



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



**"Civil Committees Denounce File Transfer of Palestinians from Syria in Lebanon  
from UNRWA to UNHCR"**

- Mortars Dropped near Aleppo's Palestinian Arab Club
- Palestine Children Face Considerable Threats to Their Safety, Says UNRWA
- Palestinian Refugee Mahmoud Saleh Enduring Mysterious Fate in Syrian Govt Jail

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## Latest Developments

Palestinian-Syrian civil committees in Lebanon have condemned underway attempts to task UNHCR, instead of UNRWA, with managing the affairs of the Palestinians of Syria in Lebanon.

In a joint statement, a number of civil committees slammed the calls made by the Youth Commission to Demand Humanitarian Asylum for Palestinians of Syria during a vigil held on November 20 at the UNRWA office in Beirut to shift the mandate to UNHCR after rescinding it from UNRWA.

The statement said such calls stand in sharp contrast to the position of the vast majority of displaced Palestinian refugees from Syria in Lebanon whose top priority is to live in dignity pending their safe return to their homestead.



The committees said the Youth Commission does not represent them in any possible way, stressing the need for UNRWA to sustain its humanitarian services for Palestinian refugees pending a just and lasting solution to their plight.



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The statement, signed by the Committee of Displaced Palestinians from Syria to Sidon, the Follow-Up Committee in the Western and Central Bekaa, the Committee of Badawi Camp, and the Committee of Beirut Refugee Camps, called on UNRWA to shell out winter aids for the refugees and to take into consideration the swift price hike in the tension-stricken Lebanese territories.

Meanwhile, coordinator of the Youth Commission denied the claims. He told AGPS that no oral or written calls have been made by the commission to transfer UNRWA's mandate to UNHCR or any other body.

In a letter sent on October 1, 2019, the Youth Commission called on UNRWA's Director-General to take urgent measures in response to the commission's appeals to expand UNRWA's mandate so as to include the resettlement of refugees in line with the directives of the UN General Assembly.

In another development, mortars reportedly fell around the Palestinian Arab Club in AlJumeiliya area, in Aleppo, a couple of days earlier, resulting in injuries and material damage.







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The Arab Club administration said staff members remained indoors for fear of being killed in the mortar attack. No staff injuries were reported.

In the meantime, as the Convention on the Right of the Child (CRC) turns 30, this week, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) has called for increasing attention and assistance to children in conflict zones.

“The CRC’s promise to children is that they should live in safety, are protected from violence, discrimination and abuse, and that they enjoy economic, social and cultural rights”, UNRWA said in a statement.

“Many Palestine refugee children face considerable threats to their safety and wellbeing and are unable to fully enjoy their childhood or reach their full potential”, said Christian Saunders, Acting UNRWA Commissioner-General. “Sadly, for many Palestine refugee children, the global commitment to the upholding of their rights has a long way to go until it is realized.”



According to UNICEF data, an estimated 25 million girls and boys live in conflict situations in the Arab region today, which includes the Near East, where UNRWA is active.



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“Unfortunately, despite achievements in the fields of health and education for children across the region, violence and conflict still mark the childhoods of many”, warned the refugee agency. “Children in Gaza born in 2009 will have experienced three wars and frequent episodes of military escalation; children born in Syria since 2011 will not know what it means to live without conflict; and children in the West Bank will only know a life under occupation.”

“In UNRWA, we work every day to ensure that children can live in dignity pending a just and lasting solution to their plight, whether it is through providing them with a good quality education, or access to health care, relief and social services or through our protection work. We have our part of the CRC promise to honor and we take this responsibility very seriously,” said Saunders.

UNRWA is a United Nations agency established by the General Assembly in 1949 and mandated to provide assistance and protection to some 5.4 million Palestine refugees registered with UNRWA across its five fields of operation. Its mission is to help Palestine refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, West Bank, including East Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip achieve their full human development potential, pending a just and lasting solution to their plight.

For the past 70 years, UNRWA has run programs that have directly improved the wellbeing of many Palestine refugee children. However, the weight of conflict, occupation, the blockade and displacement is far too heavy to be defeated by the cash-stripped UN agency.



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Meanwhile, Palestinian refugee Mahmoud Hasan Saleh, from AlAyedeen camp, in Hama, has been secretly detained in Syrian government prisons for the sixth year in a row.

Mahmoud was arrested by Syrian security forces on June 1, 2013. His condition and whereabouts could not be indentified.

AGPS documented the secret detention of 1,768 Palestinian refugees in Syria's state-run prisons, among them 108 women.