectively, Sustainably, and Creatively

- Boycotts, divestment campaigns, and strikes remain practical tools of civil resistance.
- Occupy universities, organize community events, and maintain a presence in the streets.
- Find low-effort, frequent ways to keep the conversation alive (posters, stickers, social media, street art).



# MAIN TAKEAWAYS: THINK GLOBAL, ACT LOCAL (CONT.)

The failures/ design of the International System are more visible than ever.

- There is growing disillusionment with international law, the UN, and other global institutions. Their inaction in the face of genocide reveals their fragility or irrelevance.
- This failure reinforces the importance of **grassroots power, local solidarity, and community-based action.**

Every Act Counts --> There Is No Perfect Way.

- Whether big or small, visible or quiet, every Act that pushes against genocide and complicity matters.
- Resistance is not about purity or perfection. It's about persistence, integrity, and collective momentum.



# ON MEDIA: THE ROLE OF THE MEDIA IN THE ONGOING COLONIZATION

- **Language:** word choice like conflict vs genocide, any word but occupation
- **Orientalist discourse:** Palestinians are violent terrorists (“terror not territory”) or animals or inherently antisemitic, denies rights to resistance & return, etc.)
- **Israeli-centric frames:** “Israel says” or Zionist talking points like “Israel has a right to defend itself”
- **Missing context:** what is omitted? historical facts, human rights, legal context
- **Nakba denial:** denying that Israel was created through a genocide against the indigenous population of Palestine and is maintained by the ongoing colonial invasion and dispossession of the Palestinian people.
- **Erasing refugees:** omitting that Palestinians are the world’s oldest and largest refugee population (with western complicity and Zionist impunity) with the majority of Palestinian refugees living inside historic Palestine, including 80% of the population in Gaza who are refugees)



# DIRECTORY OF ADVOCACY TOOLKITS AND ACTION GUIDES

Organizing guides, toolkits, and campaign materials created by Palestinian and allied organizations to support coordinated action, mobilization, and education.

- Toolkit for Action Event Ideas — #EndTheNakba
  - [Event Ideas — #EndTheNakba](#)
- Toolkit: Funds for Gaza
  - <https://linktr.ee/fundsforgaza>
- All Out for Palestine – Digital Action Toolkit
  - <https://palestinianfeministcollective.org/all-out-for-palestine/>
- Palestine Action Toolkit (PFC)
  - [PDF download](#)
- International Action Toolkit: Scholasticide
  - <https://scholarsagainstwar.org/toolkit/>
- Palestine Portal – Guides and Toolkits
  - <https://www.palestineportal.org/action-advocacy/guides-toolkits/>
- Pal HOPE Toolkit
  - <https://www.pal-hope.org/acts/advocacy-kit>
- PCA Activist Resources Toolkit
  - <https://palestinecampaign.org/activist-resources/>



# CURATED ARCHIVE OF FILMS, INTERVIEWS, AND NARRATIVE MEDIA

*A living media archive that centers Palestinian voices, history, resistance, and lived experience, through documentaries, short films, interviews, and feature narratives. Some materials offer important legal and historical context on displacement, apartheid, settler-colonialism, and international law.*

- Tantura: [https://archive.org/details/tantura.-1080p.-hc.-web-dl.-aac-2.0.x-264\\_202312](https://archive.org/details/tantura.-1080p.-hc.-web-dl.-aac-2.0.x-264_202312)
- The Occupation of the American Mind: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eZNqSAIJIOI&t=1986s>
- Bes D Marx: The Genocide of Palestine: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hW2FwBRvOZI&t=194s>
- Children of Shatila: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SXSmbXBUIhk>
- Women in Struggle: <https://www.cultureunplugged.com/play/848/Women-in-Struggle>
- Investigating War Crimes in Gaza (Al Jazeera): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kPE6vbKix6A&t=584s&pp=ygUdYWwgamF6ZWVvYYSBpc3JhZWxpIHdhciBjcmltZXM%3D>
- Soldier on the roof: <https://vimeo.com/659905812>



# CURATED ARCHIVE OF FILMS, INTERVIEWS, AND NARRATIVE MEDIA (CONT.)

- Skies above Hebron: <https://www.2doc.nl/documentaires/2020/11/skies-above-hebron.html>
- What really happened on October 7th: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GTvsWLVC9QU>
- Israelism: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lq6J7Q6L0yw&t=2529s>
- How Israel Won the West: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ITxoFvVqDoo&t=3037s>
- Jenin Jenin: [https://vimeo.com/499672067?fbclid=IwY2xjawLfwXQBHW4iV\\_aiWSil\\_RZhaXBHnbgqs-h81f-rbYCC6A6Xzu9wn3szGa2LjX15GA](https://vimeo.com/499672067?fbclid=IwY2xjawLfwXQBHW4iV_aiWSil_RZhaXBHnbgqs-h81f-rbYCC6A6Xzu9wn3szGa2LjX15GA)
- Scenes from the Occupation in Gaza: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1JllwmnYnIE>
- Gaza Fights for Freedom: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HnZSaKYmP2s>
- Arna's Children: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cQZiHgbBBcl>
- The Mayor: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aDvOnhssTcc>
- The Creation and the Nakba 1948: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bwy-Rf15UIs>



# CURATED ARCHIVE OF FILMS, INTERVIEWS, AND NARRATIVE MEDIA (CONT.)

- Occupation 101 Voices of the silenced majority: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C56QcWOGSKk>
- Five Broken Cameras: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EcTN3g-b0iA>
- Until When: <https://vimeo.com/122301746?share=copy>
- The Settlers: <https://vimeo.com/1082355868>
- Keffiyeh: [https://vimeo.com/780695653?  
fbclid=IwY2xjawLfWCgBHftCNtD\\_uB2UKVZ4iEQ-  
11PrrhK49wFi4z5sAl8eGfnEW11yHst-UzSYiw](https://vimeo.com/780695653?fbclid=IwY2xjawLfWCgBHftCNtD_uB2UKVZ4iEQ-11PrrhK49wFi4z5sAl8eGfnEW11yHst-UzSYiw)
- Tal Al-Zaatar (and Secrets of the Battle): [https://www.youtube.com/watch?  
v=Ma8H3sEbqtl](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ma8H3sEbqtl)
- In the Grip of the Resistance: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?  
v=htJ10ACWQJM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=htJ10ACWQJM)
- Naji Al-Ali: Artist with a Vision: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?  
v=Y31yUi4WVsU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y31yUi4WVsU)
- The Upper Gate (Bawabat Al-Fawqa): [https://vimeo.com/433362585?  
fbclid=IwY2xjawLfVkkBHTJjxw2LNBKMAPqdqclO75WkL8BNeaikZSipsJ4pv  
e17vYN8rpA25qO-Bg](https://vimeo.com/433362585?fbclid=IwY2xjawLfVkkBHTJjxw2LNBKMAPqdqclO75WkL8BNeaikZSipsJ4pv_e17vYN8rpA25qO-Bg)



# CURATED ARCHIVE OF FILMS, INTERVIEWS, AND NARRATIVE MEDIA (CONT.)

## Film Archives / Playlists:

- 300+ films: <https://bit.ly/2RrCDUH>
- 25 feature films: <https://bit.ly/2T085dh>
- 5 animated films: <https://bit.ly/3bwHevC>
- Al Jazeera film lists:
  - <https://bit.ly/3yp2nBI>
  - <https://bit.ly/2SSpMeC>
  - <https://bit.ly/3f0KK3P>
- Palestinian film collection: <https://bit.ly/3oFcs9z>
- Short films by Palestinian women: <https://bit.ly/3v39SMP>
- Film “Tell Me, Bird”: <https://youtu.be/wdkoxBjKM1Q>
- Anna Jerusalem series: <https://bit.ly/3hG8sDV>

## Key Interviews:

- Interview Helena Cobban: [Understanding Hamas and why that matters | Helena Cobban | UNAPOLOGETIC](#)
- Interview Mohammed El Kurd: [“Dehumanisation of Palestinians is so normalised,” Poet Mohammed El Kurd | UpFront](#)



# MEDIA LITERACY AND DECOLONIAL DISCOURSE RESOURCES

Tools to analyze dominant narratives, colonial framings, and disinformation in mainstream reporting on Palestine.

These resources often include critical legal, political, and historical insights, such as discriminatory laws, narrative framing strategies, and historical timelines.

- **Decolonize Palestine – Debunking Hasbara Talking Points** Breaks down Zionist talking points, provides historical context, and equips readers with counter-narratives rooted in international law and historical accuracy.
  - <https://decolonizepalestine.com>
- **Visualizing Palestine – Genocide Definition and More Visual data** campaigns that visualize the Palestinian experience of injustice, occupation and genocide.
  - <https://visualizingpalestine.org>
- **Interactive Encyclopedia of the Palestine Question** Excellent for contextualizing historical erasure and offering Palestinian-centered knowledge.
  - <https://www.palquest.org>
- **The Essentials Library - Al-Shabaka**
  - <https://al-shabaka.org/essentials-library/>



# MEDIA LITERACY AND DECOLONIAL DISCOURSE RESOURCES (CONT.)

- Samar Zughool – Exoticisation in Decolonial Discourse A powerful essay on the colonial gaze and the framing of Palestinian lives.
  - <https://balticworlds.com/exoticisation-in-the-decolonial-discourse/>
- PALESTINE RESOURCES – Free educational and analytical resources
  - <https://sites.google.com/view/palestine-resources/home>
- Media Decolonization and Dewesternization by Kyle Napier - <https://pressbooks.openeducationalberta.ca/insightsintocommstudies/chapter/chapter-11-media-decolonization-and-dewesternization/>
- Luntz Document: Global Language Dictionary (2009) Internal hasbara (propaganda) guide used by pro-Israel advocates – critical for understanding manipulation tactics
  - <https://www.transcend.org/tms/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/sf-israel-projects-2009-global-language-dictionary.pdf>
- AMEJA Media Guide – Palestine & Israel A guide for journalists, editors, and readers on fair and accurate language use regarding Palestine/Israel.
  - <https://ameja.org/media-guide>
- Copyediting Palestine: Style Guide Analysis A critique of Western journalism style guides and their role in perpetuating biased language and erasure.
  - <https://nuevaepoca.revistalatinacs.org/index.php/revista/article/view/2052/4611>



# MEDIA LITERACY AND DECOLONIAL DISCOURSE RESOURCES (CONT.)

- **Talking Palestine: Framing Analysis – Al Shabaka** A deep analytical breakdown of framing strategies, messaging pitfalls, and narrative building.
  - <https://al-shabaka.org/briefs/talking-palestine-frame-analysis/>
- **Israel-Palestine: A glossary of problematic media language**
  - <https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/israel-palestine-aqsa-sheikh-jarrah-media-coverage-problematic-glossary>
- **CJPME - Factsheet Terminology**
  - <https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/cjpme/pages/2115/attachments/original/1470169479/06-En-Terminology-Factsheet.pdf?1470169479>



# PRACTICAL GUIDES TO COUNTERING ANTI-PALESTINIAN RACISM, MEDIA BIAS, AND COLONIAL ERASURE

Statements, critiques, and guides that challenge institutional silencing and bias, advocate for press freedom, and expose structural anti-Palestinian racism.

*Includes journalist-led initiatives, media coverage analysis, and resources grounded in human rights and international law.*

- **Understanding Anti-Palestinian Racism**
  - <https://www.antipalestinianracism.com/>
- **Defining Anti-Palestinian Racism**
  - <https://www.antipalestinianracism.com/defining>
- **How Islamophobia and anti-Palestinian racism are manufactured through disinformation**
  - <https://theconversation.com/how-islamophobia-and-anti-palestinian-racism-are-manufactured-through-disinformation-216119>
- **Anti-Palestinian Racism: A Resource**
  - <https://podur.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Anti-Palestinian-Racism-for-online-reading.pdf>
- **Further Resources on Anti-Palestinian Racism**
  - <https://www.cjpmefoundation.org/resources>



# PRACTICAL GUIDES TO COUNTERING ANTI-PALESTINIAN RACISM, MEDIA BIAS, AND COLONIAL ERASURE (CONT.)

- Genocide as colonial erasure || Summary of the UN Special Rapporteur's report on Israel's settler-colonial genocide
  - <https://law4palestine.org/genocide-as-colonial-erasure-summary-of-the-un-special-rapporteurs-report-on-israels-settler-colonial-genocide/>
- Statement by Journalists – Protect Journalists in Palestine
  - <https://www.protect-journalists.com/>
- Unbias the News
  - <https://unbiasthenews.org/why-journalists-are-speaking-out-against-western-media-bias-in-reporting-on-israel-palestine>
- Open Letter on U.S. Media Coverage of Palestine:
  - <https://medialetterpalestine.medium.com/an-open-letter-on-u-s-media-coverage-of-palestine-d51cad42022d>
- Media Coverage Analysis: NYT and Gaza War Bias
  - <https://theintercept.com/2024/01/09/newspapers-israel-palestine-bias-new-york-times/>
- Journalist Portraits – ChannelDraw Visual Archive
  - <https://www.channeldraw.org/2023/10/16/portraits-of-journalists-in-the-israel-gaza-conflict/>



# PRACTICAL GUIDES TO COUNTERING ANTI-PALESTINIAN RACISM, MEDIA BIAS, AND COLONIAL ERASURE (CONT.)

- Independent Journalism – The Electronic Intifada
  - <https://electronicintifada.net/>
- The New York Times "weaponized" Hamas rape story is a fraud. Ali Abunimah debunks it
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0VvGF9vYnlw>
- Good Shepherd Collective - Guide for Jewish Anti-Zionist Allyship
  - <https://goodshepherdcollective.org/posts/2024/05/10/guide-for-jewish-anti-zionist-allyship/>
- The Politics of Recognition and the Erasure of Palestine: How the West Uses Recognition to Manage Palestine and Demand Israel's Legitimacy
  - <https://www.palestine-studies.org/en/node/1657567>
- From economy of occupation to economy of genocide: Forever-Occupation, genocide, and profit: Special Rapporteur's report exposes corporate forces behind destruction of Palestine
  - <https://www.ohchr.org/en/documents/country-reports/ahrc5923-economy-occupation-economy-genocide-report-special-rapporteur>

