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ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT 2023



المركز الفلسطيني لحقوق الإنسان
PALESTINIAN CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS





Part I

The Human Rights Situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory

The Israeli aggression on the Gaza Strip on 07 October 2023 has marked a turning point in the Palestinian history and a new Nakba for the Palestinian people, particularly in Gaza that has been under a genocidal war and systematic destruction of most residential buildings and infrastructure. According to the latest figures on the ongoing war in Gaza, 35,456 have been reportedly killed and 79,476 have been injured¹, with thousands missing, and 1.9 million displaced. Additionally, there has been significant destruction of infrastructure, homes, and institutions, with almost 62% of homes destroyed, 84% of hospitals damaged, over 60% of agricultural land affected, and more than 80% of industrial and commercial establishments destroyed.²

IOF are waging an unprecedented war on the Gaza Strip for the eighth consecutive month with unprecedented casualties and widespread destruction, clearly revealing the explicit intent to exterminate the Palestinian

¹ According to Palestinian Ministry of Health statistics on 19 May 2024.

² The World Bank, the European Union, the United Nations: Gaza Strip Interim Damage Assessment, summary note 29 March 2024: <https://thedocs.worldbank.org/en/doc/14e309cd34e04e40b90e-b19afa7b5d15-0280012024/original/Gaza-Interim-Damage-Assessment-032924-Final.pdf>
the mentioned figures are not final and they increase daily.

people in the Gaza Strip. since the beginning of the war, Palestinian civilians and their objects have been Israel's main targets by forcibly displacing them from their neighborhoods, targeting them not only in their homes but also in their shelters. They have subjected civilians to inhumane and coercive conditions, extremely endangering their lives amid a suffocating siege that has reached the point of starvation and the complete deprivation of all basic human necessities. Also, residential buildings, with their residents inside, were evidently targeted, demolishing entire residential blocks on top of their heads. Vital civilian infrastructure necessary for the survival of the population, such as healthcare centers, hospitals, civil defense units, as well as water, electricity, and communication services, were targeted from the very first day of the war. Additionally, IOF have systematically destroyed water and sewage networks. Throughout the war, the Israeli military has also obliterated any prospects for future life in Gaza by demolishing schools, universities, factories, and bulldozing agricultural lands, as well as razing roads, development projects, shops, and warehouses.

This aggression is another chapter in the Palestinian people's cycle of suffering under an occupation ongoing for more than 75 years, marking the longest occupation in modern history. It began in 1948 when IOF forcibly displaced hundreds of thousands of Palestinian inhabitants from their lands through horrific massacres in Palestinian villages and cities. In 1967, IOF further extended its control over all Palestinian territory, unleashing yet another

wave of devastation and mass displacement, ripping more families from their roots and ancestral lands. Since then, successive Israeli governments have relentlessly pursued to Judaize Palestinian lands and systematically alter its identity and demographics through ethnic cleansing, land fragmentation, imposing a stifling siege on Gaza, erupting military checkpoints, and imposing an apartheid system. All these acts constitute war crimes and crimes against humanity, amounting to a crime of apartheid, in pursuant to international human rights experts and advocates, including UN Special Rapporteurs on the occupied Palestinian territory.

The situation in the occupied Palestinian territory was catastrophic even before the 7 October aggression, due to Israel's arbitrary policies and ongoing attacks on the Palestinian territory. The year 2023 witnessed dangerous escalation with the rise of the far-right Israeli government, led by some of the most extremist politicians in Israeli history, including settlers. This extremist government entrenched the apartheid policy in the occupied Palestinian territory, particularly in the West Bank. The Israeli military escalated its attacks in the West Bank and tightened the siege on Gaza, while settlement expansion accelerated, Palestinian homes continued to be demolished, and armed settler attacks on Palestinians in the West Bank increased. Prior to the 07 October aggression, IOF's escalation in 2023 had already claimed the lives of 234 Palestinians, including 118 civilians, amongst them 47 children and 6 women. Two Palestinians died in Israeli prisons, while 1,280 were injured,

including 196 children, 33 women, and 20 journalists, in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. During the final quarter of 2023, as reported by the Palestinian Ministry of Health, the number of casualties has risen to 28,822 deaths and missing within 86 days of war, including 9,100 children and 5,000 women, 56,451 others were injured, and approximately 1.8 million were displaced. In 2023, 21,500 Palestinians were killed in the West Bank and Gaza, among them were 513 Palestinians killed throughout the year, including 319 after 07 October. Dozens were also killed in the West Bank throughout the year, some by settlers. In the Gaza Strip, 30 Palestinians were killed during an Israeli aggression in May that lasted several days.

IOF extensively and systematically use arbitrary detention and torture against Palestinians, particularly during the war on Gaza, where thousands of Palestinians, mostly civilians, were subjected to arrest and torture. Many of those detainees were Palestinian workers who happened to be inside Israel for work under permits issued by the Israeli authorities. PCHR documented tens of cruel torture cases against Palestinians in the Gaza Strip, some of lead to the death of detainees or caused amputations or permanent disabilities.

There have been reports of mass enforced disappearances of Palestinian detainees from the Gaza Strip by Israeli forces. Palestinians are held in detention centers that are not overseen by the Israeli Prison Service and are not monitored by the International Committee of the Red Cross. Since the

beginning of the war, IOF has refused to disclose the number or names of those it has detained in Gaza and has denied detainees' families and lawyers any communication with them. Human rights organizations have issued statements holding the Israeli authorities fully responsible for the safety of the detainees in their prisons, warning that hundreds of detainees could face death if torture and medical neglect continue.

Human rights organizations have called for an immediate and independent investigation into the recent deaths of detainees, amid suspicions that many died as a result of torture, ill-treatment, and extrajudicial executions³.

Palestinian detainees from Gaza are subjected to inhumane and degrading conditions, systematic torture with sexual violence practiced against many of them, including sexual harassment and arbitrary strip searches. The conditions in the Israeli prisons have drastically worsened since the onset of the war on Gaza, as part of Israel's collective punishment policy against Palestinians.

In 2023, IOF's arbitrary arrest campaigns escalated unprecedentedly. From the beginning of the year until the 07 October aggression, about 11,000 Palestinians were arrested in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, including 1,085 children and 300 women. After 07 October, another 5,500 Palestinians

³ PCHR: Urgent Call for Independent Investigation Amidst Persistent Reports of Torture, Enforced Disappearance, and Another Palestinian "Death" in Israeli Custody:
<https://pchrghaza.org/ar/?p=22461>

were detained, including 335 children and 184 women. This figure does not account for Palestinians arrested in Gaza during the ground invasion or workers detained inside Israel while working. The Israeli authorities have not disclosed their numbers or fates. Additionally, 5,500 Palestinians were issued new administrative detention orders or had existing ones renewed in 2023, with 2,670 of these occurring in the last three months of the year, after 07 October. This highlights the scale of arrests carried out by Israeli forces against Palestinians.

By the end of December 2023, the total number of Palestinian detainees in Israeli prisons had reached 8,800, including more than 80 female prisoners in Damon Prison. We could not confirm the status of other detained women from Gaza, held in different camps, and there is no accurate count of children in Israeli prisons. The number of administrative detainees stands at 3,291, meaning the total number of prisoners rose to 3,550 compared to the pre-7 October phase, with administrative detainees increasing by 1,971.

Throughout the year, seven Palestinian detainees died in Israeli prisons. Two of them died before the 07 October events due to medical neglect—one following complications after a heart catheterization, and the other after being left to die following an 87-day hunger strike. After 7 October, five more detainees died, including two from Gaza, as a result of torture amid the brutal crackdown on thousands of Palestinian prisoners in the Israeli

prisons. Notably, these figures do not include those detained in Gaza since the beginning of the Israeli war, most of whom are subjected to enforced disappearance, with their families and lawyers left in the dark about their whereabouts or conditions.

In the same context, IOF escalated its long-standing policy of targeting journalists aiming to silence the truth. For decades, IOF have systematically targeted journalists with live and rubber bullets, arbitrary arrests and threats amid restrictions on journalists' freedom of movement and other repressive measures aimed at impeding their work. PCHR has frequently documented and warned against these actions in its periodic report, "Silencing the Press."

PCHR has alarmingly noticed during the ongoing war on the Gaza Strip that IOF have pursued a systematic policy to silence the press. Journalists have been directly targeted, whether at home or in the field. As of the date of this report, 140 journalists have been killed by Israeli fire during the 7 October aggression, in addition to dozens of others who have sustained severe injuries, many while performing their duties, marking the highest number of journalist casualties worldwide. The indiscriminate bombing of homes and civilian facilities, with no regard for press insignia or the presence of civilians, has forced most journalists, particularly those from international and regional outlets, to leave Gaza, realizing their lives are in grave danger due to Israel's disregard for their status as journalists.

Several UN Special Rapporteurs have confirmed this deliberate targeting of journalists in Gaza, aimed at obscuring the truth. In a statement, they noted:



We have received disturbing reports that, despite being clearly identifiable in their jackets and helmets marked ‘press’ or travelling in well-marked press vehicles, journalists have come under attack, which would seem to indicate that the killings, injuries, and detention are a deliberate strategy by Israeli forces to obstruct the media and silence critical reporting⁴, they said.

“Grave concern over Israel’s refusal to let media from outside Gaza to enter and report unless they are embedded with the Israeli forces.” They added.⁵



In 2023, settler crimes and settlement expansion in the West Bank, including occupied Jerusalem, hit unprecedented levels particularly after the Gaza war. The rise reflects plans by far-right minister Bezalel Smotrich, supported by Israel’s most extremist government, to double settlements in the coming years, as settler violence, with the protection of IOF, against Palestinian

4 UN: Gaza: UN rights experts condemn ‘killing and silencing’ of journalists: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2024/02/1146132>

5 UN: Gaza: UN rights experts condemn ‘killing and silencing’ of journalists: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2024/02/1146132>

civilians and their properties has escalated. Since taking office in December 2022, Netanyahu's coalition has approved 13,000 new settlement units—nearly double the number of homes approved in all of 2022. In May, the Central Planning Council of Israel's Civil Administration approved 5,623 new colonial units in the West Bank,⁶ including 359 units in Elkana, 381 in Revava, 29 in Giv'at Ze'ev, 42 in Karmiel, 7 in Hermesh, and an additional 4,915 units in advanced planning stages.⁷

Regarding restrictions on individuals' movement, the Israeli siege on Gaza continued for the 17th consecutive year. On 07 October 2023, coinciding with the military aggression on Gaza, Israeli authorities completely closed the Beit Hanoun 'Erez' crossing, blocking the passage of all categories having been limitedly allowed to travel. Among those affected were hundreds of cancer patients receiving scheduled treatment according to medical protocols, for whom any delay in care poses a serious threat to their lives.

Since the start of the war, 4,917 patients and injured individuals have been referred abroad for treatment via the Rafah crossing, 50.4% of the 9,741 requests submitted.⁸ Meanwhile, Gaza's healthcare system has nearly collapsed due to systematic attacks by IOF. According to Gaza's Ministry of

6 <https://alqudscenter.info/articles/%D8%AA%D9%82%D8%B1%D9%8A%D8%B1-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A7%D8%B3%D8%AA%D9%8A%D8%B7%D8%A7%D9%86-62023>

7 Ibid.

8 Ministry of Health - Gaza, Health Sector Emergency Report for Day 210 of the Aggression, May 3, 2024.

Health, 155 medical facilities were targeted, shutting down 32 hospitals and 53 healthcare centers. Additionally, 130 ambulances were destroyed, with an estimated average bed occupancy of 244% and 242% for the ICU bed occupancy. Meanwhile, 400 kidney patients are deprived of dialysis at hospitals, and 1,360,191 cases of infectious diseases have been reported in the UNRWA and Governmental primary health care centers, including 58884 cases of hepatitis A, due to the severely overcrowded shelters with poor sanitation. Moreover, during the aggression, 493 medical personnel members were killed and over 310 were detained.⁹

In 2023, IOF continued to impose tightened restrictions on the entry of items classified as “dual use¹⁰.” The dual-use items include 61 types and hundreds of commodities and essential supplies. The siege has deeply jeopardized Gaza populations’ economic rights, as the unemployment rate reached 46.6%, with 253,000 workers jobless¹¹, and raising poverty to 53%, according to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics¹². Additionally, 62.2% of Gaza’s population faced food insecurity, according to the OCHA report.¹³

9 Ibid.

10 Israeli occupation authorities claim that although these materials are used for civilian purposes, they can be used to advance combat capabilities of Palestinian armed groups.

11 PCBS, The Results of the Labour Force Survey Third Quarter (July– September, 2023)

12 PCBS, On the occasion of the International Population Day 11 July 2020: <https://pcbs.gov.ps/post.aspx?lang=en&ItemID=3774>.

13 OCHA Food insecurity, few Palestinians in Gaza Meet Their Food Needs: <https://www.ochaopt.org/ar/theme/food-security>



On 07 October 2023, as the Israeli military campaign began on Gaza, IOF closed Kerem Shalom commercial crossing, Gaza's sole and main commercial crossing, blocking essential goods, foodstuffs, and medical supplies, causing a severe shortage of most essential food supplies, such as meat, poultry, eggs, vegetables, sugar, cooking gas, and fuel. As a result, prices for limitedly available goods rose by more than 500%, leaving most of Gaza's population in hunger and extreme food insecurity. A joint WFP and UNICEF report¹⁴ noted that North Gaza had reached the fifth and most critical level of food insecurity, putting thousands of children, the elderly, and the sick at risk of starvation and dehydration. The report also indicated that about 95% of families have reduced both the number and portion size of their meals, with 64% of families managing on only one meal per day, and adults eating less to prioritize food for children. In late October, the occupation forces began permitting limited humanitarian aid into Gaza. Since the start of the Israeli war, 19,354 trucks have entered, carrying 19,952 tons of medical supplies, 10,435 tons of fuel, 123,453 tons of food, 26,692 tons of water, 44,103 tons of other relief items, 2,023 tons of tents and tarps, and 123 equipped ambulances. Due to malnutrition and dehydration, 28 residents in Gaza have died.¹⁵

According to the Gaza Municipality, IOF cut off water sources to the Gaza

14 WFP and UNICEF joint report: Nutrition Vulnerability and Situation Analysis in Gaza: <https://www.unicef.nl/files/GAZA%20Nutrition%20Vulnerability%20and%20Situation%20Analysis.pdf>

15 MOH in Gaza, Health Sector Emergency Report for the 190th Day of Aggression.

Strip, prevented the entry of fuel needed to operate the wells, and deliberately destroyed, through its war machine, about 40 water wells, 9 tanks of different sizes, and about 42 thousand linear meters of water networks of different diameters. IOF also destroyed local and central wells, most notably the Safa well in the northeast of the city, which supplies 20% of Gaza's water needs, while the water purchased from the Israeli company Mekorot, which covers 25% of the Gaza's needs, is being withheld. During April, IOF resumed pumping water from the Mekorot company. Moreover, IOF have destroyed about 60 out of 80 operational wells and damaged the desalination plant, which provided 10% of Gaza's daily water needs.¹⁶ Electricity and water supplies have been cut from the first day of the war.

During the war on the Gaza Strip, the education sector was subject to both direct and indirect attacks over a span of six months. The Israeli military aggression deprived over 620,000 students of continuing their education, as students were forced to discontinue their education after only one month into the 2023/2024 academic year. These students were enrolled in 796 schools across the Gaza Strip, including 442 public schools, 284 UNRWA-run schools, and 70 private schools.¹⁷ A total of 351 schools sustained various levels of damage, ranging from complete destruction to severe partial

¹⁶ Statement issued by the Gaza Municipality on the Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/municipalitygaza/posts/pfbid02Rs6tdSX2X7r4MAbThYhxFKfBxFo5kkqnMsjmFZzuWuw3JrA9KihVbc9eN-3wAWDm2l>

¹⁷ Interview conducted by PCHR's researcher with Dr. Mahmoud Matar, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Education on 07 April 2024.



damage, including 286 public schools and 65 UNRWA schools.¹⁸ IOF used some of these schools as military bases, detention centers, and interrogation camps, and soldiers wrote racist slogans inside these schools. Additionally, 133 schools were turned into shelters for IDPs.¹⁹ The war not only deprived students of their right to education but also stripped them of all rights guaranteed to them by international human rights law and international humanitarian law, foremost among them the right to life. During the aggression, 5,994 students were killed, and approximately 9,890 were injured. More than 266 educational and administrative staff members were killed, and another 973 were injured.²⁰

PCHR has long warned that Israel's policies, through their racist practices and oppression against Palestinians, are pushing towards an explosion in the occupied Palestinian territory. PCHR views the events of 07 October 2023²¹, as the culmination of Israel's racist policies and long-standing oppression of Palestinians. PCHR believes that the international community's silence, its uncon-

18 Ministry of Education, Occupation against Education on 10 July 2023: <https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=714482897523352&set=pb.100068849455215.-2207520000>

19 Ibid.

20 Ibid.

21 On October 7, hundreds of armed Palestinian militants infiltrated the settlements near the Gaza-Israel borders and seized control of them for several hours following intense clashes with Israeli forces, inflicting killings on both sides. The militants captured several Israeli soldiers and settlers and transported them to Gaza in a large and unprecedented operation. This was followed by a widespread Israeli military operation on the Gaza Strip and a ground invasion of most areas within Gaza, leading to unabated war during which war crimes were committed and, in their totality and nature, could amount to crimes against humanity and genocidal acts.

ditional and blind support for the State of Israel, and the international justice system's disregard for Palestinians, especially the International Criminal Court (ICC), which appears to have yielded to American and Israeli pressure and threats, have all contributed to reaching this breaking point, enabling Israel to exploit it to further its racist and bloody policies toward Palestinians.

IOF's genocidal campaign in the Gaza Strip have overshadowed the Palestinian scene and the human rights situation in the occupied Palestinian territory. Throughout the year, PCHR documented ongoing human rights violations and restrictions on freedoms by the Palestinian Authority (PA) in both the West Bank and Gaza Strip, under the persistent internal Palestinian political division that has cast its shadow over all aspects of life. Regarding violations of the right to life, PCHR recorded the killing of 70 civilians in the occupied Palestinian territory this year, including 15 children and 8 women, in internal dispute incidents as a result misuse of weapons, assaults on the rule of law, security operations carried out by law enforcement officials, and manifestations of societal violence. Among those killed, 39 were from the Gaza Strip, including 6 women and 13 children, and 31 were from the West Bank, including 2 children and 2 women. Additionally, 316 people were injured as a result of misuse of weapons and assaults on the rule of law in the West Bank and Gaza, all civilians, including 118 children and 30 women. Among the injured, 272 were in Gaza, including 114 children and 30 women, while 44 were in the West Bank, including 4 children.



The Palestinian security forces in the West Bank and Gaza Strip continued arbitrary arrests, summonses, and detentions of Palestinians without following legal procedures, in violation of the Basic Law, the Code of Criminal Procedure, and Palestine's contractual obligations, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the Convention Against Torture. Many of those summonses and arrests were political or based on expressions of opinion, including posts on social media or participation in peaceful assemblies and protests. Those arrests and summonses were often accompanied by degrading treatment by law enforcement officials, including physical and psychological torture during the arrest process or detention period, as well as during investigations. The detainees' dire conditions in prisons and detention centers are exacerbated by the lack of minimum standards for treating prisoners and persons deprived of their liberty, including the necessary healthcare and overcrowded detention cells. In 2023, seven detainees died in Palestinian security detention centers and prisons, including four held on criminal charges and three on financial cases. Among the victims, four were from Gaza (three in police detention centers and one in a military prison); two died by suicide, and two others from deteriorating health. Three detainees died in the West Bank: two in police rehabilitation centers and one at a military intelligence facility.

In the same context, the ruling authorities in the West Bank and Gaza Strip continued to deprive citizens of their right to peaceful assembly, which

is guaranteed by the Palestinian Basic Law, the Public Meetings Law, and relevant international laws. Both authorities imposed additional measures and decisions to restrict the right to peaceful assembly, preventing gatherings not approved by the ruling authority. Aside from precautionary decisions, both authorities forcibly prevented peaceful gatherings before they took place or dispersed them afterward, using force, including arrests, beatings, and firing tear gas and sound bombs on more than one occasion. They continued to apply double standards toward citizens' right to peaceful assembly, allowing non-opposing gatherings to their policies to be held smoothly and providing support and protection, while preventing gatherings opposing their policies, often imposing restrictions on such gatherings. On multiple occasions, these gatherings were forcibly dispersed, including by arrests, firing, beatings, and other means. The Center also documented instances where closed-door gatherings, workshops, and seminars were banned from taking place in halls and other venues, even though they are considered private gatherings that do not fall under the scope of the Public Meetings Law No. 12 of 1998 and thus do not require licensing or prior notification to the competent authorities. Therefore, preventing these gatherings constitutes a form of abuse by the authorities.

Regarding the death penalty, the authorities in the West Bank have refrained from carrying out executions since 2005, and the courts there have not issued any death sentences since 2015. Conversely, death sentences continued to



be issued and executed in the Gaza Strip, despite human rights demands to refrain from its use in respect of international obligations and humanitarian standards. This year witnessed a relative decrease in the number of death sentences, with no executions carried out. Appeals courts, particularly military ones, continued the practice of intensifying sentences from life imprisonment to the death penalty, a trend that has significantly increased since 2022 under the justification of maintaining general deterrence. PCHR continued to document cases where death sentences were issued quickly, with only a few weeks between the commission of the crime and the issuance of the sentence, an insufficient time frame to establish a crime of such seriousness that warrants the death penalty. The latest example of such expedited sentencing was against citizen (A. N.) on June 25, 2023, after being convicted of killing citizen (Kh. M.) during a law enforcement mission on June 10, 2023. In 2023, the number of individuals sentenced to death in Gaza reached 12, with nine of those sentences issued by military courts. This brings the total number of death sentences issued in areas under Palestinian Authority control since 1994 to 292, including 262 in Gaza and 30 in the West Bank. Since the Palestinian division in 2007, 203 people have been sentenced to death.

Regarding elections, 2023 ended without Palestinians being able to hold general elections (legislative and presidential) since the last legislative elections in 2006. It has become more urgent than ever to conduct general

elections to elect a president and a legislative council, especially amid the 2018 Constitutional Court’s decision to dissolve the legislative council, which has been inactive for 15 years and has not exercised its oversight role since then. Since that time, both parties to the division have exercised legislative powers within their areas of control; the president issues laws by decree in the West Bank, while the Reform and Change Bloc exercises legislative authority in Gaza in the name of the legislative council. As for local elections, no consensus elections for local councils in the West Bank and Gaza Strip have been held since 2005. This year, the second phase of local council elections in the West Bank took place on March 26, covering local councils classified as (A, B) and councils where elections were not held in the first phase. The first phase was conducted on December 11 for 154 local councils classified as (C) in the West Bank.



Part II:

PCHR 2023 Organizational Report

Challenges Facing PCHR's work during aggression

The Israeli aggression has undermined all aspects of life in the Gaza Strip and cast a heavy shadow on the work of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), including PCHR. The latter was devastated by the loss of two of its staff members from PCHR's Woman Rights Unit, Nour Abu al-Noor and Dana Yaghi, after their family houses were directly targeted by IOF's warplanes. PCHR was also shocked by the killing of child Mazen Khattab, along with his family, in a similar airstrike as Mazen was a member of the Palestine's Children Council – Gaza Strip, which is established and supervised by the PCHR. Additionally, PCHR's staff members have suffered from displacement, the destruction of their houses, and the killing or injury of their beloved ones, sparking a real, common and unprecedented tragedy for all the Gaza Strip residents since the beginning of the Israeli aggression.

Since its founding, PCHR has faced numerous exceptional, difficult, and dangerous circumstances; however, it has consistently worked to achieve its goals, even in the darkest times for the Palestinian people, particularly in the

Gaza Strip, which has witnessed multiple Israeli devastating aggressions.

The October 7th aggression is unparalleled in terms of the sheer number of casualties and the scale of destruction to civilian facilities and infrastructure. The IOF have also used starvation, displacement, and the blackout of telecommunications, power, and water as further weapons of Israel's heavy war machinery employed in the Gaza Strip. PCHR's staff have been directly affected by the aggression; two staff members were killed, many lost beloved ones, and all have experienced displacement, with most of their houses destroyed. Like the rest of the Gaza Strip's population, PCHR's staff have suffered from forced displacement and life hardships amid IOF's war of starvation and genocide against the Gaza Strip. During previous military aggressions on the Gaza Strip, PCHR's staff managed to continue their work through an emergency team. However, they are now unable to access PCHR's offices or receive complaints due to severe damage inflicted to PCHR's three offices as well as the almost impossible and extremely dangerous movement between Gaza's cities. All these circumstances have posed an extraordinary and enormous challenge to PCHR's ability to continue its work.

Despite these disastrous circumstances and the inhumane and challenging living conditions facing its staff, PCHR managed to resume its activities in record time. This has been achieved amid the unprecedented destruction of its offices, the fragmentation of the Gaza Strip's, the cutoff of commu-



nications, and difficult transportation, making field movement incredibly dangerous and hard. With the beginning of the Israeli aggression on the Gaza Strip, PCHR has implemented an emergency plan. Despite the dire conditions, intense bombardment across all areas of the Gaza Strip, the systematic displacement of the population, and the lack of any safe place, PCHR managed to regroup its staff and continue its operation. PCHR then rented a temporary office in Rafah, equipped with internet services and solar power, enabling its staff to work amid the power and communication blackout.

In cooperation with its strategic partners, PCHR has readjusted its various activities in response to the conditions caused by the aggression and identified operational priorities to work under the current circumstances in line with PCHR's strategic priorities.

Since the first day of the aggression, monitoring and documenting the widespread violations against civilians and civilian facilities have been one of PCHR's top priorities. This documentation has been employed to present a narrative from a human rights perspective reflecting reality on the one hand and refuting the narrative proliferated by Israel and its supporters in the international media on the other hand. The most significant challenge has been to prove to the whole world from our documentation of the facts on the ground that the Israeli war on Gaza is a war against civilians.

Monitoring and documenting incidents during this aggression poses significant and tremendous challenges due to the sheer number of casualties and almost total destruction of the Gaza Strip. It can be said that all residents of the Gaza Strip have experienced at least one type of Israel's serious violations. Consequently, monitoring and documenting these violations will be challenging and will require substantial resources and a long-term strategic plan.

PCHR, in collaboration with its partners, has already begun to establish a comprehensive framework for the monitoring and documentation plan to ensure that tasks are implemented effectively, and responsibilities are distributed in a coordinated manner. Additionally, PCHR has sought to increase its staff members by recruiting volunteers from its Friends Club across the Gaza Strip governorates, especially in Gaza city and northern Gaza, to overcome movement restrictions during the aggression and to address the vast and growing violations and cases as much as possible. Currently, PCHR and its partners are focusing on monitoring and documenting selected cases to support specific files identified as work priorities at the international level, particularly before international courts, or within the international advocacy campaigns aimed at exposing IOF's genocide and forced displacement in the Gaza Strip.

Moreover, international legal work is the backbone of PCHR's efforts, especially before the International Criminal Court (ICC) and the International Court of

Justice (ICJ). This legal work is led by PCHR's Director, lawyer Raji Sourani, who represents victims before the ICC and is a member of the legal team in the genocide case filed by South Africa against Israel. Since the beginning of the aggression, PCHR has determinedly worked on building legal files to use them before various international legal protection mechanisms, including PCHR's work with ICC, the ICJ, and international commissions of inquiry. Given the unprecedented scale of the IOF's war crimes during the aggression that exceed the capabilities of all Palestinian human rights organizations combined, PCHR's staff are developing qualitative legal files to document the Israeli genocide, as well as all war crimes and crimes against humanity.

Furthermore, PCHR has allocated a significant part of its resources to support displaced women in shelters who face intense violations during the aggression. Additionally, PCHR has enhanced its monitoring of gender-based violence committed by the IOF particularly in light of the dire conditions inflicted by the ongoing aggression and siege and lack of all life essentials in the Gaza Strip, including women's needs.

Moreover, since the first day of the aggression, PCHR has given priority to the Palestinian detainees, particularly after IOF's ground invasion into the Gaza Strip; during which, thousands of Palestinians have been arrested. Meanwhile, thousands of others who were in Israel on October 7th have been arrested; mostly workers from the Gaza Strip who had work permits. These

Palestinians have been detained in IOF or Shin Bet detention facilities and deprived of their legitimate rights, including visits from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and Palestinian or Israeli human rights organizations to the detention facilities. These detainees, including children and women, are subject to unprecedented torture and degrading treatment.

PCHR is monitoring and documenting the detention conditions of Palestinian detainees by taking testimonies from dozens of released detainees. These testimonies have exposed the detainees' severe suffering in these facilities, where they have been held in inhumane and degrading conditions and subjected to torture in a systematic and brutal manner. Furthermore, PCHR has documented cases of gender-based violence and violations related to the arbitrary detention of Palestinians. IOF have used sexual harassment and strip searches against female detainees from the Gaza Strip, with no regard for their privacy, in flagrant violation of all international norms and conventions.

International advocacy is a cornerstone of PCHR's work and has significantly grown during the aggression within PCHR's efforts to stop the genocide, displacement, and aggression on the Gaza Strip. PCHR's advocacy team has employed all information obtained from the field to strengthen its international advocacy campaign. The advocacy team, led by PCHR's director, has conducted numerous international tours during the ongoing aggression on

the Gaza Strip. During those tours, many meetings were held with international senior officials and decision makers to exert pressure on Israel to stop the aggression. Additionally, PCHR has engaged in several international advocacy missions to unfold all what is going on in the Gaza Strip within the Israeli genocidal war. These missions have reached several countries and capitals, including Egypt, Spain, France, South Africa, The Hague, and Brussels. The advocacy efforts have been mainly devoted on the European Union Commission, the ICC, and the ICJ, aimed to halt the Israeli aggression and hold the IOF and Israeli top-ranking leaders accountable.

Moreover, PCHR has been fully engaged in the case filed before the ICJ aiming to hold Israel accountable for the genocide in the Gaza Strip, as well as in urging the ICC to prosecute the Israeli war criminals who have perpetrated crimes against humanity and genocidal acts in the Gaza Strip. Additionally, PCHR and its partners have played a vital role in filing the genocide case before the ICJ, through fully transparent cooperation with decision-makers and PCHR's partners in South Africa. PCHR has also intensified its efforts before the ICC to ensure the completion of investigations into Israeli crimes and the issuance of arrest warrants against Israeli leaders. PCHR has continued working with international human rights mechanisms, such as the Human Rights Council, treaty bodies, and special rapporteurs, to expose the Israeli violations, especially following the Israeli aggression on the Gaza Strip.

International advocacy is one of the most prominent activities conducted by PCHR, even before the recent Israeli aggression on the Gaza Strip. Throughout 2023, PCHR has launched several international advocacy missions to expose the IOF's crimes against the Palestinian people and to urge the international community to push for the prosecution of Israeli war criminals. Among these missions was one launched by PCHR in Argentina, coinciding with its participation in the Third World Forum on Human Rights in Buenos Aires. Additionally, PCHR has devoted significant international advocacy efforts to the ICC's work through various visits and meetings aimed at urging the ICC to complete its investigations into the Israeli crimes.

Furthermore, in 2023 PCHR further its activities with children, particularly with the Palestine's Children Council- Gaza Strip. Unfortunately, PCHR was devastated by the loss of one of the council members, Mazen Khattab (16), who was killed along with his family after IOF's warplanes directly bombed their house. PCHR has also faced numerous challenges in communicating with all the council members due to communication blackouts across large areas of the Gaza Strip. Despite this, on 04 March 2024, PCHR has successfully organized a meeting between representatives of the Palestine's Children Council and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967.

It is worth noting that since 2021, PCHR has launched a program to defend



children's rights and enhance their right to political participation through the formation of Palestine Children Council. PCHR has provided these children with the skills and knowledge needed to run the council. PCHR considers the founding of such a council is an important and strategic progress for its work with children over the coming years, to expand their experience, skills, and knowledge in human rights. PCHR has managed to empower children's right to political participation through various activities and significant events, where they met with officials and decision-makers.

Furthermore, PCHR has strengthened its partnerships at both the international and local levels by adopting a unified work mechanism with human rights organizations operating in the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) to come out with joint positions on the ongoing Israeli aggression on the Gaza Strip and the West Bank. In addition, PCHR has initiated new partnerships on the international level to secure the funding necessary to continue and expand its work amid the challenges posed by the continued aggression.

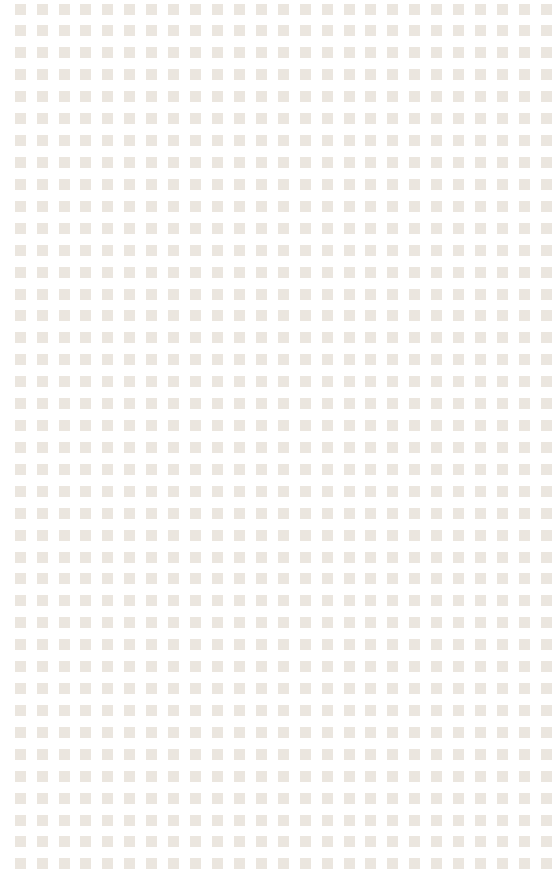
Despite the incredibly challenging circumstances and IOF's ongoing incitement campaign against the Palestinian civil society, PCHR managed to secure new fundings to ensure the continuity of its work and fill the gap created by donors who unfortunately succumbed to Israeli pressures and halted funding for CSOs in the Gaza Strip. Among those donors were the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation "SDC", which contributed

about 20% of PCHR's budget, and the Swedish Government, which has halted its financial support for Save the Children, a partner organization of PCHR in implementing projects aimed at empowering children, particularly the Palestine's Children Council project.

Throughout 2023, PCHR has successfully obtained the funding needed to continue its work despite the global funding crisis and the Israeli aggression on the Gaza Strip. PCHR has mobilized all resources to continue its mission in promoting human rights and redressing victims, largely investing in its remarkable reputation, well-known credibility and transparent relationship with the donors' community. With its long work experience in crises, PCHR has successfully managed this financial year, with a cost-cutting plan and maximum use of available funds.

On the other hand, Israel continued to persecute human rights defenders and the Palestinian CSOs, particularly human rights organizations. Additionally, smear campaigns led by the Ministry of Strategic Affairs in Israel continued and were backed by propaganda organizations operating under the cover of NGOs, especially the NGO Monitor, which is specialized in publishing false allegations and inciting against Palestinian and international organizations that expose the Israeli occupation's crimes against Palestinians.

Hereafter, PCHR presents the activities it carried out in 2023 in accordance with its new five-year strategic plan. The report provides a description of our activities, their position in the overall framework and direct indicators showing execution. The report also provides select success stories achieved this year, especially in terms of legal aid. PCHR considers this report an integral part of its strategy, which dates back to its foundation in 1995, towards promoting transparency and social accountability.



Strategic Priority 1

Working towards accountability for perpetrators of the most serious IHL and human rights abuses committed against Palestinians.

■ Objective 1.1

By 2024, PCHR will have engaged with international bodies and mechanisms to support investigations against perpetrators of IHL and human rights abuses/will have sought international legal remedies to hold perpetrators to account.

■ OUTCOME 1.1.1

International Investigations, both at the ICC and through UJ, against Israeli perpetrators of IHL and HR abuses are supported by PCHR

PCHR has engaged before ICJ to prove Israel's commission of genocide in the Gaza Strip, aiming to exert pressure on Israel to halt its ongoing aggression and prosecute Israeli war criminals. Also, PCHR's work at the ICC continued by exerting pressure on the court to initiate the investigations on the one hand and preparing the legal files to represent the victims on the other hand.

■ Indicators

- South Africa has filed a case before the ICJ to consider Israel's violation of the Genocide Convention during its war on the Gaza Strip.
- The ICJ has held its first session to consider the legality of Israel's occupation of the Palestinian territory.

■ Output 1.1.1.1

Legal submissions drafted, and cases filed before the ICC and under UJ, based on evidence collected by PCHR Staff.

Since the beginning of the Israeli aggression on the Gaza Strip on October 7th, PCHR has devoted all its efforts in monitoring and documenting Israel's crimes and working with international organizations and bodies to prosecute Israel's war criminals. Additionally, the PCHR's legal aid unit has worked on building legal files for victims. Throughout 2023 and even before the Israeli aggression, PCHR has continued its legal follow-up on cases for victims of the IOF's military aggressions on the Gaza Strip, including the systematic and bloody suppression of the Great March of Return protests.

■ Indicators

- 525 legal files were being followed up.
- 673 legal consultations conducted.

■ Output 1.1.1.2

Qualified young lawyers trained in IHRL, ICC and UJ

PCHR maintained its plan to train HRD lawyers to have sufficient knowledge in the local and international legal remedies under the Bertha Justice Fellows Program. This year, PCHR supported lawyers' skills and engaged them in PCHR's work in building legal files. The trainee lawyers also received training courses and lectures by national and international experts, and they received language and legal training.

■ Indicators:

- 6 lawyers received training (3 male/3 female).
- Trainee lawyers are involved in building legal case files under supervision of PCHR Legal Aid Unit's team.
- Capacity-building training course for Bertha lawyers.



■ Bertha trainee lawyers documenting Israeli crimes and building legal files.

■ **OUTCOME 1.1.2**

International community informed around the rule of law and international accountability on Palestine issues

PCHR conducted several international initiatives and activities in its efforts to defy Israeli impunity and executed several local activities. In 2023, PCHR's efforts in this regard has intensified, particularly in the last third of the year following the Israeli genocide on the Gaza Strip since 07 October 2023. During this year, PCHR has conducted international advocacy missions in various countries, where PCHR's representatives met with officials, opinion-makers and leading figures in human rights.

■ **Output 1.1.2.1**

PCHR advocacy office established in Europe.

This output was not executed for funding reasons worldwide.

■ **Output 1.1.2.2**

Timely high-quality knowledge products have been produced and used for international advocacy highlighting violations of the occupation.

PCHR executed several initiatives and activities internationally in its efforts to defy Israeli impunity and executed several activities locally. PCHR prepared and published the 2022 annual report.

■ Indicators:

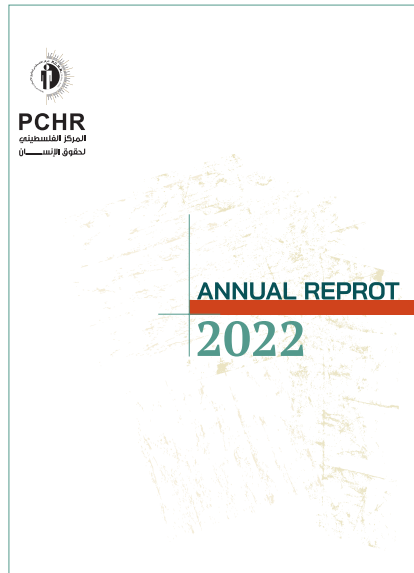
- PCHR prepared the 2022 annual report in English and Arabic and released it on 26 June 2023.
- PCHR submitted (3) submissions to the UN International Commission of Inquiry.
- PCHR submitted (2) submissions to the UN Special Rapporteurs.
- PCHR submitted (2) written interventions to the Human Rights Council.
- PCHR submitted an open letter to the UN Security Council on 08 October 2023.



■ PCHR concludes its participation in the 52nd session of the UN Human Rights Council with the participation of PCHR's colleagues Fadel Al-Muzainy and Basel Sourani.



PCHR’s international advocacy officer Basel Sourani in an oral intervention via Zoom, before the Human Rights Council, highlighting the escalation of settler-violence across the West Bank and genocidal statements by Israeli officials.



PCHR’s 2022 Annual Report cover.

■ Output 1.1.2.3

Improved coordination and networking with partners and stakeholders on legal and advocacy work

In 2023, PCHR boosted coordination and communication with partners regarding international legal work and advocacy, particularly following the ongoing Israeli aggression on the Gaza Strip since October 7th. PCHR strengthened its communication with the Human Rights Council through oral interventions within the Council sessions, focusing on several issues most notably were the Israeli aggression on the Gaza Strip, Israeli entrenched apartheid ongoing for decades in the occupied territory, shrinking space for freedoms and the prosecution of Israeli war criminals and settlement activity. PCHR also held meetings with partners on legal work and international advocacy. Additionally, PCHR's Director, along with PCHR's international advocacy unit, have conducted an international tour to mobilize efforts in order to stop the Israeli aggression on the Gaza Strip and prosecute Israeli war criminals.

■ Indicators

- PCHR launched an extensive international advocacy tour that started in November 2023 and continues up to the writing of this report in response to the Israeli aggression on the Gaza Strip. This tour included visits to Egypt, France, the Netherlands, and Spain, where PCHR's

Director met with numerous decision-makers, officials from the EU and the Spanish Government to discuss the Israeli aggression on the Gaza Strip and explore ways to halt it. PCHR's Director and the international advocacy unit have also collaborated with the UN International Commission of Inquiry, the ICJ, and the ICC to advocate for the prosecution of Israeli war criminals.

- PCHR prepared and submitted a parallel report on the rights of persons with disabilities to comment on the list of issues on the Israel's initial report regarding the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
- PCHR delivered 11 oral interventions with the UN Human Rights Council.
- PCHR held meetings with the EU representatives and European parliamentarians to discuss the Israeli aggression on the Gaza Strip since 07 October, and how to halt the aggression.
- PCHR held meetings and maintained continuous communication with the United Nations Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Occupied East Jerusalem (2021), providing it with all documented information regarding Israeli violations.
- PCHR held two meetings with the UNRWA Commissioner-General, Philippe Lazzarini, to discuss relief efforts during the Israeli aggression and the UNRWA's future amidst IOF's serious threats to its existence

and operations.

- PCHR held a meeting with the Office of the ICC Prosecutor in The Hague to emphasize the importance of the Court's role in prosecuting the Israeli war criminals, which could contribute to halting the aggression.
- PCHR conducted an advocacy tour in Argentina on the sidelines of the 3rd World Forum on Human Rights in Buenos Aires. During the tour, PCHR's Director, Raji Sourani, participated in meetings with decision-makers, including the State Minister of Human Rights Affairs, and held other meetings with various prestigious figures and representatives of social and human rights organizations, including labor unions, prominent lawyers, and the Palestinian community, to explore ways to activate the legal prosecution of Israeli war criminals.
- PCHR held a meeting with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to discuss Israel's arbitrary measures against the High Commissioner's Office in Palestine and the office's positions on Israeli violations.
- PCHR organized 35 meetings with partners.
- PCHR issued 19 joint statements on Israeli violations in the Gaza Strip.



PCHR's Director Raji Sourani, meets with the Argentine Secretary of State for Human Rights.



PCHR's Director Raji Sourani and Deputy Director for Program Affairs, Hamdi Shaqoura, welcoming Christian Aid delegation.



PCHR's Director Raji Sourani, receives a delegation from the British Consulate in Jerusalem.



PCHR's Director Raji Sourani, and Director of the Al Mezan Center for Human Rights Issam Younis, with the Director of the OHCHR in Geneva and members of the office.



PCHR's Director Raji Sourani, receives the Spanish Consul General, Alfonso Luchini Mathieu, and representatives of the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID)



PCHR's Director, Raji Sourani, in the World Forum on Human Rights in Buenos Aires, Argentina.



PCHR's Director Raji Sourani, participates in the Rabat International Preparatory Forum for the World Forum for Human Rights.



The Center receives Mr. Michel Rentenaar, Representative of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Palestine.



PCHR's Director Raji Sourani, during a seminar at the headquarters of the Spanish Trade Union Confederation.



PCHR's Director Raji Sourani's participation in the Rabat World Human Rights Pre-Forum in Rabat, Morocco, focusing mainly on the three intertwined issues: climate change, migration and transitional justice.



Mrs. Amina Abu Ayyash, the distinguished jurist and President of the Council, honored lawyer Raji Sourani for the practical and theoretical contributions he made in defending Palestinian and Arab human rights and his right to human dignity and justice over more than forty years.

Strategic Priority 2

Strengthening rule of law and increasing access to justice under Israeli and Palestinian jurisdictions for Palestinians, victims of human rights abuses including for victims of gender-based crimes.

■ OBJECTIVE 2.1

By 2024, PCHR will have facilitated access to justice for Palestinian victims of human rights violations, through Palestinian and Israeli justice systems, including women victims of gender-based crimes.

■ OUTCOME 2.1.1

Victims of human rights violations interventions are filed before Israeli and Palestinian justice systems and redress was achieved in some cases.

PCHR succeeded in redressing a number of victims of human rights violations, whether before Israeli or Palestinian mechanisms, with several success stories within the Israeli complaints' mechanisms, particularly in helping patients achieve their right to receive treatment and their right to freedom of movement. PCHR has also succeeded in restoring the rights of many women by representing them before the Sharia courts, and providing support to women in the Aman Shelter, as well as correctional and rehabilitation centers.



■ Output 2.1.1.1

Victims of human rights violations have received quality legal aid

PCHR continued to provide legal aid to victims of human rights violations, whether by the Israeli occupation or the Palestinian Authority. PCHR activities varied in providing legal aid, most notably providing support to victims of the crimes of the Israeli occupation, especially in access restricted areas; victims of restrictions on the freedom of movement, especially for patients in the Gaza Strip; Palestinian detainees in Israeli prisons, and for recovering the bodies of Palestinians killed by Israel. The activities included legal representation before the Israeli courts, submitting and following up complaints and objections before the Israeli judicial authorities, and providing legal consultations to victims of Israeli violations. PCHR also worked to provide legal support to victims of Palestinian violations through complaints, legal representation, and counseling. The legal support provided included many cases, most notably those related to women's rights, rights and public freedoms, and prisoners and guests at the Aman shelter.

■ Indicators:

- The number of legal interventions on the Israeli agenda has reached 1151, including 626 new complaints, 525 follow-ups to previous complaints, and 673 legal consultations for victims and their families.

These interventions included:

- » Legal aid provided to victims of killings and Palestinian property destroyed or pillaged as the number of complaints under follow-up reached - (56 from the 2021 Guardian of the Walls Operation and 65 453 from the 2014 offensive and Great March of Return).
 - » 6 compensation cases involved civilian killings and injuries followed up before the Israeli courts.
 - » 28 cases followed up regarding Palestinian bodies held in IOF's custody; all of them are men.
 - » 110 Palestinian detainees who were arrested by the Israeli occupation provided aid.
 - » Complaints for 503 Palestinians denied their right to freedom of movement were filed (131 women, 245 men and 127 children) with 278 positive responses.
 - » 13 petitions and appeals filed before the Israeli judiciary regarding persons denied freedom of movement with 7 positive responses.
- The number of legal interventions on the Palestinian agenda reached 212, including 100 legal consultations for victims and their families, and they were as follows:
 - » 7 detainees in the Palestinian prisons and detention facilities provided legal aid.
 - » 24 complaints were filed on behalf of victims arrested and subject to

- abuse of power, including 5 collective complaints.
- » 81 Palestinians allowed access to healthcare facilities under the protection of right to health.
 - » 27 interviews conducted with various Palestinian competent authorities to discuss ways of cooperation in a way that serves citizens' interest and guarantees realization of their right.
 - » The number of legal consultations PCHR provided to women reached 516 legal consultations via its 3 branches.
 - » 41 radio episodes of "Istishartak Alina,".
 - » The average number of phone calls per single episode in 2022 was 18-20.
 - » The number of consultations offered on "Istishartak Alina" radio show averaged 820.
 - » The average number of comments on "Istishartak Alina," Facebook page was more than 6 per single episode; 2806 calls to PCHR lawyers via its hotline with 467 calls monthly and 21 calls daily.
 - » PCHR followed 1,176 cases before Sharia courts, including 1,023 new cases, and 153 from 2022.
 - » PCHR obtained 455 verdicts in favor of women with 620 female beneficiaries, and 321 women benefited from positive verdicts.
 - » PCHR ran 266 execution cases for 179 female-beneficiaries.



PCHR's Director Raji Sourani, held a series of meetings with the families of victims of Israeli violations.



Acting Head of PCHR's Women's Unit Majedah Shehadeh, receiving a beneficiary.



■ PCHR's lawyer Shaimaa Al-Shawwa receiving a beneficiary.

PCHR Successfully Obtains Travel Permit from the Israeli Public Prosecution for a Patient and his Companion

(F. A. Q.) (28) experienced a high-voltage shock that caused him severe burns, leading to the amputation of both hands. He is also at risk of having his leg amputated due to the severity of his injuries. Because of his critical health condition, he, accompanied by his mother (Y. A. Q.) (48), was referred for treatment at Sheba Tel-HaShomer Medical Center. On 07 June 2023, (F. A. Q.)'s family headed to PCHR seeking legal aid from the lawyers to obtain a travel permit from the Israeli authorities that prevented their son from travelling along with his mother. After legal follow-up with the competent authorities, PCHR received a negative response from the Israeli authorities regarding the travel of the patient's parents as companions. Due to his critical health condition, PCHR's lawyers filed an urgent appeal to the Israeli Public Prosecution. After two weeks of follow-up, PCHR finally succeeded in obtaining a travel permit for the patient and his mother on 02 July 2023.

PCHR Obtains Approval for Travel of Female Doctor to Join Specialized Training Program

Doctor (A. Sh.) (27) received an opportunity to join a specialized training program at An-Najah National University Hospital with skilled doctors, aiming to enhance the healthcare services provided to patients in the Gaza Strip. The doctor submitted several requests to access the hospital and join the training program, but to no avail. Consequently, she headed to PCHR that contacted the Israeli competent authorities to facilitate her participation in the program, benefiting both the medical staff in the Gaza Strip and the patients. After persistent follow-up by PCHR's lawyer over two consecutive months, PCHR's lawyer succeeded in obtaining a travel permit for the doctor on 21 June 2023.

PCHR Obtains Travel Permit for Woman with Disability

A.) (17) has been suffering from hemiplegia since birth, along with inflammation and hydronephrosis. Accordingly, she was referred for treatment at St. Joseph Hospital in Jerusalem, accompanied by her mother (R. A.). On 11 June 2023, the mother headed to PCHR after receiving a rejection from the Israeli side regarding her travel with her daughter, who has a mobility impairment that prevents her from traveling alone. PCHR immediately submitted urgent requests to the Israeli competent authorities. After persistent follow-up for 24 hours, PCHR succeeded in obtaining approval for the patient's travel along with her mother on 12 June 2023.

Payment of monthly salary for 99 former detainees

PCHR, in cooperation with, the Prisoners Affairs Authority succeeded in paying salaries for 99 former detainees at the Israeli prisons by the Ministry of Finance in Ramallah, noting that PCHR followed up the files of those detainees. Accordingly, PCHR's lawyers sent several letters to the Israeli competent authorities, including the Israeli court and police,

in order to obtain indictments, verdicts, a release warrant, or criminal record that shows the arrest date, the charge and the release date. The information was provided to the detainees in order to complete the rest of their file at the Prisoners Affairs Authority. The aforementioned former detainees had sought for a long time to obtain these documents, and by PCHR's lawyers' efforts, they managed to complete their files and be paid monthly salary by the Ministry of Finance in Ramallah.

PCHR Successfully Obtains Financial Coverage for Patient in Need of Biological Treatment

(H. H.), born in 2005, suffers from chronic inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) and requires biological treatment. The patient's family attempted to obtain financial coverage for the treatment through the Palestinian Ministry of Health (MOH), but their requests were rejected each time. In response, PCHR's lawyers immediately intervened and contacted the competent authorities at the MOH in Ramallah to provide treatment for all patients in the Gaza Strip, including the patient mentioned, especially that the treatment is very expensive and unavailable in Gaza. PCHR finally succeeded in obtaining financial coverage for the patient on 04 May 2023, and he received his treatment.

Obtaining a separation verdict in favor of a woman due to her husband's misconduct

(A. B. (is in her twenties and resides in eastern Khan Yunis. She got married to a 42-year-old man, but later had to leave her house due to arguments with her husband who wanted to bring his friends to their home to engage in sexual relations with his wife, while she would bring her friends to do the same with her husband. When she refused to do so, he assaulted her. (A. B.) left the house and headed to her family's house. Afterwards, she approached PCHR's Woman Rights Unit at Khan Yunis office, where PCHR's lawyers received her and provided the necessary legal consultation. PCHR's lawyer then filed an alimony case for her in eastern Khan Yunis court, successfully obtaining and executing the alimony ruling. While PCHR's lawyers were preparing a separation lawsuit, her husband divorced her. After that, the beneficiary went to an illiteracy center and then to Farhana School to continue her education, which she had interrupted as she got married.

Obtaining Child Visitation Verdict in Favor of Mother with Disability

On 02 April 2023, (S. Aw.), came to PCHR's office in Jabalia refugee camp with her brother and sister, as she has a hearing and speaking disability. The Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS) had referred them to PCHR to enable her to host her children: Alaa' (9), Eman (7), and Aya (4). (S. Aw.)'s in-laws had deprived her of seeing and hosting her children for six months. Accordingly, PCHR requested the beneficiary to prepare her papers, and as she has a disability, PCHR's lawyer asked her and her family to bring witnesses and a medical report from a medical committee stating that she is capable of hosting her children. On 28 April 2023, PCHR filed a hosting case for the client, allowing her to host her children once every two weeks for 24 hours, based on witness testimonies and the documents she had obtained. PCHR's lawyer successfully challenged discriminatory practices against people with disabilities and refuted all claims made by her in-laws' lawyer regarding her inability to host her children due to her disability. PCHR also succeeded in obtaining a verdict in favor of our beneficiary on 30 June 2023, allowing her to host her children once every two weeks for 24 hours. She was extremely happy with the ruling after losing hope of seeing her children, fearing that she would not receive justice due to her disability.

■ OBJECTIVE 2.2

By 2024, Palestinian judicial system is more responsive to cases related to human rights violations including gender-based crimes

■ OUTCOME 2.2.1

Laws and policies in contravention with human rights, especially women's rights and gender equality, have been challenged

In 2023, PCHR enhanced its work with children, as part of its new strategy to promote human rights among different groups of Palestinian society. PCHR also strengthened its work on women's, children, and gender issues through training new lawyers and documenting violations against women in the Palestinian society, particularly violations to their right to life and bodily integrity. Additionally, PCHR intensified its engagement with Palestine's Children Council in order to enhance their political participation.

■ Indicators

- Amending the existing penal laws in Palestine to clearly criminalize torture in accordance with international standards and Palestine's obligations under the Convention Against Torture.
- Publishing three human rights treaties in the official Palestinian

Gazette: the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and the Convention Against Torture.

- No executions were executed in Palestine in 2023, and no death sentences have been issued in the West Bank since 2005.
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■ Output 2.2.1.1

Qualified children and youth including lawyers trained and act at human rights advocacy, including women and children.

PCHR trained several new lawyers within its team working at the Sharia courts to enhance a woman-rights approach within the sharia court system. Also, PCHR activated the Palestinian Child Council.

■ Indicators

- 12 female lawyers received training at PCHR's women unit in 2023.
- Implementation of one training course, with a total of 20 training hours, attended by 26 participants, including 17 females.
- Implementation of 5 courses on climate change and children's rights.
- 14 student parliament delegations received, and awareness meeting were held.
- Implementation of 2 training courses, with a total of 10 hours, for new

children in Palestine's Children Council on elections and the principles of democracy attended by 54 children.

- 20 awareness meetings held with community organizations on child's rights, with the participation of 515 children, including 284 females.
- Implementation of a 20-hour training course over 4 consecutive days for children with disabilities, attended by 23 children.
- 5 advisory bodies of children were formed and supervised within grassroots organizations across the five Gaza governorates.
- 10 accountability and advocacy sessions on child rights issues were held with officials and decision makers in Gaza, involving 88 children from protection teams, including 48 females.
- 9 meetings held with the Secretariat of Palestine's Children Council-Gaza Strip.
- 15 educational meetings organized for members of the regional children's councils in all five governorates, in participation of 295 children, including 178 females.
- Elections were held for five new regional councils for Palestine's Children Council-Gaza Strip, and a new Secretariat was elected.
- 7 activities with children were organized, including meetings with officials, visits to government facilities, recreational trips for children from Rabeea for Social Care Centre, and cultural activities for children.
- 10 field visits conducted to child's organizations and societies with the participation of 101 children, including 52 females.



A workshop presented by PCHR's volunteer lawyer, Nour Al-Assar, for marginalized women on the Personal Status Law and the work mechanism of the Sharia courts in the Gaza Strip.



A workshop held by PCHR's Women's Unit in cooperation with the Al-Awda Association for CSOs and Community Notables.



Training course for the Palestine Children's Council-Gaza on climate change in Rafah Governorate.



PCHR receives student delegation from UNRWA schools.



Accountability session held by the Palestine Children's Council-Gaza for the Gaza Municipality.



Part of the elections for the Secretariat of the Palestine Children's Council-Gaza.



Meeting of the Palestine Children's Council - Gaza with the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of Human Rights in Occupied Palestinian Territory, Francesca Albanese.



■ Output 2.2.1.2

Timely and high-quality knowledge products have been produced and used for advocacy campaigns.

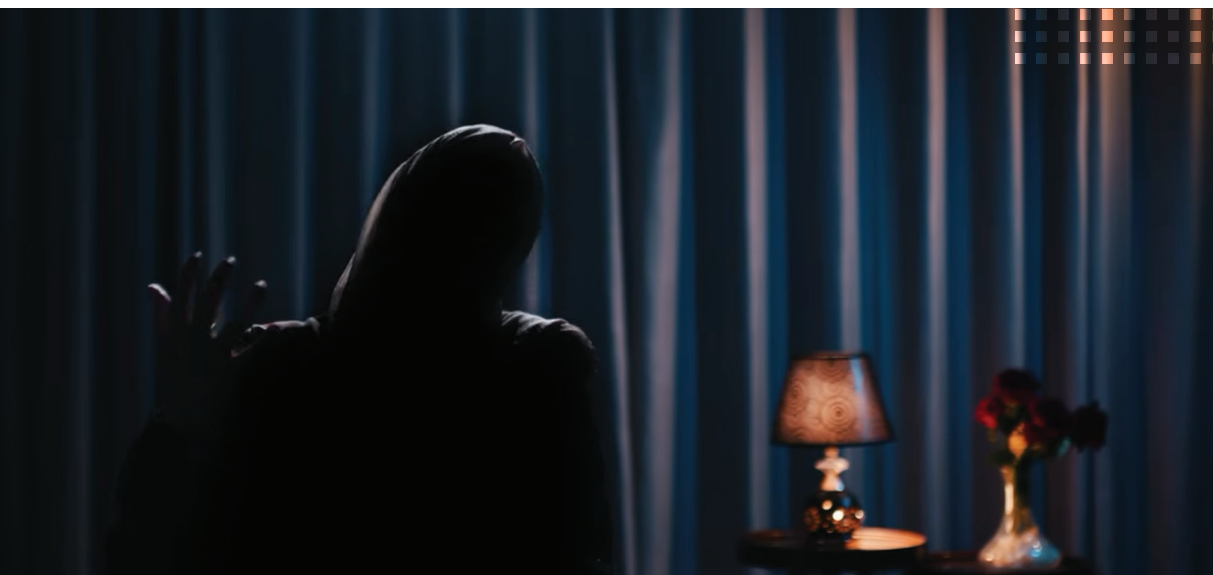
PCHR continued to monitor and document violations against women in Palestine and used this information to produce high-quality products to be used for lobbying and advocacy on women's issues.

■ Indicators

- PCHR documented 6752 violations of women's right to life and bodily integrity, including murder, injury, beatings, bodily harm, medical neglect, suicide, and arrest.
- PCHR carried out (2,270) information-gathering missions via 7 different methods: field visits, personal interviews, collecting testimonies, filling out forms, photography, and preparing field reports.
- PCHR issued (2) high-quality products relevant to women's rights, including (1) press release; and (1) video titled "Let's do our best to ensure that alimony payments are collected for those eligible under sharia and law to maintain their human dignity."



An awareness session on Personal Status Law by PCHR's Women's Unit.



A video highlighting the problems related to collecting expenses, as part of the lobbying and advocacy campaign "My Expense is My Right".



■ PCHR's field researcher in Nablus, Raafat Abu Khader with one of the victims to obtain his testimony.



■ PCHR's field researcher, Waleed Zaqout with one of the victims to obtain his testimony.



■ PCHR's field researcher in Gaza, Sabreen Al-Tartour with one of the war victims to obtain her testimony.

■ OUTCOME 2.2.2

Women empowered to demand their rights

PCHR worked towards empowering Palestinian women by increasing society's awareness of women's rights and gender concepts through holding training courses and workshops for different groups of society and informing decision-makers about the most important issues of concern to women and achieving equality. PCHR also worked to promote women's initiatives that aim to enhance women's capacities and independence.

■ Output 2.2.2.1

PCHR targeted communities have increased knowledge on women's rights.

PCHR worked to raise awareness of women's rights among the local community. Towards this goal, PCHR trained different groups on the topics of women's rights, gender, and gender-based violence. PCHR also conducted awareness sessions on women's rights and held coordination meetings with various government parties to enhance protection for women and fulfill their rights. PCHR also engaged with various media outlets to inform the public about the reality of women's rights in Palestinian society and the relevant standards.

■ Indicators

- 2 training courses implemented on women's rights, at a rate of 40 training hours, attended by 49 participants, 59% were females.
- The number of participants in the lectures was 965, including 887 females and 78 males.
- PCHR's Women's Unit implemented 35 lectures in collaboration with 27 organizations.
- One lecture was held on violence against women.
- The number of lectures on Personal Status Law and Family Law reached 17.
- 6 lectures were held on women's rights.
- Participation in 9 media interviews on women's rights was achieved.

■ Output 2.2.2.2

Women have increased awareness and find platform to raise their voices.

PCHR worked to raise the voices of Palestinian women by encouraging and adopting positive initiatives and enhancing the role of women in combating gender-based violence through awareness. PCHR launched woman rights advocacy campaigns.

■ Indicators

- 12 meetings organized on the challenges women face to access justice.
- A campaign titled “My Alimony is My Right” was conducted to change existing procedures to facilitate women’s access to alimony.
- 3 meetings held with officials to discuss the procedures for obtaining alimony and to fill the gaps.
- Participation in 7 meetings with partners organized to coordinate collaborative efforts on women’s issues.



■ Acting Head of Women’s Unit, Majedah Shehadeh, during a workshop on Personal Status Law.



المركز الفلسطيني ينظم ورشة عمل بعنوان "نفقتي حقّي"

Women's Unit's lawyer Nadwa Badaro in a TV interview on the sidelines of PCHR's workshop on "Alimony is My Right".



Women's Unit's lawyer Samah 'Ashour during a workshop on woman rights in legislations.

Strategic Priority 3

Working towards greater respect for human rights, dignity, gender equality, and freedoms for Palestinians

■ OBJECTIVE 3.1

By 2024 PCHR will have built a strong network of human rights advocates (50% of them women) throughout the Gaza Strip who are influential in asserting civil and political rights, exercising democratic influence, and working towards gender equality, dignity, and freedom.

■ OUTCOME 3.1.1

Targeted communities and grassroots networks have increased capacity in understanding human rights and are able to identify ways for engagement.

PCHR raised awareness among the local community, especially among the youth, of international human rights standards and their implications for national law; PCHR also enhanced the role of youth by integrating them into its work through the development of PCHR's Friends Club.

■ Output 3.1.1.1

Targeted communities /grassroots organizations have increased capacity in understanding human rights

PCHR enhanced the capabilities and knowledge of the Palestinian community by targeting activists in grassroots organizations and raising their awareness on human rights, especially the right to health and child's rights, including their right to political participation.

■ Indicators

- 3 training courses on the right to health, at a rate of 60 training hours, attended by 75 participants, including 48 females.
- A graduation ceremony on International Women's Day, celebrating the completion of the right-to-health courses for 425 participants, and 500 attendees.
- 2 awareness sessions on human rights for the local community, targeting 47 participants, 42.5% of them were females
- Two Training of Trainers (TOT) courses, each 25 hours long, attended by 52 participants, including 34 females.
- 2 training sessions on monitoring and documenting child rights violations and preparing reports for the UN, attended by 50 participants, including 33 females.
- 6 consultative meetings with directors and representatives of 45 partner associations and organizations working on child rights to coordinate activities.
- Two advocacy initiatives on child's rights and issues: the first at al-Rabeea for Social Care Centre, and the second emphasizing a child's

right to live in a cohesive family.

- Two training sessions, at a rate of 15 training hours, attended by 49 participants, including 10 women. The sessions included staff from reform and rehabilitation centers and advocates for Palestinian prisoners' rights in Israeli prisons, focusing on prisoners' rights and PCHR's role.



Conclusion of the training course held by PCHR in cooperation with the Palestine Medical Relief Society on the right to health.



A training course held by PCHR in cooperation with the Palestine Medical Relief Society in Al-Salam Restaurant Hall on the right to health.



A training course titled: "Training of Trainers' "TOT" course in Human Rights" held by PCHR in the Al-Salam Restaurant Hall.



Closing ceremony of the EU-funded Right to Health Project in cooperation with the Palestine Medical Relief Society in Gaza.

■ **Output 3.1.1.2**

Developed PCHR's alumni network and the alumni trained on raising awareness, training and advocacy

PCHR continued its work with PCHR's alumni network and PCHR's Friends Club.

■ **OBJECTIVE 3.2**

By 2024, PCHR will have challenged the shrinking civic space through direct actions and more empowerment so that the environment for civil society is increasingly safe and enabled.

■ **Outcome 3.2.1**

Improved participation of actors in civic space across Palestine.

PCHR informed the local and international community about violations of civil and political rights and promoted joint action to ensure respect for rights and freedoms. PCHR was also able to raise the awareness of different groups of the Palestinian public about the limits of rights and freedoms in accordance with international standards.

■ Indicator

- Suspension of the executive regulation issued by the Ministry of Interior in Gaza regarding the organization of public meetings, which imposes unjustified restrictions on holding public gatherings, whether in public or closed private spaces.
- Amendment of the three main penal codes in force to include a clear definition of the crimes of torture and ill-treatment, along with the penalties stipulated for them, as recommended by PCHR in various statements and reports.
- Developing “joint action strategies to counter the restrictions on Palestinian associations” in coordination with PCHR’s partners
- No death sentences executed in 2023 in the Gaza Strip.
- no death sentences have been issued in the West Bank since 2015 as well as no presidential ratifications on death sentences since 2005.

■ Output 3.2.1.1

Solidarity and coordination have been built across CSOs to work for a safe environment

PCHR sought to enhance solidarity and coordination with civil society in order to increase its effectiveness and role in the Palestinian society. In 2023, Israel’s unabated campaign against CSOs continued. Locally,

PCHR held meetings and workshops with stakeholders and cooperated with various organizations to issue joint statements on vital issues. PCHR also worked on keeping the local and international media updated on the shrinking space for civil society through taking part in media interviews.

■ Indicators

- On 24 January, PCHR participated in a workshop at Cedar Hall in Gaza with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Gaza, the Ministry of Interior (Ramallah), the Independent Commission for Human Rights, and human rights organizations to discuss the Committee Against Torture's recommendations for Palestine.
- On 01 March, PCHR presented a working paper at the Transitional Justice Conference organized by the Musawa Centre.
- On 09 January, PCHR joined a Zoom meeting with the Network of NGOs and Non-Profit Companies in the West Bank and Gaza on the non-profit companies' system, protesting the system, calling for its cancellation, initiating dialogue with civil society, and intensifying communication with the Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Justice, and the Prime Minister.
- On 19 January, PCHR attended a Zoom meeting held by the Network of NGOs and human rights organizations in the West Bank and Gaza on the non-profit companies' system.
- 29 interviews with local and international media on civil and political rights violations in Palestine committed by both IOF and the Palestinian

Authority (PA).

- 2 joint statements on women’s rights.
- PCHR contributed to the report of the Palestinian Institutions Coalition—comprised of 18 organizations and coalitions—submitted to the Human Rights Committee concerning Palestine’s initial report on the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights during the 138th session.
- PCHR Provided the coalition with two detailed reports: one on death sentences under the PA from 2014 to 2022, and the second on deaths in prisons and detention centers during the same period.
- PCHR’s Legal Unit held 10 meetings with officials in the Gaza Strip to review the conditions of detainees and prisoners and to offer recommendations in pursuant to Palestine’s international obligations.



A meeting held by PCHR’s Legal Unit with Gaza Police Department officials to review the conditions of detainees and prisoners and to present recommendations in this regard in accordance with Palestine’s international obligations.

■ Output 3.2.1.2

Timely and evidence-based knowledge products produced and used in advocacy

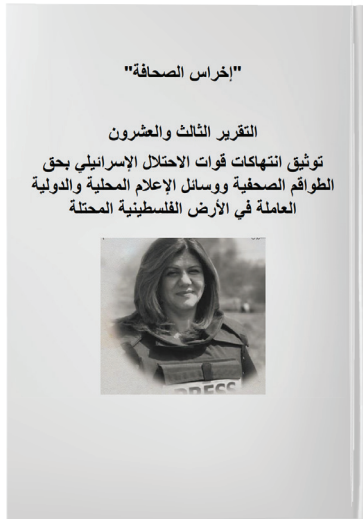
PCHR monitored violations of civil and political rights and produced high quality products used in lobbying and advocacy to promote public rights and freedoms. For this purpose, PCHR prepared the annual report, both related to the human rights situation and the administrative report. PCHR also held workshops on general elections and the importance of holding them and responded to developments in the file of violations of civil and political rights by issuing statements and updates.

■ Indicators

- 6,884 activities to collect information on Israeli civil and political rights violations, including field visits, statements, filling damage forms, interviews, field reports, and photos, documenting 26,279 violations.
- 469 activities to gather information on Palestinian civil and political rights violations, including field visits, testimonies, filling damage forms, interviews, field reports, and photos, documenting 272 violations.
- 31 press releases on Israeli and Palestinian human rights violations.
- 3 reports on civil and political rights, “Silencing the Press”, a report on freedom of expression violations by the Palestinian Authority, and a

report on IOF's torture and degrading treatment against Palestinians) along with 3 more reports on torture by the PA, the right to peaceful assembly, and local elections in Gaza, which were not released due to the Israeli aggression on the Gaza Strip.

- 10 updates on attacks on the rule of law in the occupied Palestinian territory.



PCHR's report "Silencing the Press", on Israeli Occupation Forces' Violations against Journalists.



PCHR's report on the Right to Freedom of Expression and the Right to Peaceful Assembly in the Palestinian Authority controlled areas.



PCHR's report on Torture and ill treatment of Palestinian detainees & prisoners in Israeli prisons.

■ **OBJECTIVE 3.3**

By 2024, PCHR will have promoted participatory, representative, and inclusive political processes and government institutions across Palestine.

■ **Output 3.3.3.2.1**

Activities related to election processes conducted according to international standards including recruitment and training of observers and awareness activities.

No elections were held.

■ **OBJECTIVE 3.4**

By 2024, PCHR will have protected the socio-economic rights of the Palestinian people, in particular the right to health

■ **Outcome 3.4.1**

International community undertakes action with regard to the social economic situation in Gaza

Through data collection on violations of economic, social, and cultural rights in the oPt, especially amidst the Israeli war on Gaza and IOF's starvation tactics and using this data in its reports and press releases, radio shows, workshops, and media interviews, PCHR has contributed

to achieving significant international decisions in 2023. Notably, on 22 December 2023, the UNGA adopted a resolution to protect civilians and allow immediate entry of humanitarian assistance to Palestinians in Gaza. Additionally, 12 statements were issued by the European Union, demanding, among others, entry of aid into the Gaza Strip.

■ Output 3.4.1.1

PCHR data on IOF violations of economic and social rights used in lobbying and advocacy

PCHR collected information about Israeli and Palestinian violations of economic, social, and cultural rights and use it in lobbying and advocacy.

■ Indicators

- 3,410 gathering information activities were executed on Israeli violations of economic and social rights, including field visits, taking testimonies, filling out forms, interviews, field reports and photos. A total of 356,530 violations were monitored.
- 27 information gathering activities on Palestinian violations of economic and social rights, including field visits, taking statements, filling out forms,
- personal interviews, field reports and photos, during which (5) violations were monitored.

- On 28 February 2023, PCHR sent a submission on “Impact of Israeli Unilateral Coercive Measures on the Right to Health of Palestinians in the Gaza Strip” to Ms. Alena Douhan, the UN Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights. This submission addresses some of the Special Rapporteur’s questions contained in her call for input for its thematic reports to the 54th session of UN Human Rights Council (September 2023).
- On 17 March 2023, PCHR delivered an oral intervention before the Human Rights Council under Item 3, highlighting the impact of the Israeli closure on the right to health.



Intervention by Fadel Al-Muzainy, Head of PCHR's Economic Rights Unit, before the Human Rights Council, via Zoom, regarding IOF's violations.



Field researcher in Ramallah, Hanadi Barghouthi, with Al Jazeera's Bureau Chief, Walid Al Omari, to obtain a statement about IOF's closure of Al Jazeera's headquarters.



Field researcher in Ramallah, Hanadi Barghouthi, with Al Jazeera's Bureau Chief, Walid Al Omari, to obtain a statement about IOF's closure of Al Jazeera's headquarters.

■ Output 3.4.1.2

Timely delivery of high-quality products on Israeli violations of social, economic, and cultural rights and used in lobbying and advocacy

PCHR issued high quality products based on field information that were used in lobbying and advocacy activities to expose the crimes of the Israeli occupation, including reports, pamphlets, and press releases. PCHR also held workshops and media interviews to discuss the economic and social rights conditions under the Israeli occupation.

■ Indicators

- Issuing a report: Medical Equipment and Medicines in Gaza Strip: Perpetual Shortage and Serious Repercussions on 27 March 2023.
- Issuing 12 monthly updates on the status of border crossings.
- Implementation of a workshop and conference on the right to health.
- implementation of 5 radio episodes on the Israeli restrictions on the right to health.
- Issuing 18 press releases on violations of economic, social and cultural rights in Palestine.
- 21 media interviews on violations of economic, social and cultural rights in Palestine.
- Implementation of 19 meetings with the Ministry of Civil Affairs and the Ministry of Health's Coordination and Liaison Office to support and

follow up on patient cases regarding their right to travel for medical treatment.

- Issuing 4 press releases on Israeli violations of the right to health against patients, particularly Palestinian detainees in Israeli prisons.

سائلو سيارات إسعاف فلسطينيون
يتحركون في وقت احتجازهم في المعتقل
على السلطات الإسرائيلية للسماح
بجولة حركة المرضى من مطهرات
حاجون "إيزر" في 21 أغسطس 2023.
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■ Outcome 3.4.2

National authorities are more responsive towards the protection of socio-economic rights for Palestinian people, especially the right to health

PCHR informed the local and international community of the reality of economic and social rights in the occupied territory under the PA by monitoring and documenting PA violations. PCHR published this information on its online platforms in Arabic and English. Also, for this purpose, PCHR held training courses, especially for medical crews and medicine and nursing students, on international and domestic standards related to the right to health.

■ Indicators

- Local and international communities are now more aware of the state of economic and social rights, particularly the struggles facing cancer patients, people with disabilities, and the status of the healthcare services in Gaza.
- Medical personnel have become more considerate of human rights standards in dealing with patients.
- Partners and stakeholders are now better informed about the realities of economic, social, and cultural rights, enhancing collaboration to address these issues.



■ Output 3.4.2.1

Lobbying and advocacy to compel PA respect economic, social, and cultural rights

PCHR promoted social and cultural rights under the Palestinian Authority by increasing awareness of the right to health and the right to housing and property. PCHR issued reports and press releases on economic and social rights under the Palestinian Authority, and has conducted workshops, radio sessions and media interviews to spread community awareness about the reality of economic, social, and cultural rights and the relevant international standards. Additionally, PCHR implemented a community initiative to strengthen the resilience of residents in the town of Jühr Al-Deek

■ Indicators

- Prepared 2 reports on the economic and social rights: “Impact of Limited Healthcare Personnel on the Health Rights of Gaza Patients” and “Inadequate Attention – The Right to Attain the Highest Possible Level of Mental Health”. Neither of the reports were released due to the war on Gaza.
- Held 7 roundtable meetings with officials in the West Bank and Gaza Strip on the right to health, Israeli restrictions and PA responsibilities.
- Issued 2 press releases on economic, social, and cultural rights violations in Palestine.

- Conducted two media interviews on the state of economic and social rights under the Palestinian Authority
- Held 10 awareness sessions for students at Palestinian universities on economic, social and cultural rights.
- Conducted 10 accountability sessions with officials and decision-makers on economic, social, and cultural rights, with participation of child members of the Palestine Children Council.
- Participated in 5 conferences and workshops related to economic and social rights.
- Held 4 meetings with the local community to discuss the risk map for the Juhr al-Deek area south of Gaza City.
- Organized 4 meetings with residents and officials in Juhr al-Deek to coordinate community work and strengthen economic and social rights in the area.
- On 26 September 2023, the Unit held an election day to select members of the Community Protection Group in Al-Huda neighborhood (the Towers) in Juhr al-Deek. Six members were elected from ten candidates in the presence of Mr. Jabr Abu Hajir, Mayor of Wadi Gaza, and 50 participants of both genders. Votes were counted publicly, and results were announced at the same gathering.
- From 04 September to 07 September, Community Protection Team members in Juhr al-Deek attended a four-day training on the “PALC” crisis cooperative learning approach organized by the unit at Roots

Hotel on Gaza's beachfront. The training resulted in a comprehensive risk map for Juhr al-Deek and prioritized intervention areas, assisting in selecting a title for a future community initiative to be later conducted.

- From 27 September to 30 September, members of the Community Protection Group participated in a three-day training course on small grant management skills. This training produced a preliminary proposal for a community initiative to be implemented by the group.



Accountability session held by the Palestine Children's Council-Gaza for the Ministry of Education.



An Election activity held by PCHR to select a community protection group in Juhar ad-Dik, central Gaza Strip, as part of the Community-Led Crisis Response Project.



Ayman Labad, researcher in the Economic Rights Unit, during a conference held by PCHR in coordination with the Palestinian Medical Relief Society on the right to health.



Training session for the community protection group in the town of Jhar Ad-Dik within the community-led crisis response project.

Strategic Priority 4

PCHR further professionalizes its capacities to maximize its resources and continuously improve its work for the benefit of wider society.

■ OBJECTIVE 4.1

By 2024, PCHR will have strengthened its institutional capacity in key areas, to continue to be an accountable, transparent, sustainable, and responsive organization.

■ OUTCOME 4.1.1

PCHR will have developed its capacities in the areas of business development, fundraising, human resources, leadership, and advocacy

PCHR advanced its organizational capacities through upskilling the staff, increasing its resources, and rationalizing its expenditures. Also, PCHR adopted new policies, adhered to its human resources policies, and enhanced its presence online.

■ Output 4.1.1.1

Increased staff capacity in key areas for development

In 2023, PCHR increased the knowledge and skills of its staff by im-

plementing training courses on various topics, including: gender-based corruption, mechanisms and procedures for Protection from Sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), financial planning, cyber security, strategic human resource planning and policy development, mental health and human rights, common mental disorders in adults, case detection, gender-sensitive planning, gender-based monitoring and evaluation, gender-responsive budgeting, gender-based advocacy, as well as wellness and self-care.

■ Indicators

- 11 training courses were implemented, a total of 90 training hours, for PCHR's staff to increase their skills and capacities.

■ Output 4.1.1.3

Effective monitoring and evaluation system, periodic reports and lessons learned

In 2023, PCHR improved its project implementation strategies, including adopting the agile project management principles and practices and applying the participatory approach. In addition, PCHR held sessions with the projects' teams to review the M&E results and benefit from the lessons learnt.



■ Indicators

- Held five lessons-learned sessions with project teams to leverage M&E results for performance improvement.
- Implemented immediate and effective adjustments and interventions in 10 ongoing projects to provide urgent support to victims of human rights violations.
- 3 participatory approach sessions to engage stakeholders, such as children, women, and partner organizations, in the monitoring and evaluation processes.

■ Output 4.1.1.4

Management manuals reflect the latest approaches and in line with international requirements.

In 2023, PCHR developed its administrative policies and governance standards starting with using new administrative tools and measures through establishing various specialized committees within PCHR's Board of Directors, developing the human resources and financial policies, developing and updating new administrative guidelines and informing the staff of all changes.

■ Indicators

- A specialized committee formed within PCHR's Board of Directors: The

Gender with a defined and written mandate, roles, and responsibilities. The committee oversees and monitors PCHR's programs for gender sensitivity.

- A specialized Activities and Events Committee was established to report to the PCHR's Director, with designated members and specific roles responsible for organizing major events from planning through M&E, including supervising, monitoring, and drawing lessons learnt.
- The Human Resources Policies Manual revised and updated (1).
- Updated job description for roles (6).
- A new salary scale (1).
- Developed a new annual performance evaluation system focused on results and achievements (1).

■ Output 4.1.1.5

PCHR's emergency response during the Israeli war on the Gaza Strip

Since the beginning of the war on Gaza on 07 October 2023, PCHR has faced massive challenges that have impeded its staff's ability to fulfill their duties across various specialties. These challenges have materialized in the constant fear of attack and death, which tragically claimed the lives of two colleagues and lawyers from the Women's Unit, Noor Abu Al-Nour and Dana Yaghi, along with their families in direct attacks on their homes. Additionally, prolonged power, internet, and communica-

tion outages in Gaza, along with the extensive destruction of the PCHR's three offices in Gaza City, Jabalia refugee camp, and Khan Younis, led to significant property and equipment damage. Many staff members' homes were either fully destroyed or partially damaged, forcibly displacing the majority of them.



Lawyer at PCHR's Women's Unit, Dana Yaghi, who was killed in the Yaghi family massacre in Deir al-Balah during the current war.



Lawyer at PCHR's Women's Unit, Nour Abu Al-Nour, who was killed in a massacre committed against her family in Rafah.



Training for PCHR's volunteer field researchers and lawyers during the war on monitoring and documentation mechanisms and PCHR's policies in light of the state of emergency.



■ Indicators

- 30 paid volunteers were appointed to document Israeli violations since the onset of the war.
- 10 female lawyers formerly worked within Sawasya Project at PCHR were contacted to volunteer with PCHR in order to provide legal support for women in shelters and documenting violations against them.
- 4 lawyers from Bertha Project were appointed as volunteers.
- 5 administrative staff members were assigned to support field research teams in reaching cases and documenting violations.
- Mechanisms for reporting violations were activated through PCHR's website and WhatsApp.
- PCHR rented a temporary office in Rafah, equipped with alternative solar power and moderate-speed internet to facilitate PCHR's work.
- 15 E-SIMs were provided to PCHR's staff to ensure internet access.

■ Output 4.1.1.6

PCHR digital content developed and more influential

Considering the significance of social media platforms as a significant source of information, PCHR enhanced using these platforms to reach the Palestinian audience in order to disseminate the culture of human rights and expose violations against the Palestinian civilians and the impact of

these violations on their lives. PCHR posts its publications on its official pages in an interactive way that facilitates users' access to information by publishing periodically and constantly in different ways, including designs, videos, promos, and campaigns. Since its establishment, PCHR has worked on constantly disseminating its publications in both English and Arabic to its mailing list. Additionally, PCHR managed to prepare and release videos documenting its activities, and other videos on human rights violations and their impact on the Palestinians' lives, as PCHR's various publications went viral on social media.

■ Indicators

- PCHR's website updated with the latest versions with the highest technology protection and security.
- Developing and updating PCHR's database to include PCHR's units by using the latest systems and software and most updated protection, security and archive systems.
- Regarding digital security, the Appliance Router Firewall installed to enforce access control over PCHR's internet network and secure it using advanced features such as intrusion prevention to recognize and block any hacks and viruses.
- All PCHR publications sent in both English and Arabic to its mailing list of 4,000 subscribers from all over the world divided into two groups according to the English or Arabic language preferences.

- Sponsored ads for videos that reached hundreds of thousands of people.
- Subscribed to telecommunication platforms.
- Shared videos designed and posted on PCHR’s social media accounts, YouTube channel and PCHR’s official website.
- All PCHR publications were released on its website and social media pages in English and Arabic, including press releases, news, updates, reports and factsheets.

