



مجموعة العمل من أجل فلسطينيي سورية
Action Group For Palestinians of Syria

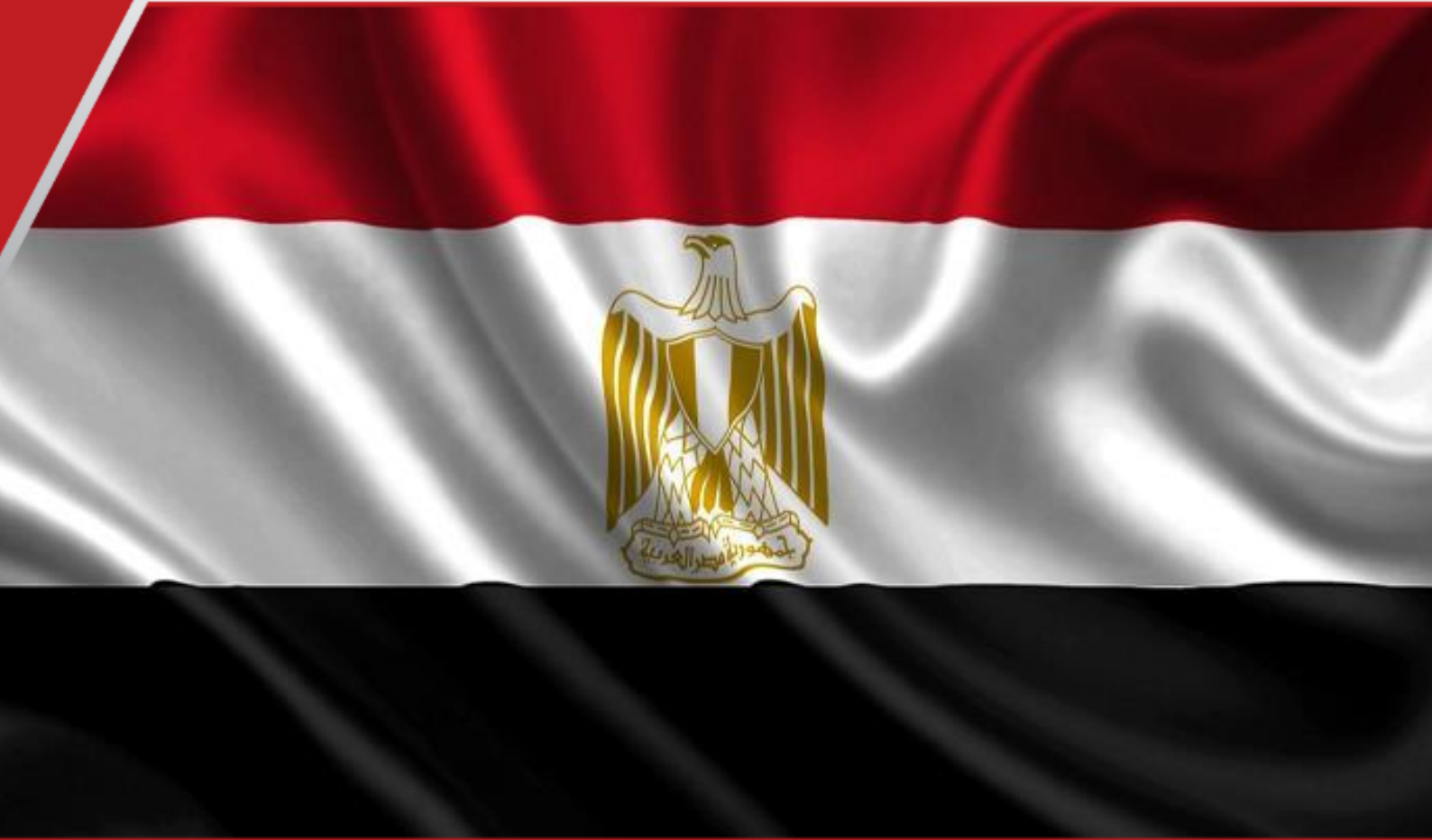
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التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Egyptian Authorities Push Back Palestinian Refugee to Syria"

- UNRWA Chief Resigns amid Israel-US Pressure
- Educational Event Held at AlSayeda Zeinab Camp for Palestine Refugees
- Palestinian Family Forcibly Disappeared in Syrian Jails for over 6 years

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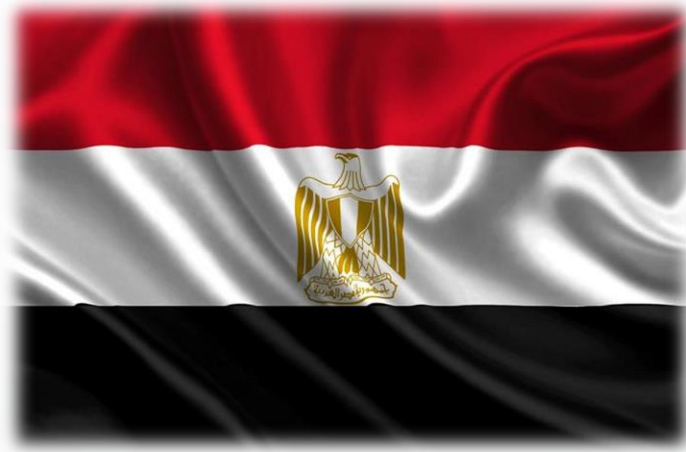
Latest Developments

The Egyptian authorities deported a Palestinian refugee to Syria after he overstayed his visa in the country.

An AGPS field reported said the refugee entered Egypt illegally through Sudan to reunite with his family members, who have sought refuge in Egypt since 2014.

The Egyptian authorities arrested the refugee and kept him in custody for days, before they pushed him back to Syria.

The refugee's family said the husband was also deported from Egypt some eight days earlier, saying such arbitrary refoulement decisions stand in sharp contrast to international humanitarian laws.



Palestinian refugees who fled war-torn Syria have been subjected to a fragile legal status in Egypt, where they are treated as foreigners rather than asylum-seekers fleeing war-stricken zones.

Palestinians from Syria in Egypt have been denied the right to legal visas, refugee documents, safe accommodation, basic services, and relief assistance.



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Those who illegally entered Egypt via the Sudanese borders have been denied the right to free movement, education, and labor, among other basic necessities. Unlike Syrian nationals, who are granted safe asylum in Egypt and systematically assisted by the UNHCR, Palestinian refugees are left on their own.

At the same time, the number of Palestinians who fled Syria to Egypt has dramatically shrunk back over the past three years. AGPS data indicates that the number of Palestinian refugees from Syria in Egypt in 2018 was estimated at 3,500, down from over 6,000 in recent years. Some 500 refugees illegally entered Egypt through Sudan.

AGPS continues to stress the need to secure the rights of the Palestinians from Syria in Egypt, who fall outside of UNRWA's fields of operations, to legal and physical protection, as per the Refugee Convention of 1951, and to hand them over cash and in-kind aids, along with refugee cards, in order to enhance their legal status in the Egyptian territories.

In another development, the head of the main UN agency for Palestinian refugees has resigned following alleged accusations of bias and abuses of authority.

In a statement on Wednesday, the UN said Pierre Krähenbühl had quitted with immediate effect his role as commissioner general at the refugee agency after an internal investigation found “management issues.”

Krähenbühl handed in his resignation to UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Wednesday, amid extensive coverage of the



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allegations, just hours after he had agreed to step aside provisionally sometime earlier in the day.

The problems at the agency are believed to have come to light following a wave of pressure by the US and Israel to end the agency's mandate.



The ad hominem campaign resulted in many donor countries, including Switzerland and Belgium, suspending funding to UNRWA.

The US already cut its funding in 2018, bringing about a severe financial crisis which the agency, which provides support to 5.5 million Palestinian refugees, continues to struggle with.

Meanwhile, an awareness-raising event was held at AlNaqeeb School in AlSayeda Zeinab Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Rif Dimashq.

The gathering held under the slogan “I respect my school, myself, and others” was attended by dozens of Palestinian refugees, students, and teaching staff.

AlSayeda Zeinab Camp, held by the Syrian government forces and their affiliated popular committees, has been gripped with dire



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socio-economic conditions as a result of the high rates of unemployment. Scores of civilians have fled the camp while others have been forced to join pro-government battalions.

In the meantime, 10 members of a Palestinian refugee family have been secretly incarcerated in Syrian government jails since June 16, 2013.

AGPS identified the family members as: Mahira Mahmoud Amayri (born in 1964), Hadeel Mahmoud Amayri (born in 1987), Aseel Mahmoud Amayri (born in 1988), Widad Mahmoud Amayri (born in 1990), Razan Mahmoud Amayri (born in 2000), Suheer Mahmoud Amayri (born in 1981), and Maysaa Jamal Idris (born in 1979).

The list also includes Firas Waleed Dasouki (born in 1978) along with his children Hamza Firas Dasouki (born in 2011) and Hala Firas Dasouki (born in 2012).

The family members were all kidnapped by Syria's pro-government squads at a checkpoint in Nisreen Street, in AlTadhamun neighborhood.

AGPS kept record of the secret detention of 1,769 Palestinian refugees in Syrian state dungeons, among them 108 women and girls.

AGPS calls on the Syrian government to disclose the fate of hundreds of Palestinians forcibly disappeared in state-run penitentiaries.

AGPS believes that the arbitrary internment of Palestinian refugees in war-torn Syria amounts to a war crime.



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AGPS kept record of several cases where Palestinians have been kidnapped at government checkpoints or during assaults carried out by government troops on Palestinian refugee camps and shelters.