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من أجل فلسطينيي سورية  
Action Group For Palestinians of Syria



## التقرير اليومي



الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية  
The situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria

**WHO: Over 10,000 Suspected Cases of Cholera Reported in Syria in Recent Weeks**

- UNRWA to Embark on Reconstruction Project in Yarmouk Camp
- Palestinian Refugees Denounce Crackdowns at Regime Checkpoints South of Syria
- Palestinian Refugees Distressed as Turkey Closes 8 More Istanbul Districts to Foreign Residency Permits



## Latest Developments

In Syria, more than 10,000 suspected cases of cholera have been reported just in the past six weeks, warned the World Health Organization (WHO).

In a press briefing, WHO's Secretary-General Margaret Harris said that "after years of declining cases globally, we have seen a worrying upsurge of cholera outbreaks around the globe over the past year."

"In the first nine months of this year alone, 27 countries have reported cholera outbreaks. Not only are we seeing more outbreaks but more deadly outbreaks", said Harris.

"The data we have, which are limited, show the average case fatality rate so far this year is almost three times the rate of the past five years", he warned. "In Syria, more than 10,000 suspected cases of cholera have been reported just in the past six weeks."

"Although cholera can kill within hours, it can be prevented with vaccines and access to safe water and sanitation, and can be treated easily with oral rehydration or antibiotics for more severe cases but the reality is that many people don't have access to these simple interventions", warned Harris.

The U.N. and Syria's Health Ministry have said the source of the outbreak is believed to be linked to people drinking unsafe water from the Euphrates River and using contaminated water to irrigate crops, resulting in food contamination.

The cases were reported in several provinces, including Aleppo in the north, Latakia on the Mediterranean coast and Deir el-Zour along the border with Iraq.

The outbreak comes at a time when Syria's medical sector has been badly damaged over the past 11 years in a conflict that killed hundreds of thousands of people, wounded over 1 million more and displaced half the country's prewar population.

Meanwhile, an activist from Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Damascus, said UNRWA is slated to launch a



project to build a youth development centre and a school comprising 24 classrooms.

The project will last for nine months and is expected to be finalized in July 2023.

A few weeks earlier, Damascus Governor Mohamed Tarek Kreishati gave instructions to Damascus authorities to provide the residents of Yarmouk refugee camp with basic services and to rehabilitate the power and water networks.

The governor called for increased cooperation among local departments and CSOs in order to bring life back to normal in the camp.

Sometime earlier, the governor told SHAM FM radio station that the governorate started reconstruction projects in the camp and finalized the rehabilitation of the sewerage network and main water lines.

He said there are currently 1,000 families in Yarmouk Camp, adding that efforts have been underway to solve the bread crisis and rehabilitate the ravaged power network.

The unabated warfare has had disastrous fallouts on Palestinian refugee camps across the Syrian territories. Palestinians who remained in Yarmouk or returned to the camp sometime later have been struggling for survival, in an area where mounds of uncleared rubble continue to block civilians' access to their homes and property.

Before the crisis started in 2011, Yarmouk was a bustling home to almost 30 percent of the Palestine refugee population in Syria. Today, the weight of displacement, hardship and the loss of loved ones add to the difficult living conditions in Yarmouk.

Meanwhile, a former opposition affiliate in Syria said passing through regime-run military checkpoints overnight has become life-threatening.

A number of civilians have allegedly been kidnapped by gunmen affiliated with Iranian militias.

He added that a number of wanted persons arrested at military checkpoints in southern Syria have been extra-judicially executed.



Palestinian refugees taking shelter in southern Damascus towns continue to sound distress signals over the security turmoil and increasing abductions in the area.

In the meantime, Küçükçekmece, Başakşehir, Bağcılar, Avcılar, Bahçelievler, Sultangazi, Esenler and Zeytinburnu – have been closed for issuing any residence permit to foreign nationals as no new registrations will be made, Interior Minister Süleyman Soylu said Friday.

Speaking after the Istanbul Migration Evaluation Meeting, Soylu told the press that another eight districts were closed to foreign residence registrations while Fatih and Esenyurt were closed previously.

The minister, however, highlighted also that this rule might have exceptions. “If he/she is a student and has a university in that district or if he/she has bought a house as an investment. There is also the matter of sickness.”

Soylu said that while the total number of foreigners in Istanbul was 1,309,394 in April, the number decreased to 1,271,279, despite the arrival of Russians and Ukrainians in the last months.

"The total number of our Syrian brothers and sisters in Türkiye is 3,646,278; these are those who came here due to the internal conflict in Syria, which we describe as 'under temporary protection.'"

“Istanbul has long been closed to the registration of Syrians under temporary protection status. Some neighborhoods and districts in Istanbul are closed to all foreigners, not just Syrians under temporary protection status,” Soylu underlined.

In February, the ministry had announced that 781 neighborhoods in Türkiye were closed to the registrations because the number of foreigners exceeded 25% of the total population.

Türkiye hosts nearly 4 million refugees – more than any other country in the world. After the Syrian conflict broke out in 2011, Türkiye adopted an "open-door policy" for people fleeing the conflict, granting them "temporary protection" status.

Unofficial statistics indicate that 10,000 Palestinians from Syria have sought shelter in Turkey, where they have been facing dire



socio-economic conditions and denied access to the local labor market.

Turkish embassies continue to prevent Palestinian refugees from Syria from obtaining visas. As a result, hundreds of Palestinians have embarked on life-threatening journeys via illegal immigration roads to reach Turkey, fleeing war-tattered Syria, among other war-stricken zones.