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HUMAN RIGHTS AND INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW SECRETARIAT:

DENMARK, SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND, THE NETHERLANDS,
AND NORWAY

NGO MONITOR



Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law Secretariat

*Denmark, Sweden, Switzerland,
the Netherlands, and Norway*

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NGO Monitor's mission is to provide information and analysis, promote accountability, and support discussion on the reports and activities of NGOs claiming to advance human rights and humanitarian agendas.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- D**enmark, Sweden, Switzerland, and the Netherlands jointly fund Israeli and Palestinian non-governmental organizations (NGOs) through The Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law Secretariat (the "IHL Secretariat").¹ This funding mechanism has a projected budget of \$17.6 million over 2013-2017, including \$13 million for NGOs (see Tables A, B, and C).² The funds are managed by the Institute of Law at Birzeit University (IoL-BZU) and a European multidisciplinary consulting company, NIRAS.
- Until 2014, the NGO Development Center (NDC) in Ramallah managed these pooled government finances through its Human Rights/Good Governance (HR/GG) program.³ (See NGO Monitor's reports on the previous counterproductive funding via the NDC.)^{4,5}
 - As of June 1, 2016, the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs allocated NOK 5 million (\$600,000) to the IHL Secretariat.⁶
 - The IHL Secretariat funds highly politicized NGOs that are involved in various anti-Israel activities, including engaging in legal warfare ("lawfare") against Israeli officials,⁷ promoting BDS (boycott, divestment, and sanctions) campaigns, advancing a "1948 agenda," exploiting the false "apartheid" analogy to discredit Israel, and even promoting antisemitic propaganda.⁸
 - The donor countries are responsible for "deciding on the general framework and policy for the HR/IHL Secretariat; approving operational manuals and standard forms for the Secretariat; approving annual work plans and budget for the Secretariat; approving funding as proposed by the Secretariat; deciding to open Calls for Proposals for project support; approving annual narrative reports and audited financial statements by the Secretariat; and the Steering Committee commissions the mid-term review or any other external evaluation of the programme."⁹

¹ Human Rights & International Humanitarian Law Secretariat, "Human Rights & International Humanitarian Law Secretariat," <http://www.rightsecretariat.ps/index.php>

² NIRAS, "NIRAS Has Been Awarded a New Assignment in Palestine," August 5, 2013, <http://www.niras.com/current-events/news/2013/new-assignment-in-palestine.aspx>

³ NGO Monitor, "NGO Development Center (NDC)," September 14, 2014, http://ngo-monitor.org/article/ngo_development_center_ndc_0

⁴ NGO Monitor, "Promoting Israel's Isolation: Switzerland, Sweden, Denmark, Netherlands Funding for NDC and NGOs," November 16, 2009, http://www.ngo-monitor.org/article/promoting_israel_s_isolation_switzerland_sweden_denmark_netherlands_funding_for_ndc_and_ngos

⁵ NGO Monitor, "Continued Support for Radical Political Advocacy NGOs: Analysis of New Grants from the NGO Development Center," June 15, 2011, http://www.ngo-monitor.org/article/continued_support_for_radical_political_advocacy_ngos_analysis_of_new_grants_from_the_ngo_development_center

⁶ "Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Grants Portal," PAL-15/0034 - HR/IHL Secretariat [sic] 2016, <http://udtilskudd.regjeringen.no/#/en/agreement?agreementNo=PAL-15/0034>

⁷ NGO Monitor, "NGO Lawfare," http://ngo-monitor.org/article/ngo_lawfare

⁸ NGO Monitor, "Boycotts, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) Resource Page," April 23, 2014, <http://ngo-monitor.org/article.php?viewall=yes&id=86>

⁹ Human Rights & International Humanitarian Law Secretariat, "Steering Committee," <http://www.rightsecretariat.ps/aboutus/steering-committee>

- According to the IHL Secretariat's website, the "overall objective of the programme is to contribute to the effective realization of adherence to human rights and international humanitarian law in the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) and to influence the behavior of the relevant duty bearers, including Israel, the Palestinian Authority (PA) and the governing bodies/ authorities in Gaza."¹⁰
- Works "with and supports Palestinian and Israeli human rights (HR) civil society organizations (CSOs) active in the oPt, within the general parameters and context of ending the Israeli occupation of the oPt, and establishing an independent, democratic Palestinian state in which human rights are respected."¹¹
- The IHL Secretariat provides "core-funding" grants to select prequalified organizations. "Core funding" grants, with limited restrictions, support the general budgets of organizations and their full agendas.¹² In March 2014, the IHL Secretariat allocated \$10.5 million in "core funding" grants to 24 high politicized Israeli and Palestinian NGOs active in the Arab-Israeli conflict over a period of three years.¹³ (See table on [page 13] for complete list.) The IHL Secretariat also provides "project funding" grants. (See table on [page 14] for funding amounts.)¹⁴
- Since October 2015, when a major escalation of attacks on Israeli civilians began, the IHL Secretariat's Facebook page has consistently ignored Israeli victims, while providing links to Israeli and Palestinian NGOs that condemn the responses to these attacks by security forces.¹⁵
- NGO Monitor's analysis of the IHL Secretariat's 2015 Annual Report reveals fundamental problems with its funding for NGOs, including support for political warfare against Israel, the adoption of extreme NGO rhetoric against Israel, the singling out and targeting of Jewish communities abroad, and repeating a very narrow focus on Palestinian human rights and alleged human rights violations against Palestinians.¹⁶

NGOs Funded by Sweden, Switzerland, Denmark, the Netherlands and Norway through the IHL Secretariat include:

- **BADIL**¹⁷ - Founded to promote a Palestinian "right of return" and a leader of international BDS campaigns.^{18,19} BADIL holds annual "right of return" art contests and has published antisemitic cartoons on its website, as well as imagery promoting a one-state agenda and denying Israel's right to exist.²⁰ A cartoon that won a monetary prize in BADIL's 2010 Al-Awda Nakba caricature competition is a blatant representation of classic antisemitic tropes, including a Jewish man, garbed in traditional Hasidic attire, with a hooked nose and side

¹⁰ Human Rights & International Humanitarian Law Secretariat, "Fund Management Manual," December 2013, http://www.rightsecretariat.ps/files/Fund_Management_Manual.pdf

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Human Rights & International Humanitarian Law Secretariat, "Secretariat Holds Successful Launch Event in Jericho, Palestine," March 30, 2014, http://www.rightsecretariat.ps/files/14.03.30_Secretariat_PR_Launch_Event_FINAL.pdf

¹⁴ Human Rights & International Humanitarian Law Secretariat, "HRIHL Secretariat Project Funding Recipients," <http://www.rightsecretariat.ps/our-work/grantees/project-funding>

¹⁵ Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law Secretariat, *Facebook*, <https://www.facebook.com/HRIHLSecretariat>

¹⁶ Human Rights & International Humanitarian Law Secretariat "Annual Report of the HRIHL Secretariat – 2015," August 02, 2015, <http://rightsecretariat.ps/category/item/100-annual-report>

¹⁷ NGO Monitor, "Badil – Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights," March 23, 2015, <http://www.ngo-monitor.org/article/badil>

¹⁸ Badil, "About Badil," <http://www.badil.org/en/about-badil>

¹⁹ NGO Monitor, "Boycotts, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) Resource Page," April 23, 2014, http://www.ngo-monitor.org/article/ngo_leadership_in_boycott_and_divestment_campaigns

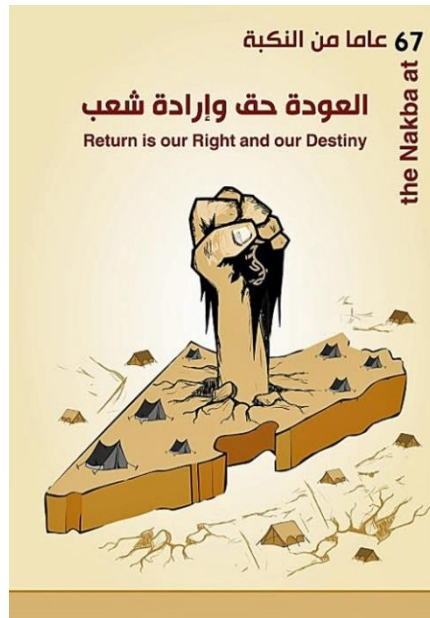
²⁰ NGO Monitor, "Badil's Antisemitic Cartoon: Questions for Danchurchaid, Trocaire and Funders," October 11, 2010, http://www.ngo-monitor.org/article/badil_s_antisemitic_cartoon_questions_for_danchurchaid_trocaire_and_funders

locks.²¹ He stands above a dead child and skulls, holding a pitchfork dripping with blood. After the antisemitic cartoons were publicly revealed by NGO Monitor, Switzerland froze NDC funding for this NGO. There is no public documentation suggesting that an in-depth investigation was conducted regarding the explicitly antisemitic imagery or that controls were established to prevent such images from being published in the future. Indeed much of the offensive imagery remains on BADIL's website.²²

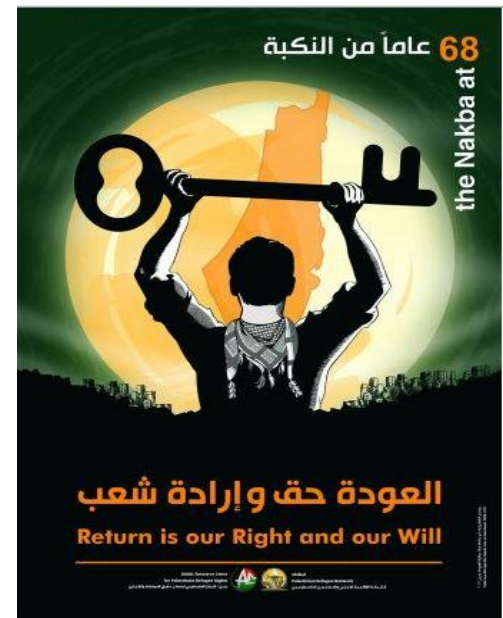
2010



2015



2016



- **Palestinian Center for Human Rights (PCHR),**²³ a leader in the “lawfare” movement, has campaigned to have Israeli officials arrested in the UK, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Spain, and New Zealand.²⁴
 - All of PCHR’s cases have been dismissed in the preliminary stages.
 - Along with Al-Haq, Al-Dameer and Al-Mezan, PCHR submitted a document to Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court Fatou Bensouda on November 23, 2015, claiming to present evidence and testimonies of alleged Israeli “war crimes” perpetrated during the 2014 Gaza war (Operation Protective Edge).²⁵
 - PCHR regularly describes Israeli policies as “apartheid”²⁶ and accuses Israel of “ethnic cleansing,”²⁷ “war crimes,”²⁸ and the “Judaization of Jerusalem.”²⁹

²¹ NGO Monitor, “Badil – Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights,” March 23, 2015, <http://www.ngo-monitor.org/article/badil>

²² Palestine Poster Project, “BADIL Poster Contest – 2015,” May 2015, <http://www.palestineposterproject.org/poster/badil-poster-contest-2015-abu-znada>

²³ NGO Monitor, “Palestinian Center for Human Rights,” August 10, 2014, http://www.ngo-monitor.org/article/palestinian_center_for_human_rights_pchr

²⁴ NGO Monitor, “NGO Lawfare,” December 3, 2008, http://www.ngo-monitor.org/article/ngo_lawfare

²⁵ Al Haq, “Palestinian Human Rights Organisations Deliver Submission to the International Criminal Court on Alleged Israeli War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity during 2014 Gaza offensive,” November 23, 2015, <http://alhaq.org/advocacy/targets/international-criminal-court-icc/998-palestinian-human-rights-organisations-deliver-submission-to-the-international-criminal-court-on-alleged-israeli-war-crimes-and-crimes-against-humanity-during-2014-gaza-offensive>

²⁶ Palestinian Center for Human Rights, “Fact Sheet: Settlements and Apartheid in the OPT,” March 18, 2002, <http://www.pchrgaza.org/facts/fact3.htm>

²⁷ PCHR, “Continued Ethnic Cleansing and Measures Aimed at Creating Jewish Majority in Occupied Jerusalem,” June 22, 2010, http://www.pchrgaza.org/portal/en/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=6764:continued-ethnic-cleansing-and-measures-aimed-at-creating-jewish-majority-in-occupied-jerusalem&catid=36:pchrpressreleases&Itemid=194

- Regularly refers to indiscriminate attacks on Israeli civilians as “resistance” and rockets that fall short of their Israeli civilian targets and cause injuries to Palestinians as “misuse of weapons.”³⁰
- **Al-Haq**,³¹ a leader in BDS³² and “lawfare” campaigns, has proposed sabotaging the Israeli court system by “flooding the [Israeli Supreme] Court with petitions in the hope of obstructing its functioning and resources.”³³
 - Along with Al-Mezan, Al-Dameer and the Palestinian Center for Human Rights (PCHR), Al-Haq submitted a document to Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court Fatou Bensouda on November 23, 2015, claiming evidence and testimonies of alleged Israeli “war crimes” perpetrated during the 2014 Gaza war (Operation Protective Edge).³⁴
 - The Israeli Supreme Court has identified Al-Haq’s general director Shawan Jabarin as “among the senior activists of the Popular Front [for the Liberation of Palestine-PFLP] terrorist organization.”³⁵ The PFLP is a designated terrorist organization by the EU. There is no record indicating that due diligence was conducted by donor countries to ensure that IHL Secretariat funding is not being diverted to terror groups in violation of domestic and international terror financing laws.
- **Adalah**,³⁶ one of the most politically active NGOs in opposing Israeli policy and delegitimizing Israel, labels Israel a “racist” state, and is involved in “lawfare” campaigns against Israeli leaders.
 - Adalah was involved in a “platform” released by the Movement for Black Lives (MBL) that supported BDS and called Israel “an apartheid state committing genocide.”³⁷ The document lists Nadia Ben Youssef, Adalah’s USA Representative, as an author and contributor.
 - Following the 2014 Gaza War, Adalah submitted a report to the UN Commission of Inquiry falsely alleging that “Israel’s investigations...fall far short of the international standards.”³⁸
 - In 2009, following the Goldstone report, Adalah urged governments to “re-evaluate their relationship with Israel.”³⁹

²⁸ PCHR, “The War on Gaza,” February 1, 2014,

http://www.pchrgaza.org/portal/en/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=74&Itemid=217

²⁹ IMRA, “Palestinian NGO Opposes WHO Conference Hosted by Israel Anywhere in Jerusalem,” November 28, 2012, <http://imra.org.il/story.php3?id=54619>

³⁰ PCHR, “Misuse of Weapons by Armed Groups and Security Forces,” 23 December 2008, <http://pchrgaza.org/files/weapon/english/2008/report44.html>

³¹ NGO Monitor, “Al-Haq,” February 24, 2015, http://www.ngo-monitor.org/article/al_haq

³² NGO Monitor, “Boycotts, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) Resource Page,” April 23, 2014, <http://ngo-monitor.org/article.php?viewall=yes&id=86>

³³ NGO Monitor, “NGO Lawfare,” December 3, 2008, http://www.ngo-monitor.org/article/ngo_lawfare

³⁴ Al Haq, “Palestinian Human Rights Organisations Deliver Submission to the International Criminal Court on Alleged Israeli War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity during 2014 Gaza offensive,” November 23, 2015, <http://www.alhaq.org/advocacy/targets/international-criminal-court-icc/998-palestinian-human-rights-organisations-deliver-submission-to-the-international-criminal-court-on-alleged-israeli-war-crimes-and-crimes-against-humanity-during-2014-gaza-offensive>

³⁵ NGO Monitor, Unofficial translation of *Shawan Rateb Abdallah Jabarin v. Commander of IDF Forces in the West Bank (2007)*, August 17, 2016, http://www.ngo-monitor.org/nm/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Jabarin-2007-decision-translation_NGO-Monitor-aug2016.pdf

³⁶ NGO Monitor, “Adalah,” November 24, 2014, <http://ngo-monitor.org/article/adalah>

³⁷ The Movement for Black Lives, “INVEST-DIVEST,” <https://policy.m4bl.org/invest-divest/>

³⁸ Adalah, “Adalah Submits Report to UN Commission of Inquiry on Gaza,” February 3, 2015, <http://www.adalah.org/en/content/view/8417>

³⁹ Adalah, “Palestinian Human Rights Organizations Support Work and Recommendations of UN Fact Finding Mission: Demand Effective Judicial Redress and the Protection of Victims’ Rights,” September 9, 2009, <http://www.adalah.org/eng/Articles/980/Palestinian-Human-Rights-Organizations-Support->

- In 2007, Adalah published a “Democratic Constitution” that called for supplanting the Jewish foundation of Israel with a “democratic, bilingual and multicultural” framework in which Jewish immigration would be restricted to “humanitarian reasons.”
- **Addameer** appears to have close connections to the PFLP.⁴⁰ Addameer’s ties with PFLP potentially violate both international and domestic law.
 - Addameer’s chairperson and co-founder, Abdul-latif Ghaith, was banned by Israel from travelling internationally due to his alleged membership in the PFLP.⁴¹ He was also banned from entering the West Bank in 2011-2015.⁴²
 - Khalida Jarrar, Addameer’s vice-chairperson, is a senior PFLP official. Jarrar was placed in administrative detention by Israeli security forces on April 1, 2015.⁴³ On April 15, 2015, she was indicted for various offenses including active membership in a terrorist organization (the PFLP) and inciting violence through a call to kidnap Israeli soldiers to be used as “bargaining chips for the release of Palestinian prisoners.” Jarrar accepted a plea bargain and according to news reports, was convicted on “one count of belonging to an illegal organization and another of incitement,”⁴⁴ receiving a 15-month prison sentence with an additional 10-month suspended sentence. She was released from prison on June 3, 2016.⁴⁵
 - Yousef Habash, the public relations officer of the Palestinian Union of Health Work Committees, serves as an Addameer board member, and is apparently the nephew of PFLP founder George Habbash. Israel prevented Habash⁴⁶ from leaving the West Bank in 2011-2012.⁴⁷ He is also a member of the BDS National Committee.⁴⁸
 - Ayman Nasser, an Addameer researcher, was arrested on October 15, 2012 for alleged links to the PFLP.⁴⁹ An indictment was filed attributing a number of offenses relating to membership in the PFLP and activities on behalf of the organization.⁵⁰ On June 3, 2013 the Judea Military Court convicted Nasser,⁵¹ who admitted to being a member of an unlawful organization, the PFLP, and for providing services to the organization.

⁴⁰ NGO Monitor, “Addameer,” April 28, 2014, <http://www.ngo-monitor.org/article/addameer>

⁴¹ Hadar Sela, “BBC Reveals the ‘Secret’ Detention Which Wasn’t,” November 18, 2013, <http://bbcwatch.org/tag/addameer/>

⁴² Samidoun, “Prisoner rights leader Abdul Latif Ghaith banned from entering the West Bank or leaving Palestine,” October 4, 2014, <http://samidoun.ca/2014/10/prisoner-rights-leader-abdul-latif-ghaith-banned-from-entering-the-west-bank-or-leaving-palestine/>

⁴³ Israeli Defense Force, “Indictment against a member of the Palestinian legislative committee,” April 15, 2015, <http://www.law.idf.il/163-7238-he/Patzar.aspx>

⁴⁴ Haaretz, “Military Court Hands Palestinian Lawmaker Khalida Jarrar 15-month Jail Sentence,” December 7, 2015, <http://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/1.690481>

⁴⁵ Samidoun, “Khalida Jarrar Solidarity Campaign: Free Khalida Jarrar!” June 3, 2016, <http://samidoun.net/khalidajarrar/>

⁴⁶ Australians for Palestine, “Human rights defender Yousef Habash says ‘I told the Israelis to charge me,’” June 18, 2012, <http://australiansforpalestine.com/64925>

⁴⁷ Intifada Media, “Yousef Habash, National #bds committee member travel ban to be dealt in court this wednesday [sic],” June 16, 2012, <https://intifadamedia.wordpress.com/2012/06/16/yousef-habash-national-bds-comity-member-travel-ban-to-be-dealt-in-court-this-wednesday/>

⁴⁸ BDS France, “BDS as Evidence as the World Social Forum,” February 28, 2011, <https://www.bdsfrance.org/leivent-place-de-bds-dans-le-forum-social-mondial/>

⁴⁹ Amnesty International, “ANAS BARGHOUTI FREED ON BAIL, FACING TRIAL” October 25, 2013, <https://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/uqa27613.pdf>

⁵⁰ Psak Din, “Ayman Nasser v. Military Prosecutor” January 24, 2013, <http://www.psakdin.co.il/Court/%D7%94%D7%97%D7%9C%D7%98%D7%94-%D7%91%D7%AA%D7%99%D7%A7-%D7%A2%D7%9E-2715-12#.V-eEUvB97IW>

⁵¹ Israel Defense Force, “Judean Military Court Convicted Ayman Nasser of Membership in an Illegal Organization,” April 6, 2013, <http://www.law.idf.il/261-5815-he/Patzar.aspx>

- Sumoud Saadat, an Addameer staffer, is the daughter of PFLP general secretary Ahmad Saadat who is serving a 30 year prison sentence in Israel due to his terrorist activity.⁵²
- Suha Al Bargouti, Addameer's treasurer, is the wife of alleged PFLP member Ahmed Qatamesh.
- **Breaking the Silence (BtS)**⁵³ describes its mission as "expos[ing] the Israeli public to the routine situations of everyday life in the Occupied Territories..." Although the group claims to address Israeli society, its lobbying and media advocacy focuses primarily on international audiences where speakers and publications present a highly distorted perspective, distributing unverifiable "testimonies" by former IDF soldiers, accusing the IDF of "collective punishment,"⁵⁴ causing "unreasonable harm to Gazan civilians," and "functioning as executioners who have lost respect for human life."^{55,56}
 - Co-founder Yehuda Shaul defended the practice of generating international pressure: "Sometimes, when you want to deliver messages to the inside, you must go outside." In June 2016, Israeli news site NRG published a video documenting Shaul telling tourists in Israel that "[y]eah, One of the villages, this village actually, its new that they came back, because few years ago the settlers basically poisoned all the water cisterns of the village..." This inflammatory allegation is completely unsubstantiated.⁵⁷
 - BtS received emergency funding during the 2014 Gaza war. Even though BtS officials "were not even sure they would be able to interview soldiers or even feel safe to issue testimonies. The Secretariat was ready to accept **even one testimony**."⁵⁸
 - One of BtS' "achievements" was the self-reported "small but significant **shift in the opinion of liberal Jewish communities in the U.S.** regarding the Israeli army's policies in Gaza and the occupation as a whole."⁵⁹
 - Further impact was seen in "references to the work of Breaking the Silence in a U.S. State Department Report and in the British Parliament before the vote on recognition of Palestine."⁶⁰
- **Al-Mezan** has been highly active in "lawfare" since at least 2009, when it partnered with Al-Haq in an attempt to secure an arrest warrant against Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak in the UK for "war crimes" allegedly committed during the 2009 Gaza War.⁶¹ Along with Al-Haq, Addameer, and the Palestinian Center for Human Rights (PCHR), Al-Mezan submitted a document to Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court Fatou Bensouda on November 23, 2015, claiming evidence and testimonies of alleged Israeli "war crimes" perpetrated during the 2014 Gaza war (Operation Protective Edge).⁶²

⁵² PFLP, "Sumoud Sa'adat: Negotiations do not free prisoners," January 29, 2012,

<http://pflp.ps/english/2012/01/29/sumoud-saadat-negotiations-do-not-free-prisoners/>

⁵³ NGO Monitor, "Breaking the Silence (Shovrim Shtika)," May 25, 2015, http://www.ngo-monitor.org/article/breaking_the_silence_shovirm_shtika

⁵⁴ Phillip Weiss, "The Horror, 'Breaking the Silence' Releases Women's Frightful Testimonies of Occupation," June 9, 2013, <http://mondoweiss.net/2013/06/frightful-testimonies-occupation>

⁵⁵ Breaking the Silence, "Breaking the Silence: Israeli Soldiers Talk about the Occupied Territories," <http://www.breakingthesilence.org.il/inside/>

⁵⁶ Yehuda Shaul, " Hamas is the Enemy, But What Have We Become?," August 4, 2014,

<http://www.thejewishweek.com/editorial-opinion/opinion/hamas-cruel-enemy-what-have-we-become>

⁵⁷ NRG, "Founder of Breaking the Silence: Israeli settlers poisoning Palestinian Water," June 14, 2016, <http://www.nrg.co.il/online/1/ART2/787/798.html>

⁵⁸ Ibid page 84

⁵⁹ Ibid page 85

⁶⁰ Ibid page 47-48

⁶¹ See Lawfare Monograph.

⁶² Al Haq, "Palestinian Human Rights Organisations Deliver Submission to the International Criminal Court on Alleged Israeli War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity during 2014 Gaza offensive," November 23, 2015,

- **Al-Dameer**, along with Al-Haq, Al-Mezan Center for Human Rights, and the Palestinian Center for Human Rights (PCHR) submitted a document to Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court Fatou Bensouda on November 23, 2015, claiming evidence and testimonies of alleged Israeli “war crimes” perpetrated during the 2014 Gaza war (Operation Protective Edge).⁶³

Dissonance between IHL Secretariat activities and declared foreign policies of the donor governments⁶⁴

The IHL Secretariat describes its objective as attempting to “influence the behavioural change of the Palestinian and Israeli duty bearers.” However, with the exception of women’s rights issues, the NGOs funded by the IHL Secretariat target Israel almost exclusively. Although it funds 42 different NGOs, the IHL Secretariat fails to present the complex reality and the multiple and diverse positions within Israeli and Palestinian narratives. The narrow spectrum of NGOs supported offers a distorted picture of the reality on the ground and fails to bring the two parties closer in meaningful dialogue:

- There is limited attention given to human rights violations committed by the PA and Hamas. Of the over 40 NGOs funded by the IHL Secretariat and discussed in the IHL Secretariat’s 2015 annual report, only 3 provide services or assistance relating to Palestinian human rights violations.⁶⁵
- NGOs that deal with intra-Palestinian violations are described as interacting constructively with the Palestinian Authority and other institutions. In contrast to campaigns against Israel, there is no evidence of international advocacy or demonization from these groups.
- The IHL Secretariat ignores context and background when describing Israeli actions in Gaza. There is no mention of Hamas or other armed groups, nor is there mention of rockets or tunnels. Many NGOs refer to the Israeli military as the “**Israel Occupation Forces (IOF)**.”

Funding of NGOs that support BDS (boycotts, divestment, and sanctions) campaigns against Israel

The IHL Secretariat transfers millions of dollars to pro-BDS groups. In many instances, this is in direct contradiction to the foreign policies of the donor consortium countries, which explicitly oppose boycott efforts and support two-states.⁶⁶ Of the 24 core funding recipients, 13 support BDS.

<http://alhq.org/advocacy/targets/international-criminal-court-icc/998-palestinian-human-rights-organisations-deliver-submission-to-the-international-criminal-court-on-alleged-israeli-war-crimes-and-crimes-against-humanity-during-2014-gaza-offensive>.

⁶³ Ibid

⁶⁴ Latest available as of September 22, 2016.

⁶⁵ Human Rights & International Humanitarian Law Secretariat “Annual Report of the HRIHL Secretariat – 2015,” August 02, 2015, <http://rightsecretariat.ps/catigory/item/100-annual-report>

⁶⁶ Dutch Foreign Affairs Minister Bert Koenders, Parliament Foreign Affairs Committee Debate, May 19, 2016: “the government itself does not support the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions Movement, but reiterated that individuals have the legal freedom to participate in related ties.” <https://www.tweedekamer.nl/kamerstukken/kamervragen/detail?id=2016D20156&did=2016D20156>
 Danish Ambassador Jesper Vahr, “Danish government not party to Israel boycott,” February 2, 2014. <http://www.timesofisrael.com/danish-government-not-party-to-israel-bank-boycott/> also see Danida, “The Evaluation of the Danish Engagement in Palestine” 2015, <http://um.dk/en/~media/UM/Danish-site/Documents/Danida/Resultater/Eval/201502MgtResp.pdf>.

Activities include:

- Signing the 2005 BDS call,⁶⁷ taking actions against companies working in Israel,⁶⁸ producing resources⁶⁹ and articles⁷⁰ for the campaign, promoting an academic boycott of Israel,⁷¹ and lobbying international entities like the UN and EU to support these actions.⁷²

The 13 pro-BDS NGOs receive \$5.78 million from the Secretariat. Another 15 out of the 34 NGOs that receive project funding support BDS; these groups received over \$1.2 million in 2014-2015.

Funding NGO “Documentation” for Lawfare Attacks

IHL Secretariat-funded NGOs are some of the leaders in “lawfare” campaigns, which aim to exploit international institutions in general and the ICC in particular for anti-Israel campaigns.⁷³ Lawfare also includes the proposed sabotaging of the Israeli court system by “flooding the [Israeli Supreme] Court with petitions in the hope of obstructing its functioning and resources.”⁷⁴ These tactics were adopted at the NGO Forum of the 2001 Durban Conference, and serve as an integral part of a strategy of demonizing and delegitimizing Israel.⁷⁵

These “lawfare” campaigns seek to erase the context of Palestinian terrorism targeting Israeli civilians, and to obstruct Israeli attempts at defending itself against it.

For example:

- In 2015, Al-Haq published “Divide and Conquer: A Legal Analysis of Israel’s 2014 Military Offensive Against the Gaza Strip,” presenting an entirely biased and distorted view of events leading to the 2014 Gaza War.⁷⁶ The report claims that “On 12 June 2014, **three Israeli teenage settlers disappeared near the West Bank city of Hebron. The three individuals were later found dead**” (emphasis added).
- On, November 23, 2015 four IHL Secretariat NGOs, Al-Haq,⁷⁷ Al-Mezan Center for Human Rights,⁷⁸ Aldameer,⁷⁹ and the Palestinian Center for Human Rights (PCHR),⁸⁰

Switzerland FDFA, “Middle East conflict: Switzerland’s position,” December 17, 2014. <https://www.eda.admin.ch/countries/palestinian-authority/en/home/representations/representative-office/konflikt-im-nahen-osten--haltung-der-schweiz.html>

Margot Wallström, *Ha’aretz*, “Sweden engages for peace and stability as a friend of Israel,” November 10, 2015. <http://www.government.se/opinion-pieces/2015/11/sweden-engages-for-peace-and-stability-as-a-friend-of-israel/>

⁶⁷ BDS Movement, “Palestinian Civil Society Call for BDS,” July 9, 2005. <https://bdsmovement.net/call>

⁶⁸ Electronic Intifada, “Prisoners day marked with global actions against G4S as Scottish union congress endorses campaign” April 19, 2013. <https://electronicintifada.net/blogs/michael-deas/prisoners-day-marked-global-actions-against-g4s-scottish-union-congress-endorses>

⁶⁹ Al Haq, “Feasting on the Occupation,” 2013. <http://www.alhaq.org/publications/Feasting-on-the-occupation.pdf>

⁷⁰ Britain Eakin for MIFTAH, “BDS - Yes We Can,” October 14, 2009, <http://www.miftah.org/display.cfm?DocId=20766&CategoryId=13>.

⁷¹ Al-Awda, “Open letter from Palestinian Civil Society in Support of AUT Academic Boycott” <http://www.al-awda.org/academicboycott.html>.

⁷² NGO Monitor, “Defence for Children International Palestine Section (DCI-PS): Summary Report on Political Advocacy and Credibility of Allegations,” August 2, 2012. http://www.ngo-monitor.org/reports/defence_for_children_international_palestine_section_dci_ps_summary_report_on_political_advocacy_and_credibility_of_allegations/

⁷³ NGO Monitor, “NGO Lawfare,” December 3, 2008, http://www.ngo-monitor.org/reports/ngo_lawfare/.

⁷⁴ Al-Haq, “Legitimising the Illegitimate?,” http://www.ngo-monitor.org/data/images/File/Al_Haq_report-Legitimising_the_Illegitimate.pdf.

⁷⁵ NGO Monitor, “NGO Forum at Durban Conference 2001,” September 7, 2001, http://www.ngo-monitor.org/reports/ngo_forum_at_durban_conference/.

⁷⁶ Al-Haq, “Divide and Conquer: A Legal Analysis of Israel’s 2014 offensive against the Gaza Strip,” February 22, 2015, <http://www.alhaq.org/advocacy/topics/gaza/898-divide-and-conquer>.

⁷⁷ NGO Monitor, “Al-Haq,” July 18, 2016, http://www.ngo-monitor.org/ngos/al_haq/.

submitted a document to Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court Fatou Bensouda, claiming evidence and testimonies of alleged Israeli “war crimes” perpetrated during the 2014 Gaza war (Operation Protective Edge).

- As an example of alleged Israeli “war crimes and crimes against humanity,” the press release accompanying the NGO submission highlighted the testimony of 57-year-old Bouthaineh Al Louh from Deir Al-Balah in Gaza, claiming that “Israel attacked our home in Deir al Balah whilst my family was fast asleep.”⁸¹ Al-Mezan⁸² and PCHR⁸³ have each separately documented this incident stating that “eight people were killed.” An additional family member died later of her wounds.⁸⁴ The NGOs make no mention of military activity in the area, nor do they acknowledge the presence of combatants.
- A cursory examination of this case shows that it is based on distortions and half-truths. A month after the incident, Mohammed Mustafa al-Louh (killed in the strike), was acknowledged by Hamas as a “martyr,” which released a poster of him in militant garb⁸⁵ and buried him wearing a Hamas headband.⁸⁶
- Al-Haq’s director Shawan Jabarin, who personally submitted the document to the ICC prosecutor, has been accused of being a member of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) terrorist group, and has been denied travel visas by both Jordan and Israel. He has been described by the Israeli Supreme Court as “Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde,” human rights activist on the one hand, and terrorist activist on the other.⁸⁷

⁷⁸ NGO Monitor, “Al-Mezan Center for Human Rights,” June 8, 2016, http://www.ngo-monitor.org/ngos/al_mezan_center_for_human_rights/.

⁷⁹ NGO Monitor, “Aldameer,” June 8, 2016, http://www.ngo-monitor.org/ngos/al_dameer/.

⁸⁰ NGO Monitor, “Palestinian Center for Human Rights (PCHR),” August 10, 2014, http://www.ngo-monitor.org/article/palestinian_center_for_human_rights_pchr_.

⁸¹ Al-Haq, “Palestinian Human Rights Organisations Deliver Submission to the International Criminal Court on Alleged Israeli War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity during 2014 Gaza offensive,” November 23, 2015, <http://alhaq.org/advocacy/targets/international-criminal-court-icc/998-palestinian-human-rights-organisations-deliver-submission-to-the-international-criminal-court-on-alleged-israeli-war-crimes-and-crimes-against-humanity-during-2014-gaza-offensive>.

⁸² Al-Mezan, “Al Mezan Condemns the Resumption of IOF’s Attacks on Civilian Targets in Gaza and Calls on International Community to Ensure Full Compliance with International Law. Death Toll in Gaza is 2,060; 76.9% Civilians; 485 Children and 284 Women,” August 20, 2014,

<http://www.mezan.org/en/post/19317/Al+Mezan+Condemns+the+Resumption+of+IOF%27s+Attacks+on+Civilian+Targets+in+Gaza+and+Calls+on+International+Community+to+Ensure+Full+Compliance+with+International+Law%3Cbr%3EDeath+Toll+in+Gaza+is+2%2C060%3B+76.9%25+Civilians%3B+485+Children+and+284+Women>.

⁸³ Palestinian Center for Human Rights, “Israel Forces Resume Offensive on Gaza and Commit More Crimes; 12 Palestinian Civilians, Including 5 Children and 3 Women, Killed and 78 Others, Including 29 Children and 19 Women, Wounded; 11 Houses Destroyed,” August 20, 2014, <http://pchr.org/en/?p=1593>.

⁸⁴ Al-Mezan, “Al Mezan: International Community Must Act Now to Stop Violations of International Law and Aid Civilians in Gaza, 2,106 Killed; 500 Children and 287 Women since 7 July,” 22, 2014, <http://www.mezan.org/en/post/19328/Al+Mezan%3A+International+Community+Must+Act+Now+to+Stop+Violations+of+International+Law+and+Aid+Civilians+in+Gaza,+2,106+Killed%3B+500+Children+and+287+Women+since+7+July>.

⁸⁵ Fans / martyr: - Mohammed Mustafa panel - Abu Abed, *Facebook*, January 4, 2015, <https://www.facebook.com/453948821412190/photos/a.453963538077385.1073741828.453948821412190/511513658989039/?type=3&theater>.

⁸⁶ Fans / martyr: - Mohammed Mustafa panel - Abu Abed, *Facebook*, September 1, 2014, <https://www.facebook.com/453948821412190/photos/a.453963538077385.1073741828.453948821412190/453963388077400/?type=1&theater>.

⁸⁷ Harold Evans. “Alleged Terror Activist Lands Human Rights Post,” *The Daily Beast*, February 15, 2011, <http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2011/02/15/shawan-jabarin-controversial-appointment-to-human-rights-watch-board.html>.

- On August 2, 2014, the IHL Secretariat announced “emergency funding”⁸⁸ to nine NGOs for use in documenting “large scale violations of human rights and international humanitarian law – the majority against Palestinian civilians and civilian objects” in Gaza.⁸⁹ With this additional funding, the IHL Secretariat supported “current and future documentation and investigation efforts by CSOs [civil society organizations] for the purposes of assisting and supporting national and international mechanisms” such as the UN Human Rights Council’s (UNHRC) investigation and the campaign to open cases against Israelis at the ICC.
 - The nine NGOs (Al-Dameer,⁹⁰ B’Tselem,⁹¹ Badil,⁹² Breaking the Silence,⁹³ Defense for Children International-Palestine,⁹⁴ Al-Mezan,⁹⁵ Palestinian Center for Human Rights,⁹⁶ Women’s Affairs Center, Women’s Affairs Technical Committee) have an extensive record of making unsubstantiated allegations of Israeli “war crimes,” while disregarding clear Hamas violations. In addition, some of these NGOs played a pivotal role in providing dubious and inaccurate statements to the UNHRC Commission of Inquiry on the 2014 Gaza War and the discredited 2009 UN Goldstone inquiry.⁹⁷
 - None of these groups possesses the requisite military and legal expertise to assess potential violations of international humanitarian law. These NGOs, as demonstrated in their reports, do not have the capacity to address information pertaining to military objectives, war casualties, and other factors that are necessary to determine complicity in war crimes or crimes against humanity.
 - As a member of the Palestinian Human Rights Organisations Council (PHROC), Al-Haq referred to the resignation of William Schabas as the head of the UN inquiry into the 2014 Gaza war as a “charade put up by Israel” and “condemn[ed] in the strongest terms Israel’s latest and unfortunately far too common attempt to obstruct the work of the international human rights and justice mechanisms in investigating Israeli violations of international law against the Palestinian population.”⁹⁸ In fact, the resignation followed revelations that Schabas had previously done legal work for the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) – a clear conflict of interest that would have disqualified him from the beginning if it had been disclosed. Furthermore, Schabas’ record of anti-Israel biases includes repeated calls for prosecuting Israeli officials for alleged “war crimes” at the ICC.

⁸⁸ Human Rights & International Humanitarian Law Secretariat, “Secretariat Approves 9 CSO Proposals for Documentation Efforts in the Occupied Gaza Strip,” <http://www.rightsecretariat.ps/events/112-secretariat-approves-9-cso-proposals-gaza-strip>

⁸⁹ NGO Monitor, “European Government Funding NGO ‘Documentation’ for Lawfare Attacks,” October 6, 2014, <http://www.ngo-monitor.org/article.php?operation=print&id=4384>

⁹⁰ NGO Monitor, “Al-Dameer,” December 2, 2013, http://www.ngo-monitor.org/article/al_dameer

⁹¹ NGO Monitor, “Badil – Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights,” March 23, 2015, http://www.ngo-monitor.org/article/b_tselem

⁹² NGO Monitor, “Badil – Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights,” March 23, 2015, <http://www.ngo-monitor.org/article/badil>

⁹³ NGO Monitor, “Breaking the Silence (Shovrim Shtika),” May 25, 2015, http://www.ngo-monitor.org/article/breaking_the_silence_shovirm_shtika

⁹⁴ NGO Monitor, “Defence for Children International – Palestine Section,” April 23, 2014, http://www.ngo-monitor.org/article/defence_for_children_international_palestine_section

⁹⁵ NGO Monitor, “Al-Mezan Center for Human Rights,” December 2, 2013, http://www.ngo-monitor.org/article/al_mezan_center_for_human_rights

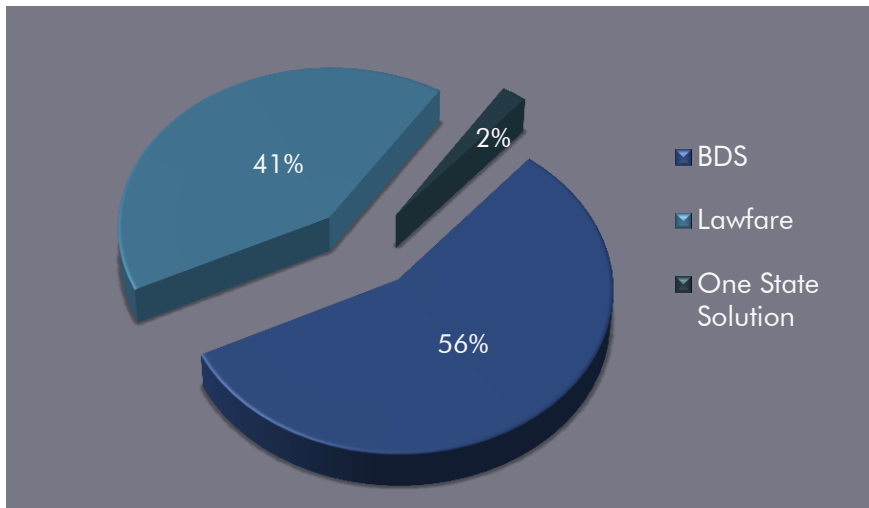
⁹⁶ NGO Monitor, “Palestinian Center for Human Rights (PCHR),” August 10, 2014, http://www.ngo-monitor.org/article/palestinian_center_for_human_rights_pchr

⁹⁷ Richard Goldstone, “Reconsidering the Goldstone Report on Israel and War Crimes,” April 1, 2011, http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/reconsidering-the-goldstone-report-on-israel-and-war-crimes/2011/04/01/AFg111JC_story.html

⁹⁸ Al-Haq, “Israel above the law: PHROC strongly condemns Israeli efforts to obstruct justice,” February 4, 2015, <http://www.alhaq.org/advocacy/targets/united-nations/893-israel-above-the-law-phroc-strongly-condemns-israeli-efforts-to-obstruct-justice>

- In October 2013, Al-Haq and PCHR⁹⁹ held a meeting with the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC) to present a legal opinion,¹⁰⁰ accusing Israel of “widespread and systematic commission of international crimes and violations of international law.”¹⁰¹
- In 2013, Al-Haq was part of a libelous campaign falsely suggesting that Israel steals water from Palestinians in order to interfere with cooperation between Dutch companies and the Israeli company Mekorot.¹⁰²

Secretariat funding for BDS, “Lawfare” and a One-State Framework



Budget and salaries

The original budget of the IHL Secretariat was \$17.6 million. In 2016, Norway allocated approximately \$600,000 additional to the framework; it is unknown if this is for new activities or to cover a budget deficit.¹⁰³

A contract between the Swiss Department of Foreign Affairs and the IHL Secretariat reveals the breakdown of funds and salaries and other information about the IHL Secretariat budget.

Out of the full budget of \$17.6 million:¹⁰⁴

- 73.8% NGO funding
 - 80% core
 - 20% project
- 11.1% Capacity building and policy dialogue
- 15.1% Program management

⁹⁹ NGO Monitor, “Palestinian Center for Human Rights (PCHR),” August 10, 2014, http://www.ngo-monitor.org/article/palestinian_center_for_human_rights_pchr_

¹⁰⁰ Al-Haq, “Al-Haq and PCHR call on ICC Prosecutor to move forward on 2009 Palestinian Declaration,” October 4, 2013, <http://www.alhaq.org/advocacy/targets/accountability/81-general/748-al-haq-and-pchr-call-on-icc-prosecutor-to-move-forward-on-2009-palestinian-declaration>.

¹⁰¹ Al-Haq and Palestinian Center for Human Rights, “Position Paper on the Scope of the International Criminal Court’s Jurisdiction over the Situation in Palestine (August 2013),” http://www.alhaq.org/images/stories/PDF/2012/Al-Haq_and_PCHR_Position_Paper-International_Criminal_Court_.pdf.

¹⁰² NGO Monitor, “NGOs and the Libel Campaign Against Mekorot Water Company,” December 14, 2013, http://www.ngo-monitor.org/reports/ngos_and_the_libel_campaign_against_mekorot_water_company/.

¹⁰³ “Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs’ Grants Portal,” PAL-15/0034 - HR/IHL Secretariat [sic] 2016, <http://udtilskudd.regjeringen.no/#/en/agreement?agreementNo=PAL-15/0034>

¹⁰⁴ Human Rights & International Humanitarian Law Secretariat, “Capacity Building Plan,” December 4, 2014, http://www.rightsecretariat.ps/files/CB_Plan_Dec_2014_for_web.pdf

The budget reveals the striking salaries of IHL Secretariat employees, which are highly excessive for the region, and the stark gap between employees' salaries.

- The IHL Secretariat Manager earns **\$10,000/month** for 44 months, equaling **\$440,000** for the duration of the program.
- The Fund Manager, earns **\$8,000/month** for 42 months equaling **\$336,000**
- The Office Assistant earns **\$2,200/month** for 48 months equaling **\$105,600** for the duration of the program.
- The Office Service Staff earns \$1,400 a month for 48 months equaling \$67,200 for the duration of the program.¹⁰⁵

A Danish review of the IHL Secretariat budget noted that "The gap between the highest salary (of the Secretariat Manager – USD10'000/month) and the lower salary (of the office service staff, USD1,400) is very large. Donors need to consider this and decide if this raises concerns on their role, especially in the context of aid effectiveness agenda."¹⁰⁶ The Swedish government aid agency (SIDA) responded that this could not be changed after the fact.

(See below for full budget and salaries for the IHL Secretariat.)

Salaries for local IHL Secretariat employees are significantly higher than the average daily wage for Palestinian workers. According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, in 2015 the average daily wage for the waged employees was **\$24.40** (NIS 94.1) in the West Bank and **\$16.10** (NIS 61.9) in Gaza Strip. The average daily wage for Palestinians working in Israel and Israeli settlements was **\$51.60** (NIS 198.90)¹⁰⁷

¹⁰⁵ Ibid

¹⁰⁶ Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, "Ministry of Foreign Affairs Rep. Ramallah File no.: 104.Pal.53 Internal Grant Committee Meeting 11 September 2013 Agenda Item no.: 3," September 11, 2013, <http://um.dk/en/~/media/UM/English-site/Documents/Danida/About-Danida/Danida%20transparency/Documents/Grant%20committee/2013/Int%20doc/03%20Palestine%20NGO%20Secretariat.pdf>

¹⁰⁷ Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), "Press Release on the Results of the Labour Force Survey in Palestine, 2015," February 25, 2016, <http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/site/512/default.aspx?tabID=512&lang=en&ItemID=1595&mid=3172&wversion=Staging>

Budget according to Programme Components¹⁰⁸

BUDGET according to programme components				
Grant Funds				
Grant Funds		Proportion of total	Total USD	Percentage of overall programme budget
Core funds		80%	10'391'520	
Project funds		20%	2'597'880	
Total Grant Funds			12'989'400	73.8%
Capacity Building and Policy Dialogue				
CSO Capacity Building and Policy Dialogue Costs	Ref. to objective	Proportion of total phase*	Total USD	Percentage of overall programme budget
Inception*	Total Inception			
	639'000	40%	255'600	1.5%
Implementation		Man Months		
CSO Capacity Building and CSO env.	Objective 3	98.5	828'400	5%
Policy Dialogue	Objective 4	80	697'200	4%
Total CSO Capacity Building and Policy Dialogue Costs			1'525'600	9%
Closing phase*	Total Closing Phase			
	425'000	40%	170'000	1%
Total Capacity Building and Policy Dialogue Costs			1'951'200	11.1%
Programme Management				
Costs related to Programme Management	Ref. to objective	Proportion of total phase*	Total USD	
Inception Phase	Total Inception			
Staff costs	530000	60%	318'000	
Reimbursable costs	109000	60%	65'400	
Total Cost Inception Phase			383'400	2.2%
Implementation Phase	Ref. to objective	Man Months	Total USD	
HR/IHL secretariat, staff costs	Objective 1	81	569'600	
Grant Fund management, staff costs	Objective 2	139	890'400	
Reimbursable costs			486'000	
Total Management Costs			1'946'000	11.1%
Closing Phase	Total Closing Phase	Proportion of total phase*	Total USD	
Staff costs	340000	60%	204'000	
Reimbursable costs	85000	60%	51'000	
Total Cost Closing Phase			255'000	1.4%
Mid Term Review			75'000	0.4%
Total Programme Management Cost			2'659'400	15.1%
Grand Total Programme Cost			17'600'000	100%
<i>development, initiate dialogue and capacity building with CSOs, preparatory activities, guidelines, CSO training, institutionalisation of policy</i>				
Equivalent in CHF	rate	0.95	16'720'000	
Swiss Contribution	max.	18%	3'000'000	

¹⁰⁸ Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, "Contract between the Swiss Confederation and NIRAS," December 18, 2013, <https://www.evernote.com/shard/s5/sh/5e32f0e1-2f28-4e3e-8862-410a82464cbf/46723c7fff5a4260/res/392fb28c-1bb0-4e8c-b4f6-caab68b5b789/Agreement-HR%20and%20IHL%20Secretariat%28NIRAS%29.pdf>

Salaries of Management Staff of the Secretariat¹⁰⁹

Management of a Secretariat to Support Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law for NGOs operating in the Occupied Palestinian Territory

3.1 BUDGET

FEES

Position/Name	Unit	USD per unit	Number of unit	Total USD
Long Term Professional				
Programme Director, Khalil Ansara	Hour	140	2'640	369'600
Secretariat Manager, Mustafa Mari	Month	10'000	44	440'000
Fund Manager, Mahmoud Musleh	Month	8'000	42	336'000
Financial Manager, Bashar Sh. Qara	Month	8'000	44	352'000
Communication Officer, TBD	Month	8'000	42	336'000
CSO Facilitator/Capacity Building Advisor - Ibrahim Bisharat	Month	8'000	42	336'000
CSO Facilitator / Capacity Building Advisor - Jawad Harb	Month	8'000	42	336'000
M&E Advisor, Mustafa Khawaja	Hour	40	1'440	57'600
Finance and Administration Officer, Gaza TBD	Month	5'000	42	210'000
Short Term Professional				
National short term consultants	Hour	45	5'280	237'600
International short term consultants	Hour	180	3'520	633'600
Long Term Support Staff				
Office Assistant Secretariat in Ramallah	Month	2'200	48	105'600
Office service staff and driver, secretariat in Ramallah	Month	1'400	48	67'200
Office Service staff Gaza	Month	800	48	38'400
SUBTOTAL FEES				3'855'600

Average Daily wage for the West Bank, Gaza Strip, and Israel and the Israeli Settlement¹¹⁰

103.9 NIS was the average daily wage for wage employees in 2015

The average daily wage for the wage employees from Palestine was 103.9 NIS, by place of work, The average daily wage for the wage employees in the West Bank was 94.1 NIS, in Gaza Strip was 61.9 NIS, while in Israel and Israeli settlements was 198.9 NIS.

Troubling Partnership with Birzeit University

As noted, the IHL Secretariat is based at and managed by the Institute of Law at Birzeit University (IoL-BZU). Mustafa Mari, who serves as the IHL Secretariat manager, was employed by IoL-BZU, and before that he worked at Al-Haq, a leader in legal warfare against Israel and a recipient of Secretariat funding.¹¹¹

While at IoL-BZU, Mari chaired a session at a 2013 IoL-BZU conference where participants discussed Israel's "colonial policy that dated back at least to the 1930s" and the "need for new legal frameworks which make the occupation illegal, criminalize Israeli practices, and support unification of Palestine and Palestinians."¹¹² It is unknown if this conference occurred before or after he was selected to manage the IHL Secretariat.

The conference resulted in a February 2014 publication, "Advocating for Palestinian Rights in conformity with International Law: Guidelines" (English and Arabic).¹¹³ This document is a strategic manual for exploiting legal terms and rhetoric to demonize and isolate Israel internationally ("law-

¹⁰⁹ Ibid

¹¹⁰ Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), "Press Release on the Results of the Labour Force Survey in Palestine, 2015," February 25, 2016, <http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/site/512/default.aspx?tabID=512&lang=en&ItemID=1595&mid=3172&wversion=Staging>

¹¹¹ NGO Monitor, "Al Haq," February 24, 2015, http://www.ngo-monitor.org/article/al_haq

¹¹² Ibid.

¹¹³ Bizreit University Institute of Law, "Advocating for Palestinian Rights in Conformity with International Law: Guidelines," May 2013, <http://lawcenter.birzeit.edu/iol/en/project/outputfile/6/986afcc6c9.pdf>

fare”), as well as to emphasize that Israel, regardless of its borders, is among “racist regimes which are absolutely prohibited in their entirety.” This report was posted prominently on the IHL Secretariat Facebook page.¹¹⁴

This one-sided advocacy demonstrates that there is no capacity to carry out the IHL Secretariat objectives in a responsible manner reflecting the foreign policies of the donor countries.

Indeed, at the IHL Secretariat’s March 2014 Launch Event, Mari “...highlight[ed] the difficulties faced by the Palestinian people and the need for supporting the human rights and international humanitarian law CSO sector, **while reminding the audience of the apartheid-like realities that duty-bearers must address**” (emphasis added).¹¹⁵

It also anticipated the prominence of demonizing rhetoric and anti-Israel political advocacy in the IHL Secretariat’s funding practices, as described throughout this report.

TABLE A: Secretariat Core Funding Recipients (2014-2016)

NGO	Total Grant (USD)	August 2014 Emergency Funding
Adalah ⁱ	\$190,000	---
Addameer ⁱⁱ	\$325,000	---
Al-Dameer ⁱⁱⁱ	\$230,000	Amount Unknown
Al-Mezan ^{iv}	\$415,000	Amount Unknown
Al-Haq ^v	\$710,000	
B’Tselem	\$710,000	Amount Unknown
BADIL ^{vi}	\$260,000	Amount Unknown
Bimkom ^{vii}	\$251,000	---
Breaking the Silence ^{viii}	\$300,000	Amount Unknown
Defence for Children International- Palestine Section ^{ix}	\$578,000	Amount Unknown
Democracy and Workers’ Rights Center in Palestine (DWRC)	\$300,000	---
Gisha ^x	\$483,000	---
Hamoked ^{xi}	\$710,000	---
Palestinian Center for Human Rights (PCHR) ^{xii}	\$710,000	Amount Unknown

¹¹⁴ Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law Secretariat, *Facebook*, <https://www.facebook.com/HRIHLSecretariat>

¹¹⁵ NGO Monitor, “‘Apartheid’ Remark Highlights Irresponsible Leadership of the Secretariat,” May 19, 2014, http://www.ngo-monitor.org/article/_apartheid_remark_highlights_irresponsible_leadership_of_the_secretariat

Palestinian Working Women Society for Development	\$532,000	---
Physicians for Human Rights - Israel (PHR-I) ^{xiii}	\$300,000	---
Public Committee Against Torture in Israel (PCATI) ^{xiv}	\$356,000	---
The Jerusalem Legal Aid & Human Rights Center	\$410,000	---
MIFTAH ^{xv}	\$330,000	---
Women Affairs Technical Committee	\$500,000	Amount Unknown
Women Studies Center	\$350,000	Amount Unknown
Women's Center for Legal Aid and Counseling	\$710,000	---
Women's Affairs Center	\$520,000	---
Yesh Din ^{xvi}	\$300,000	---

TABLE B: Project Funding Recipients 2014-2015

NGO	Amount	Project Objective
Al-Quds Human Rights Clinic	\$25,000	Upgrading the capacity of the Human Rights Clinic, to be more independent in teaching and supervising documentation of human rights violations in Jerusalem.
The Civic Coalition for Palestinian Rights in Jerusalem (CCPRJ)	\$50,000	To empower Palestinian civil society stakeholders in education in occupied East Jerusalem, including parents, students, school teachers and administrators, to play an effective role in combating De-Palestinization and protecting and promoting Palestinian culture and identity in East Jerusalem education.
Community Media Center	\$65,000	To contribute to promoting and protecting youth rights in the Gaza Strip through developing youth capacity in using media and social media in advocating for and protecting their rights and developing community awareness and a culture that respects human rights.
Centre for Women's Legal Research & Consulting	\$45,000	To contribute to promoting women's rights and gender equality in the Gaza Strip based on IHRL and IHL.
Hurryyat	\$50,000	To strengthen the culture of respect for HR and IHL towards a torture-free Palestinian society, enhanced by the rule of law.
Ibrahim Abu-Lughod Institute of International Studies - Birzeit University	\$70,000	To improve political processes that underpin human rights, in particular representation, in the refugee camps of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Kav LaOved ^{xvii}	\$60,000	To uphold Israeli labor law and protect and promote the rights of Palestinian workers employed by Israelis in Israel and in the Occupied Palestinian Territories.
Land Research Center	\$72,000	To provide technical and legal support to victims of land confiscation and house demolition in five villages in the Hebron governorate to access the Israeli justice system.
Ma'an Development Center ^{xviii}	\$68,211	To empower 140 young community leaders in the Gaza Strip to mainstream HR and IHL into their social actions and influence duty bearers to fulfill their obligations towards the rights- holders through addressing and advocating for specific human rights violations in policy dialogue.
Ma'an Network ^{xix}	\$56,000	To establish a Palestinian culture that demands government accountability for and protection from human rights abuses, through raising awareness of citizens' legal rights and establishing a channel through which the public can demand transparent investigations into human rights violations and the systematic reform of government institutions abusing human rights.
Musawa - The Palestinian Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and Legal Profession	\$45,000	The project adopts a holistic approach in working towards a justice section of the Palestinian constitution based on HR/IHL and societal consensus.
Muwatin- The Palestinian Institute for the Study of Democracy	\$80,000	To empower citizens to exercise accountability over the laws produced in the absence of a legitimate and functioning PLC.
The Palestinian Farmers Union as hosting organization of the Stop the Wall Campaign	\$65,000	To contribute to a situation of accountability and respect for human rights by all duty bearers by creating mechanisms to implement the ICJ decision related to the separation Wall.
PARC - The Agricultural Development Association	\$97,850	To contribute to protecting the agriculture farmlands and farmers' rights based on IHRL and IHL.
Palestinian Bar Association	\$55,000	To strengthen the Palestinian Bar Association constituency and Gaza legal community engagement in civilian protection to uphold human rights and promote access of victims to justice.
PCS - The Palestinian Consultative Staff for Developing NGOs	\$65,000	To contribute to institutional and policy reforms that advance the rights of people with disabilities through documenting violations of persons with disabilities rights, advocating for the adherence to the Palestinian Disability Law and the International Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities.

PSCCW - Psycho Social Counseling for Center for Women	\$50,000	To contribute to ending violence against women in the Palestinian society, particularly killing under the pretext of the so-called honor, through enhancing the application of human rights and international law principles.
Rabbis for Human Rights ^{xx}	\$70,000	To address the ongoing human rights violations taking place in the oPt in general and in the so-called 'Gush Etzion' region specifically, by providing legal representation to enable victims of human rights violations to seek redress and ensure protection of their rights.
Teacher Creativity Center	\$99,290	To promote the role of education in the formation of informed, responsible and active citizenry prepared to abide by, defend and promote human rights culture, humanitarian law and the principle of respect for life and human dignity.
Women for Life Organization	\$35,000	To contribute to reduce all kinds of violence against women and empower divorced women (before consummation) in Salfit and Qalqilya, socially and legally so that they are able to defend their rights.

TABLE C: NGO Recipients of the Secretariat’s “Emergency Funding”

Organization	Role in Goldstone	Role in Gaza 2014
Al-Haq ^{xxi} is a leader in anti-Israel lawfare and BDS activities. Al-Haq's general director is allegedly linked to the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, designated as a terrorist organization by the U.S., EU, and da. ^{xxii} Al-Haq did not receive emergency funding; however, it participated in the Secretariat workshop.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Goldstone report references: 40 Met with Goldstone mission in July 2009. The 2009 Al Haq narrative report states: “The majority of Al Haq's work at the UN level in 2009 can be summed up in one word- Goldstone.”^{xxiii} 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 19 references in the UN Gaza Report Al-Haq was active in the delegitimization campaigns calling for an arms embargo, international investigations, and BDS against Israel. According to Al-Haq, the Schabas Mission is important because “the Commission would be able to look at the root causes, violations and alleged responsibilities that led to the escalations of the events in the Gaza Strip, including the continued denial of the Palestinian right to self-determination.”^{xxiv}
Al-Mezan Center for Human Rights consistently refers to the Israeli army as the “Israel Occupation Forces” (IOF), erasing the context of Pales-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Goldstone report references: 5 Provided inaccurate and false fatality statistics to Goldstone Mission.^{xxvi,xxvii} 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 29 references in the UN Gaza Report Central role in lobbying UNHRC for establishing investigative committee. Accused the IDF of “massacres,” “war crimes,” and “criminal” attacks against civilians during the fighting.^{xxviii}

<p>stinian terror and delegitimizing Israeli self-defense.^{xxxv}</p>		
<p>Palestinian Center for Human Rights (PCHR) is a leader in anti-Israel warfare^{xxxix}.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goldstone report references: 50 • Provided assistance and met with members of the mission. Testified before the mission, “present[ing] a 75-minute testimony.” • PCHR also “prepared the agenda” for the prejudicial Independent Fact Finding Committee on Gaza to the League of Arab States, which “found that members of the IDF committed war crimes, crimes against humanity and, possibly, genocide” in the 2009 conflict. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50 references in the UN Gaza Report • Repeatedly called for the establishment of a fact-finding mission on alleged Israeli crimes in Gaza. • Accused the Israeli army (what PCHR labels the “Israeli Occupation forces”) of “massacres,”^{xxx} “war crimes,”^{xxxi} and “criminal” attacks against civilians during the fighting.^{xxxii}
<p>Al-Dameer^{xxxiii}</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goldstone report references: 2 • Called from prosecution of Israel, but not of Hamas or other armed Palestinian groups. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 references in the UN Gaza Report • In a letter to Catherine Ashton, Al-Dameer was 1 of 12 NGOs to openly reject Israel’s right to self-defense, aiming to isolate Israel politically and lay the foundation for international prosecutions of Israel officials.^{xxxiv}
<p>B’Tselem^{xxxv}</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goldstone report references: 56 • Met with Goldstone mission in July 2009. • Claims to have “provided assistance to the investigative staff of the Goldstone mission from the beginning to the end of its research.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 69 references in the UN Gaza Report • Prioritizes informing “the public about events in Gaza” despite the acknowledgement that their reports on the ongoing conflict might be “incomplete or contain errors.”^{xxxvi}
<p>Breaking the Silence^{xxxvii}</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goldstone report references: 27 • The Goldstone report referenced “Israeli soldiers’ testimonies collected by the Israeli NGO Breaking the Silence” to demonstrate that “they had no encounters with Palestinian combatants,” as well as to corroborate allegations of Israeli war crimes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 references in the UN Gaza Report • BtS officials published opinion articles in the European press, alleging Israel prevents terror “through the collective punishment of innocent Palestinians,” “Israel [] cannot sincerely argue that it is doing everything in its power to spare the innocent,” and “Homes of Hamas members have become legitimate targets, regardless of the number of people within their walls... no one bothers to justify or make excuses.”^{xxxviii, xxxix}
<p>Badil^{xl} promotes resistance” and martyr” rhetoric, anti-peace initiatives, and a “one-state” framework.^{xli} The NGO has engaged in blatant</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Badil did not actively contribute to the Goldstone report but strongly lobbied for its implementation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • According to the UN Gaza Report, Badil was a “stakeholder [] consulted by the commission of inquiry” and provided a submission to the commission. • In a letter to Catherine Ashton, Badil was 1 of 12 NGOs to openly reject Israel’s right to self-defense, aiming to isolate Is-

<p>antisemitic activities, including awarding a monetary prize to an antisemitic cartoon as part of Badil's 2010 Al-Awda Nakba caricature competition.^{xiii}</p>		<p>rael politically and lay the foundation for international prosecution of Israeli officials.^{xliii}</p>
<p>Defence for Children International – Palestine Section (DCI – PS)^{xiv}</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goldstone report references: 27 • Met with the Goldstone delegation • Provided information based on statements given by Palestinian "eyewitnesses." • Asserted that "the abuse of Palestinian children by Israeli authorities is systematic and institutionalized." 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the UNHRC, DCI-PS falsely accused Israel of deliberately attacking civilians and baselessly asserted that "more children have been killed by Israeli fire than Palestinian militants." • In its press releases and publications, cited unverifiable information on children casualties, without noting some of them were participating in hostilities. Also fails to condemn Hamas tactics such as using children to shield terrorist and military infrastructure and equipment, and the practice of using child soldiers.

TABLE D: Project Funding Recipients 2015-2016

CSO partner	Budget Ceiling	Objective of project
<p>PalVision</p>	<p>\$85,320</p>	<p>Increase access to justice for Palestinians living in East Jerusalem, through contributing to address HR and IHL violations perpetrated by the Israeli occupation. Such procedures include house demolitions, land confiscation, revocation of EJ residency and discriminatory zoning and planning, within the wider context of forced population transfer. The project aims to increase EJ rights holders' access to information about their rights inherent in HR and IHL and available mechanisms to counter the procedures of the occupation that compromise inherent HR, and to increase national and international stakeholders' awareness of and continuous access to updated information about HR and IHL violations perpetrated by the occupation authorities in EJ.</p>
<p>Ir Amim</p>	<p>\$40,000</p>	<p>To hold Israeli duty bearers accountable, in accordance with Israel's obligations as an occupying power, for the protection of the health, safety and education rights of Palestinian residents of the neighborhoods beyond the Wall, and the wholesale denial of socio-economic rights placing them at constant threat of displacement from the city.</p>
<p>Arab Thought Forum</p>	<p>\$97,500</p>	<p>The project aims to empower grassroots in East Jerusalem to conduct bottom-up human rights activism, particularly in empowering CBOs to provide the function of monitoring, documentation, and reporting on cases and violations of</p>

		human rights.
Sawa Organization	\$70,000	This project's first objective is to enhance protection of Palestinian minors by empowering them to benefit from their human, social and cultural rights, pursuing accountability for the violations of their rights and mitigating the impacts of such violations. The second objective is to increase awareness among members of the international community about violence by Israeli security forces against Palestinian minors and the state's non-compliance with its obligations under IHL and IHR.
Independent Youth Forum	\$30,821	This project aims to develop the capacity of Palestinian activists in East Jerusalem to effectively monitor the abuses they face; collect and verify testimonials from victims; and research, document instances of Israeli violence, discrimination, forced displacement and nationalist hate crimes.
Al-Maqdese for Society Development	\$70,000	Strengthen the respect of human rights and the commitment to the principles and laws of HR and IHL.
The Association for Civil Rights in Israel (ACRI)	\$50,000	Foster a discussion about the "two systems of law" in the West Bank, exposing and challenging the discrepancies that exist in every aspect of life between Jews and Palestinians. Secure access for Palestinians living in Area C to land, water, housing and development, by challenging practices that result in forcible displacement. Conduct comprehensive mapping and improve the situation of Palestinian children in the criminal justice system in EJ.
Civic Coalition for Palestinian Rights in Jerusalem (CCPRJ) In partnership with Badil and the Arab Studies Society GIS Department	\$50,000	CCPRJ proposes to mainstream the international law framework of population transfer, including related legal instruments, as a framework guiding efforts at ending forcible displacement of Palestinians and Israeli settlement activity in the OPT (including East Jerusalem); and gather evidence and enhance understanding of population transfer in the particular context of occupied East Jerusalem and the adjacent West Bank (Israeli-proclaimed "greater Jerusalem"), including its concrete (criminal) elements, scope and impacts.
Palestinian Counseling Center	\$100,000	To build child protection capacities and advocacy efforts in East Jerusalem, with focus on psychosocial rights and the connection between political violence and intra-community violence against the child.
WAC MAAN	\$70,000	To contribute to upholding the human rights of the Palestinians in EJ and Area C, who face poverty, social disintegration and displacement due to lack of services and economic deprivation, by helping them exercise the rights guaranteed under international humanitarian law. Facilitate the ability of 800 EJ residents to overcome systemic blocks to the optimization of their socioeconomic rights on both sides of the SB through legal counselling, legal intervention and

		rights literacy. Reduce the exploitation of Palestinian workers by Israeli employers in EJ and Area C by providing legal services, trainings, and organizing and by securing the implementation of Israeli labour law on Israeli employers.
Jerusalem Network for Community Advocacy	\$69,457	<p>Legal awareness: people in occupied EJ will become aware of their basic legal and social rights and entitlements, be able to access these rights through legal and paralegal activity, and able to disseminate knowledge about these rights to their friends and neighbors. Awareness raising will focus on the issues threatening forced displacement as well as those involving basic rights and entitlements.</p> <p>Empowerment: residents of EJ cut off by poverty and social exclusion will become empowered to define needs, set goals, and work together to achieve positive change. Offer representation at both individual and systems levels. Centers staff and volunteers will work with EJ residents who come into JCAN centers for individual assistance and who will be provided with legal and paralegal advice whereby people are empowered to follow up on their cases-issues on their own with minimal intervention by the centers; people's cases are taken on by one of the centers and followed up on with court representation by lawyers from the centers; organizations will also take "case to cause" on a major issue facing the communities aiming at exposing discriminatory laws and the protection of people's rights.</p>
Emek Shaveh	\$50,000	Promote the human rights of the Palestinian residents of East Jerusalem to their lands and cultural heritage in the vicinity of where they live.
Land Research center	\$70,000	Strengthen the role of Palestinian CSOs, NGOs, CBOs, local authorities and victims in defending land and housing rights of residents of area 'C' in Hebron governorate. Define and implement strategies and promote unified and efficient defense mechanisms against Israeli violations of housing and land rights. Provide technical and legal support to HR violations victims to access the Israeli justice system and transform victims into active participants. Support women and children as they are among the most vulnerable and affected. This is an attempt to improve the human rights status of the targeted communities. The immediate objective is to promote, organize, and systemize the defense work of the Palestinian people to their rights of adequate housing and free use of land at the project targeted areas.
The Palestinian Youth Association for Leadership and Rights Activation - Pyalara	\$98,958	The project contributes to mitigating the impact of settlers based violence on children, adolescents and community members.
Hurryyat	\$60,000	Strengthening the culture of respect to HR and IHL and the Palestinian basic law which guarantees human basic rights,

		through awareness building sessions that will be organized with the security, intelligence and police officials, with a special focus on UNCAT.
Torture Rehabilitation Center	\$50,000	Contribute towards sustaining the resiliency and empowerment of families affected by human rights violations in four marginalized communities in Hebron
Social Developmental Forum-SDF	\$86,652	To contribute to the integration of persons with disabilities in Gaza Strip, and amend the policies of responsible bodies that provide buildings and reconstruction schemes licenses, to ensure the harmonization of the buildings to the needs of individuals with disabilities.
Society Voice Foundation	\$94,325	Advocating the rights of displaced families whose homes were demolished during the Israeli war on Gaza during the summer 2014.

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