



عدالة עדאלה Adalah

The Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel
المركز القانوني لحقوق الاقلية العربية في إسرائيل
המרכז המשפטי לזכויות המיעוט הערבי בישראל

Annual Report of Activities

2012

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INTRODUCTION

This report highlights Adalah's successes achieved and main activities conducted in 2012. As this report reflects, Adalah attained numerous successes in our legal representations and international advocacy initiatives, and submitted new impact litigation cases and legal interventions with the authorities of crucial importance for the promotion and defense of the rights of Palestinian citizens of Israel and Palestinian residents of the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT). Adalah also issued new legal publications, trained new lawyers and law students, launched new and improved trilingual websites, significantly advanced our social media outreach, and participated in and presented at conferences and events to which we were invited, both in Israel and abroad.

Adalah ("Justice" in Arabic) is an independent human rights organization and legal center with offices in Haifa in the north and Bir el-Sabe (Beer Sheva) in the south. Established in November 1996, Adalah serves Palestinian citizens of Israel, numbering 1.2 million people or close to 20% of the population, as well as Palestinians living in the OPT. Adalah's main objectives are to achieve equal individual and collective rights for the Palestinian Arab minority in Israel in different fields including land and planning rights; economic, social and cultural rights; and civil and political rights including the rights of prisoners and detainees, and to defend the human rights of Palestinians living under Occupation. In order to achieve these goals, Adalah:

- Brings impact litigation cases before Israeli courts and legal interventions before various state authorities;
- Provides legal consultation to individuals, NGOs, and Arab institutions;
- Appeals to international institutions and forums;
- Organizes conferences and study days and publishes reports on legal issues;
- Conducts extensive media outreach;
- Trains legal apprentices, law students, and new lawyers in the field of human rights.

Key areas of concern for Adalah in 2012 included:

- **The dispossession and displacement of the Arab Bedouin in the Naqab:** In 1/12, the government introduced the proposed "**Prawer Plan Law**", which aims to legislate "a resolution of Bedouin settlement" and "regulate Bedouin land ownership claims" within five years. The bill sets conditions for land claims and compensation, and restricts Arab Bedouin to living in specifically demarcated areas. It also empowers the Prime Minister, together with the Israel Land Authority (ILA), to take extensive measures to evict residents and demolish the homes of those who refuse to leave. Further, the proposed Law severely restricts judicial review for demolition and eviction orders. If fully implemented, the Law would displace and dispossess around 70,000 Arab Bedouin living in the unrecognized villages in the Naqab to make way for new forests, military centers and new Jewish towns. Stopping the Prawer Plan was one of Adalah's main priorities in 2012.
- **Discriminatory and racist Laws:** Adalah found that **20 of 31 legislative bills** targeting the rights of Palestinian citizens of Israel were enacted into law during the Netanyahu-Lieberman government of 2009-2012. Developments in 2012 included: (i) the Supreme

Court (SCT) rejected Adalah's petition against the "**Citizenship Law**", which bans family unification between Palestinian citizens of Israel and their Palestinian spouses from the OPT, and/or spouses from Syria, Lebanon, Iran or Iraq; (ii) the SCT dismissed Adalah and ACRI's petition to declare the "**Nakba Law**" unconstitutional; (iii) the SCT held a final hearing on petitions demanding the cancellation of the new "**Admissions Committee Law**" which legitimizes the use of "social suitability" criterion to determine who may live in 475 communities in Israel; (iv) the SCT held hearings on a petition to cancel the "**Anti-Boycott Law**"; and (v) a petition demanding the annulment of the "**Child Allowances Law**", which would cut 60% of state-funded payments if a child (overwhelmingly Arab Bedouin) does not receive vaccinations mandated by the Health Ministry remained pending. New laws enacted in 2012 focused on further restricting Palestinian prisoners' rights and the right to compensation of Palestinians who were killed or injured by the Israeli military in the OPT.

- **Harassment of the Arab Political Leadership:** Throughout 2012, Adalah represented MK Haneen Zoabi, MK Dr. Ahmad Tibi, MK Sa'id Naffa'a, and MK Mohammed Barakeh. These MKs, as well as all of the Arab political leadership, face severe attacks and harassment from Israeli government officials and incitement from right-wing MKs. MK Zoabi has been stripped of some of her parliamentary privileges by the Knesset, and two members, MK Barakeh and MK Naffa'a are facing criminal indictments for their legitimate and protected political activity. In another case, the Knesset Presidium refused to permit the introduction of legislation submitted by MK Tibi seeking to prohibit "Nakba denial". These attacks violate Arab citizens' rights to genuine political participation; the MKs freedom of opinion and expression, free association and peaceful assembly; and the right to equal protection of the law and non-discrimination before the law. The Israeli elections took place in January 2013. In the run-up to the elections, motions to disqualify two Arab political parties – Balad/Tajammu and Ra'am/Ta'al – and MK Zoabi were submitted by right-wing parties, including the Likud. Adalah represented the parties and MK Zoabi. The Elections Committee did not disqualify the parties, and the Supreme Court (9 to 0) overturned its decision to disqualify MK Zoabi.
- **The erosion of the rule of law, the lack of access to courts and effective remedy (OPT):** Although the SCT decided in 2006 that Israel may not sweepingly exempt itself from liability for Palestinians damaged by the military, numerous policies effectively block them from pursuing these compensation claims. Obstacles include a short statute of limitations in which to file claims; high guarantee fees imposed by the courts; and Israel's refusal to issue permits for claimants to enter the country and appear in court (however, the state frequently grants for its own witnesses). In 9/12, Adalah on behalf of four Gaza residents, lawyers, PCHR, Al Mezan, and PHR-Israel filed a petition to the SCT against the state's ban on the entry of Gazans for purposes of their court proceedings; the case is pending. Also notable is a new law passed in 7/12 in which Israel further exempts itself from paying damages to Palestinians from the OPT. Moreover, four years after Operation Cast Lead (OCL), it is clear that the Israeli military investigations into OCL are incompatible with international standards of independence, effectiveness, transparency and promptness. Human rights organizations submitted hundreds of complaints to the Israeli authorities demanding criminal investigations into the killings of civilians, injuries, extensive home

demolitions, prevention of medical treatment and the use of Palestinian civilians as human shields. Almost no cases resulted in prosecutions.

- **Discriminatory land and planning policies, illegal settlements (OPT):** In 8/12, the National Council for Planning and Building (NCPB) rejected objections filed by Adalah and the Civic Coalition-Jerusalem against the **Jerusalem Regional Master Plan**. The NCPB pointed out that the plan had been adopted to preserve the Jewish majority by a population split of 30% Arab, 70% Jewish. Under the plan, proposed highways and railways will preclude the development of Palestinian communities and will cut the Arab neighborhoods off geographically from one another. The transportation networks will also make it more difficult for Palestinians to reach their land. In addition, the Israeli government considerably expanded **settlements**. This land plan will further entrench the settlements in East Jerusalem, as well as connect them to each other and to cities in Israel. Legislation was introduced in the Knesset to formally legalize settlements in the West Bank, which was subsequently withdrawn. The government also established the Levy Committee to examine land issues in the OPT; the committee found that there was no problem with the settlements as there was no occupation.
- **Torture and ill-treatment of Palestinian prisoners and civilians:** In 2012, Israel held around 4,600 Palestinian prisoners in Israel. 2012 witnessed a **mass hunger strike** with prisoners demanding an end to their severe conditions of incarceration. Central to their demands was the abolition of the practices of prolonged solitary confinement, administrative detention, and the lack of family visits. Following agreements with the prisoners, Israel took almost all prisoners out of solitary confinement; the number of individuals held in administrative detention was reduced but some orders were extended beyond one year; and while the ICRC has re-instituted some family visits many family members from Gaza and the West Bank still cannot obtain permits due to undisclosed security reasons. Major problems remain such as daily arrests and incommunicado detention; lack of proper medical treatment; the ban on higher education; and violent strip-searching, among others. Regarding the ill-treatment of **Palestinian civilians in Gaza**, key issues for Adalah included the Israeli military attacks on Gaza in 11/12 and the killing and injury of civilians, the Israeli navy's campaign of arrests and assaults against Palestinian fishermen, and delays and denials of exit permits for medical patients seeking treatment outside of and unavailable in Gaza, as well as the interrogation and coercion of medical patients and their families by the GSS at the Erez crossing.

This report is divided into four sections: I. Legal Action, II. International Advocacy, III. Legal Education, and IV. Institutional Development. We hope that this report provides readers with a useful and informative presentation of our work.

LEGAL ACTION

Figures

Activities	Planned 2012	Achieved 2012
New impact litigation	15+	20
New legal interventions	20+	40+
Wins/losses	—	13 wins/11 losses
Follow-up on pending cases	35+	20
Total est. number of direct beneficiaries	---	>330,000

Overview

Legal Action is Adalah's largest program area and forms the basis for much of our international advocacy, educational programs, publications and media outreach. Adalah brings impact litigation cases before the Israeli courts, legal interventions before the state authorities (e.g., letters, pre-petitions and complaints), and objections before the land planning authorities. Adalah also follows-up on the implementation of court judgments and state commitments made before courts.

As a result of its legal work, Adalah achieved **13 successes** in 2012. The Israeli Supreme Court delivered positive landmark, precedent-setting decisions in three cases involving: (i) car use and ownership by state income support recipients (with 300,000 people affected); (ii) inequitable income tax benefits afforded to Jewish and Arab poor towns; and (iii) the right of MK Haneen Zoabi, the only Palestinian Arab woman in the Knesset, to participate in the elections. Further successes were achieved with: (i) the opening of the first high school ever in a newly-recognized Arab Bedouin village (2003); (ii) the designation of about US \$210,000 by the Ministry of Culture and Sport to Arab children's activities during Muslim and Christian holidays, where funds were previously given solely to Jewish students; (iii) the dismissal of criminal charges against protestors against home demolitions in the Naqab; (iv) the improvement of political prisoners' conditions (e.g., meetings with lawyers, family members, doctors); and (v) the resolution of compensation claims following the tragic death of Palestinian workers in Gaza.

Adalah also had 11 losses. Among these cases, the Supreme Court delivered 6 negative decisions including: (i) a 6-5 judgment dismissing Adalah's petition concerning the Citizenship Law (ban on family unification between Palestinians), with thousands of families affected; (ii) the rejection of a challenge to the "Nakba Law", despite its chilling effect on freedom of expression; (iii) the refusal to compel the state to disclose the criteria of security checks at the airport; (iv) the refusal to mandate clear criteria for travel abroad by Israeli citizens to so-called "enemy states"; (v) upholding a ban on higher education for Palestinian political prisoners; and (vi) the refusal to allow a Palestinian political prisoner to father a child. Land planning authorities also dismissed four objections to land plans for the Naqab and Jerusalem, which seek to dispossess or displace Palestinians from their lands or to significantly restrict their available space.

Several of the rulings delivered are among the last judgments of Chief Justice Dorit Beinisch, who retired in 2/12 (with final decisions issued in 5/12). Justice Asher Grunis, one of the most

conservative justices on the bench, became the Chief Justice in 3/12. To date, Adalah can observe that the Gronis court is non-interventionist; it has avoided ruling on the merits in challenging or contentious cases that raise serious issues of constitutional rights.

This section opens by highlighting Adalah's litigation successes in 2012. It then details the litigation undertaken by Adalah in the following fields: 1. Land and Planning; 2. Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; 3. Civil and Political Rights; 4. Prisoners' and Detainees' Rights; and 5. Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT).

Successes

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Supreme Court voids law prohibiting income support recipients from owning cars



In 2/12, the Supreme Court, in a unanimous, landmark decision of seven justices, overturned an amendment to the Income Support Law (1982). The law banned recipients of state income support (300,000 people) from owning or using a car. Adalah, Sawt el-Amel, Itach-Ma'aki, and the Tel Aviv University Legal Clinic filed petitions against this law eight years ago on behalf of Jewish and Arab citizens who needed to use cars to care for disabled relatives and children. Adalah argued that Arab citizens were most affected due to the lack of

transportation and workplaces in their villages. [Press Release](#)

Jerusalem Post, "[High Court overturns 'discriminatory' law](#)," 28 February 2012

Ha'aretz, "[High court says car owners can receive income supplements](#)," 29 February 2012

Ha'aretz, "[Nazareth-area family finally able to borrow a car](#)," 29 February 2012

Supreme Court strikes down income tax law that excludes Arab towns



In 5/12, the Supreme Court struck down provisions of the Income Tax Law ending special tax relief for Jewish towns to the exclusion of Arab towns. The court accepted eight separate petitions filed in 2005 by Adalah, the Association for Civil Rights in Israel (ACRI) and local municipalities demanding the cancellation of the discriminatory tax breaks. Despite the fact that Arab and Arab Bedouin towns are the poorest in Israel, not one was included on the list for benefits. [Press Release](#)

Al Monitor, "[Tax Benefits to be Transferred from Jewish to Arab Towns](#)," 25 May 2012

Ha'aretz, "[High Court: Tax benefits inequitable, discriminate against Arabs](#)," 15 September 2010

Arab Bedouin high school established after seven-year legal struggle



In 8/12, the first high school opened in Abu Tulul (an Arab Bedouin village recognized by the government in 2003), as a result of a petition submitted by Adalah to the Supreme Court in 2005. In its first year, 120 10th-grade girls and boys are studying at the school, from in and around the village. 11th and 12th grade classes will follow in 2013 and 2014. Pupils in the area have high dropout rates of over 75% due to the lack of a high school. Adalah's petition and motion for contempt, filed in 2009 on behalf of 35 girls, their families and

Arab Bedouin organizations, demanded the implementation of a 2007 Court decision confirming the state's commitment to build and open a high school by September 2009. [Press Release](#)

Ministry of Culture and Sports designates funds for Arab children's activities

In 7/12, the Ministry of Culture and Sports announced that it would designate NIS 775,000 (approximately US \$209,000) for Arab children's activities during Eid al-Fitr and Christmas holidays following a Supreme Court petition filed by Adalah in 4/12. Adalah's petition came in response to the ministry's "Afikomen" program, through which it funded plays and other cultural events for children in 110 Jewish towns in 4/12. The funds will be allocated through a new program offering free theater tickets. [Press Release](#)

Ha'aretz, "[Passover shows for kids discriminate against Arabs, says rights group](#)," 3 April 2012

Civil and Political Rights

Defense of Arab political parties and MK Zoabi against election disqualifications



In 12/12, Adalah successfully represented two Arab political parties - Balad/Tajamoa' and Ra'am-Ta'al - and MK Haneen Zoabi against election disqualification motions filed against them by right-wing politicians. The Central Elections Committee (CEC) rejected the motions against the parties but voted to disqualify MK Zoabi, the only Palestinian Arab woman in the Knesset. Following Adalah's representations, the Supreme Court unanimously (9 to 0) voted to overturn the CEC's decision. As a result, all the Arab

parties and MKs ran in the January 2013 elections. [Press Release](#)

See Adalah, "[Q&A on the Israeli elections and Arab Parliamentarians](#)," 11 December 2012

Jerusalem Post, "[High Court allows Balad MK Zoabi to run for Knesset](#)," 30 December 2012

The Guardian, "[Israeli-Arab politician who was on Gaza protest flotilla can stand for re-election by Harriet Sherwood](#)," 30 December 2012

Ha'aretz, Aeyal Gross, "[The High Court has again rescued the shards of Israeli democracy](#)," 30 December 2012

Prosecutor forced to drop charge against General Secretary of "Jabha"



At a hearing held in the Bir el-Sabe Magistrate Court in 6/12, the police prosecution withdrew an indictment against Ayman Odeh, General Secretary of Hadash/Jabha. The indictment charged Odeh with “preventing a police officer from fulfilling his duty,” during his participation in a demonstration in 2/11 against the demolition of Al-Araqib village in the Naqab. Adalah argued that there were glaring problems in the evidence and in the conduct of the police. [Press Release](#)

Court cancels indictments against Bedouin leader and activists protesting demolitions

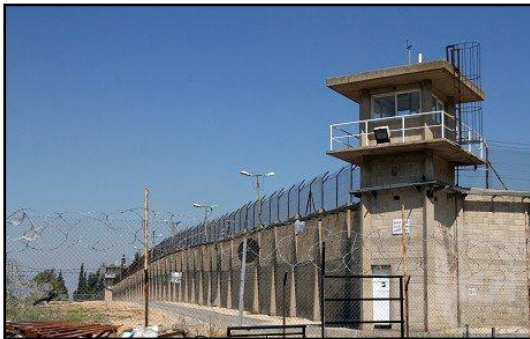


In 10/12, the Bir el-Sabe Magistrates’ Court cancelled the indictment filed against Sheikh Sayyah and his son Aziz from Al-Araqib, following arguments by Adalah. The police had accused them of trespassing and illegally constructing and staying in tents on “state land”. [Press Release](#) *Update:* In 2/13, the court cancelled three more indictments filed against five Al-Araqib residents and Haia Noach, the Director of the Negev Coexistence Forum (Dukium). After holding hearings, the court found that Adalah had demonstrated that the indictments

were legally baseless. [Press Release](#)

Prisoners’ Rights and the Occupied Palestinian Territories

Closure of Section 4 of Nafha Prison; conditions endanger prisoners’ health



Adalah sent two letters in 3/12 to the Israel Prison Service (IPS) detailing the squalid conditions in Section 4 of Nafha Prison, and asking to close this section. Adalah also requested that the IPS reconsider its decision to transfer 80 prisoners from Gilboa Prison to Nafha Prison, due to these inhumane conditions and its distant location for prisoners’ families. The prisoners were sent to Nafha but not to Section 4. Following Adalah’s letter, the Justice Ministry acknowledged that Section 4 was

“overcrowded, lacked ventilation, and was poorly maintained compared to other sections” and it was subsequently closed. [Press Release](#)

Prison Service compelled to lift obstacles on attorney visits to hunger-strikers

In 5/12, Adalah sent a letter to the IPS on behalf of several lawyers and Israeli and Palestinian human rights NGOs demanding an end to the IPS’s illegal policy of preventing lawyer visits with Palestinian security-classified prisoners on hunger strike. The IPS used various means to prevent, delay, or reject meetings. Adalah argued there should be no restrictions on prisoners’ right to meet with lawyers, especially during hunger strikes. Following the letters, most lawyers did not face obstacles to visits. [Press Release](#)

Ha'aretz, “[Palestinian convicts on hunger strike must leave bed to see lawyer](#),” 3 May 2012

Palestinian Council of Human Rights Organizations, "[Palestinian Political Prisoners Subject to Collective Punishment as Mass Hunger Strike Continues](#)," 3 May 2012

Commentary: [The Hunger Strike Defeated the Secret Evidence –The Case of Khader Adnan](#), by Rima Ayoub Assaf, 2/12

INTERVIEW: [The Last Liberty](#), 4/12 [with Anat Litvin, the director of the Prisoners and Detainees Department of Physicians for Human Rights-Israel]

Gaza family visits to prisoners renewed as pilot program



Adalah has been working for five years, since visits were completely prohibited, to reinstate family visits to prisoners from Gaza. Israel instituted the ban following Hamas' takeover of Gaza in 2007. One of the prisoners' demands to end the hunger-strike in the spring of 2012 was the resumption of family visits; Israel agreed to this condition. In 6/12, Adalah sent a letter to the Israel Prison Service demanding compliance with its agreement. Approximately 550 Gazans were then incarcerated in Israeli prisons.

Although the IPS responded that it was difficult to coordinate visits with so many parties involved, including Israeli security bodies, in 7/12, the ICRC announced the resumption of visits for 40 individuals, as a pilot program. [Press Release](#)

Independent doctors for Gaza detainees

The IPS granted permission for independent doctors to visit two detainees, Wa'il Kamil Muhammad At-Taweel and Rawhi Fouad Qazaz from Gaza, following Adalah's submission of two appeals on behalf of the men, PHR-I and Al Mezan before the Magistrate Court in 7/12. The men, both patients who were granted permits to leave Gaza for medical treatment in Jerusalem, were arrested at the Erez Crossing, after the GSS called them for questioning there. This is a case of medical coercion. [Press Release](#)

Settlement reached in Palestinian workers' compensation case

In 2011, Adalah joined a representation by request of a private attorney in a case involving the families of five Palestinians killed by rocket fire while working in settlements in Gaza in 6/2005, immediately before the disengagement. The State denied all liability for the Palestinians based on an order of the Defense Minister, denying compensation to Palestinians; the families of Chinese workers who were also killed did receive compensation. Following Adalah's arguments in 12/11, the National Labor Court ordered the state to negotiate compensation payments for the families, and by 11/12, a settlement was reached and confirmed by the court. [Press Release](#)

Litigation and Legal Interventions

1. LAND AND PLANNING RIGHTS

Adalah's land and planning rights litigation primarily focused on two areas: the unrecognized villages in the Naqab, and discrimination in access to land and infrastructure. Through its extensive legal work in the Naqab, Adalah continued to prevent the destruction of the unrecognized village of Atir-Umm al-Hieran and the evacuation of its 1,000 Arab Bedouin residents, who are citizens of Israel, against the relentless displacement efforts of the state. Adalah also worked to keep Arab Bedouin on their land in Alsira (pop: 500); a positive court decision issued against home demolitions in the village from 12/11 was appealed by the state. Adalah also continued to challenge the use of the military service criterion and the "social suitability" tests, which deny access to "state land" to Arab citizens.

Unrecognized Villages

IN FOCUS UPDATE:

Adalah's Legal Actions to Save Atir-Umm el-Hieran

Adalah worked on a series of submissions regarding Atir-Umm el-Hieran. The village is slated to be demolished and the land used to build a new Jewish town named "Hiran", with a projected population of 7,000-10,000 residents, and a Jewish National Fund (JNF)-sponsored forest called "Yatir" on its ruins. Adalah is representing residents before the Israeli courts against the demolition and eviction lawsuits, and on objections before land planning committees.

1. Appeal of Magistrates' Court decision to uphold *ex parte* demolition orders for all houses in



Umm el-Hieran. The court rejected Adalah's petition to cancel the demolition orders in 12/11. The court ruled that because residents of the village undertook construction without a permit, and would not be able to receive building permits within the framework of the planned Jewish community of Hiran, there was a public interest to justify demolishing the homes. In 1/12, Adalah filed an appeal on behalf of the residents to the District Court. *Update:* A hearing was held in 2/13. Waiting for decision. [Press Release](#)

2. Defense of residents in 27 lawsuits to evict them from their village. In some lawsuits brought by the state in 2004, the Beer Sheva Magistrates' Court ruled that residents had legal permission to live on the land because the Abu Al-Qian tribe was displaced there decades ago by the authorities. However, the Court also held that since the state permitted the residents to live there free of charge, the state could withdraw that permission through a legal process, and it subsequently ordered the eviction. The District Court dismissed Adalah's appeal. Adalah then appealed to the Supreme Court in 4/11 and a hearing is scheduled for 9/13. Other eviction lawsuits against residents are still pending. [Press Release](#)

3. Objection to the Master Plan for the Metropolitan Area of Beer Sheva (Regional Master Plan 23/14/4), which covers most of the northern Naqab. The objection, filed by Adalah and Bimkom

in 2007 on behalf of 82 residents of Atir-Umm el-Hieran, demanded recognition of the village and the preparation of a development plan to serve its residents. The objectors argue that the Master Plan disregards the needs of thousands of people living in unrecognized villages. After hearing the objections in 7/08, the investigator recommended recognizing Atir and it was adopted in 7/10. However, in an extraordinary request for reconsideration by the Prime Minister, the Subcommittee for National Planning Issues reversed its decision in 11/10 and cancelled the recognition. In 1/12, Adalah and Bimkom demanded that the National Council for Planning and Building (NCPB) not submit the plan for approval, and asked for a hearing with the Interior Minister. In 6/12, the NCPB rejected the objection, and the Master Plan was approved in 8/12. [Press Release](#)

4. Appeal of rejection of Objection to Plan No. 15/02/107 which includes plans for a suburban Jewish town named 'Hiran' to be built in place of Umm el-Hieran, by demolishing the homes of the current residents. The District Committee for Planning and Building – Southern District rejected the residents' objections brought by Adalah and Bimkom in 1/12. Adalah then filed an appeal to the NCPB, which was also rejected. [Press Release](#)

5. Objection by Adalah and Bimkom to the "Yatir Forest" Plan No. 264/03/11. The plan, initiated by the Jewish National Fund (JNF), seeks to demolish homes in Atir and to plant trees in their place as part of the Yatir Forest plan. Objections to the plan were submitted to the District Committee for Planning and Building - Southern District. The objection was rejected after a hearing in 6/12. *Update:* An appeal was filed in 3/13. [Press Release](#)

Read: Adalah's 2011 Report on Umm el-Hieran ["Nomads Against Their Will"](#) and see: a short [film on Umm el-Hieran](#)

Ha'aretz, ["Negev Bedouin clan fighting evacuation orders,"](#) 5 January 2012

Ynet News, ["Turning Bedouin village into Jewish settlement is racist,"](#) 29 September 2012

+972 Magazine, ["Bedouin village in Negev to be destroyed, Jewish settlement to be built on site,"](#) 2 October 2012

Israel Land Administration-Jewish National Fund forestation illegal

In 2/12, Adalah filed a pre-petition to the Attorney General (AG) demanding the cancellation of a 2007 ILA decision that orders public land to be transferred to the JNF for forestation purposes in total disregard for the special national master plan for forests. The ILA issued the decision for the stated purpose of "maintaining control" of the land. In practice, by transferring public land to the JNF, a body that openly states that it exclusively serves the interests of Jewish citizens, the decision will be used to prevent Arab use of the land, especially in the Naqab. Adalah is examining the initial response of the AG.

Objection to plans for Israeli army "Intelligence City" in Naqab

In 3/12, Adalah, Bimkom and the Regional Council of the Unrecognized Villages in the Naqab (RCUV) submitted an objection on behalf of six residents of unrecognized villages in the northern Naqab to the Southern District Planning and Building Committee (SDPBC) against government plans to build "Intelligence City". The Israeli army plans to consolidate several military bases currently located in central Israel in the south, east of Bir el-Sabe, where these villages lie. After a hearing in 5/12, the SDPBC rejected the objection. *Update:* In 1/13, the NCPB dismissed a joint appeal against the decision. [Press Release](#)

Jerusalem Post, "[Negev Bedouin file objection to IDF complex](#)," 22 March 2012

Adalah and ACRI call on the Government to cancel the Prawer Plan



In 4/12, Adalah and ACRI submitted a legal letter to the government detailing the organizations' reservations to proposed legislation to implement the Prawer Plan. The NGOs addressed two central issues: the dismantling of the unrecognized villages and the forced displacement and relocation of tens of thousands of residents to recognized towns, and the need for the state's recognition of Arab Bedouin land ownership. *Update:* In 1/13, the government approved new recommendations and legislation to

the Prawer Plan put forward by Minister Benny Begin. This legislation will be considered by the Knesset in 2013. [Press Release \(Objection\)](#) | [Press Release \(Begin Recommendations\)](#)

Jerusalem Post, "[Rights groups: Israel ignoring Beduin land claims](#)," 1 April 2012.

Commentary: [Four Reasons to Reject the "Prawer Plan"](#), by Dr. Thabet Abu Ras, Adalah and Professor Oren Yiftachel, Ben-Gurion University

Ha'aretz, "[Bedouin slam Israel's land offer as 'back-room deal'](#)," 28 January 2013

Excessive delay in implementation of master plan for village Bir Hadaj

In 6/12, Adalah sent a letter to the Ministry of Construction and Housing inquiring about the 2010 Master Plan for the Arab Bedouin village of Bir Hadaj, which has not been implemented. The letter also asked for a schedule and the reasons for the delay so far. Bir Hadaj (pop. 5,000) was recognized in 2003 and placed under the jurisdiction of the Abu Basma Regional Council. In 9/12, the situation deteriorated dramatically when security forces entered Bir Hadaj to post demolition orders on homes; 19 people were arrested, including minors, and several injured as a result of police violence (see below for Adalah's representation of the detainees).

Discrimination in Access to Land and Infrastructure

ILA must cancel military service criterion for "Price for the Dweller" housing program

In 5/12, Adalah sent a letter urging the Israel Land Administration (ILA) to cancel the military service eligibility criterion for participation in the affordable housing program "Price for the Dweller" because it excludes Arab citizens. The resolution concerning these tenders provides that families with members who serve in the army receive extra credit and are more likely to benefit from the program. No response yet. [Press Release](#)

Court refuses to cancel Nazareth land bid conditioned on military service

Adalah petitioned the Nazareth District Court in 11/12 on behalf of the Mayor of Nazareth seeking to cancel a discriminatory bid for land in the town that was specifically restricted to people who had served in the Israeli military. Nazareth is an Arab town with a population of around 80,000, a negligible number of whom have served in the Israeli military. *Update:* In 1/13, the court rejected Adalah's petition on the grounds that prior Supreme Court precedent did not consider the military service criterion to be an unlawful or discriminatory condition of public land bids or benefits, but rather an acceptable reward. [Press Release](#)

Ha'aretz, "[Nazareth municipality challenges state housing tender open only to local IDF veterans](#)," 28 November 2012

Court refuses to ban ultra-Orthodox NGOs from land bid in Harish in Arab Wadi 'Ara

In 12/12, Adalah filed a petition on behalf of the Arab Center for Alternative Planning (ACAP) to prevent Jewish ultra-Orthodox organizations from bidding in land tenders for the construction of 78 apartments in the planned city of Harish in Arab Wadi 'Ara. The petition was filed due to fears that right-wing and Jewish ultra-Orthodox associations would dominate the bids and distribute them exclusively to their members, while excluding Palestinian citizens. *Update:* In 1/13 the petition was withdrawn because of the impending deadline of the bid, despite serious legal flaws in the process according to the judge. [Press Release](#)

Follow-up actions

State appeals decision to cancel home demolition orders for Alsira village

In 1/12, the state appealed a precedent-setting ruling delivered in 12/11 in which the Kiryat Gat Magistrates' Court ordered the immediate cancellation of 51 demolition orders issued against the homes of 500 residents of unrecognized Arab Bedouin village of Alsira in the Naqab. Hearings were held in 6/12 and 10/12. A further hearing is scheduled for 4/13. [Press Release](#)

Land confiscation of 486 Arab landowners in Lajoun

Adalah continued work on the case of 486 Arab landowners in Lajoun who have been demanding the return of 200 dunams of their land confiscated by state. In 2007, the District Court (DCT) rejected the claimants' main argument that the land must be returned to them, the original owners, because it had not been used for "essential settlement and development needs", in accordance with the Finance Minister's order issued in 1953. Adalah appealed to the Supreme Court, which confirmed the DCT's decision in 1/10. Adalah continued with the case as the SCT ordered the DCT to examine the question of whether the claimants are 'absentees'. Adalah is working with the community to try to draft an agreement with the state recognizing these claimants as the landowners prior to the confiscation. [Press Release](#)

Nine-justice panel hears discriminatory Admissions Committee Law case

In 12/12, the Supreme Court held a final hearing on petitions filed by Adalah and ACRI challenging the constitutionality of the "Admissions Committee Law". The law allows 475 small communities built on public land in the Galilee and Naqab to reject applicants who "do not suit the lifestyle and social fabric of the community". This type of screening leads to discrimination against Arab citizens, as well as the exclusion of other marginalized groups such as gays, the disabled, single parents, and Mizrahim. In 1/12, the AG asked the court to dismiss the petitions, as the law itself (as opposed to the policy, which has been in place for years) has not been used to bar any applicant. The AG added that that the law forbids exclusion based on race, religion, gender, or nationality. The Supreme Court is expected to rule in 2013. [Press Release](#)

Ha'aretz, "[Israeli AG defends controversial law on admissions panels](#)," 26 January 2012

Jerusalem Post, "[Rare panel of 9 to hear discrimination case](#)," 4 December 2012

Ha'aretz, "[Arab groups appeal Israel's exclusionary law](#)", 4 December 2012

2. ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

Adalah's litigation in this field encompassed the protection and promotion of education, water and health rights, predominantly for Arab Bedouin living in the Naqab, as well as employment rights. Adalah achieved landmark Supreme Court decisions in its ESCR litigation, as well as positive case resolutions in economic and education rights cases (as highlighted above). Adalah's ESCR unit set a positive agenda for advancing human rights, especially the rights of the most vulnerable groups such as women, children, the disabled, and the poor, not only defending them.

Education Rights

Demanding electricity for 17 schools in unrecognized villages in the Naqab

In 7/12, Adalah sent letters to the Ministry of Education (MOE) and Abu Basma Regional Council demanding that it connect 17 schools in ten unrecognized villages to the electricity grid. Adalah argued that the generators used by the schools did not provide sufficient power and were dangerous to the children's health. Over 9,200 Arab Bedouin students attend these schools, in 332 regular classes and 21 special education classes. [Press Release](#)

Demanding Safe Road to Arab Elementary School in Lod

Adalah sent a letter in 8/12 to the head of the Appointed Committee in Lod (the Municipality), and to the Regional Director of the Ministry of Education demanding the immediate establishment of a safe access road leading to the "Rashedia" School in Lod. The current one-way road leading to the school serves as the city's entrance and exit road; it has no safe passageway. 700 children are exposed to traffic hazards and severe, concrete and immediate threats to their safety on their way to and from the school. [Press Release](#)

55 Bedouin students with severe disabilities should not be sent to distant school

In 11/12, Adalah filed a petition to the Bir el-Sabe District Court demanding the cancellation of a decision – taken without consulting the parents – to transfer 55 Arab Bedouin seriously disabled students in a special education program from Kassifa to another inappropriate school in Molda/Attrash far from their homes. The petition followed a letter sent to the MOE in 10/12 demanding the cancellation of the transfer. *Update:* In 1/13, at the court's request, Adalah withdrew the case and filed individual complaints against each student's transfer. [Press Release](#)

Water and Health Rights

Adalah appeals decision that denies access to drinking water in the Naqab



In 3/12, Adalah submitted a second appeal to the Supreme Court on behalf of 34 Arab Bedouin families living in Umm el-Hieran demanding access to drinking water. Umm el-Hieran (pop. 500) has neither water nor electricity. In 1/12, the Haifa District Court, sitting as a water tribunal, rejected a petition filed by Adalah in 9/11. This rejection followed a 2011 landmark Supreme Court decision holding that all citizens possess the right to “minimal water access”, regardless of the legal status of their community or of any eviction or demolition orders against the residents or their homes. *Update:* In 2/13, the Court dismissed the appeal ruling that the current source of water,

from a private citizen who lives 4km away and sells water to the villagers at exorbitantly high prices, constitutes “sufficient access”. [Press Release](#)

IRIN Humanitarian News and Analysis, “[Water being used to coerce Bedouin villagers, says NGO](#),” 29 March 2012

Sewage flowing through Arab Bedouin village severely harms residents’ health

In 4/12, Adalah sent a letter to the Abu Basma Regional Council demanding that it find an immediate solution to the river of sewage running through the center of Umm Batin (pop: 5,000) in the Naqab. The sewage constitutes a health and environmental safety hazard, and has a negative impact on the well-being of residents. The Council responded in 5/12 that the budget was insufficient to fix the problem. [Press Release](#) | [Photos](#)

Employment Rights

Education Ministry in the south must employ more Arab citizens

In 4/12, Adalah sent a letter to the Education Ministry demanding the hiring of more Arab employees, as mandated by the law requiring adequate representation of Arab citizens in the ministries. Data obtained by Adalah show that only 2.3% of the employees of the Southern District MOE are Arab, while 25% of the residents are Arab Bedouin (200,000); some departments do not include a single Arab employee. Of the Southern District’s 183,000 school students, 65,000 are Arab Bedouin. Adalah is considering the MOE’s response. [Press Release](#)

Labor court approves pensions’ agreement that discriminates against Arab workers



In 1/12, the National Labor Court approved a mandatory pensions’ agreement that obliges employers to pay pension and disability insurance only to female workers aged 20 and above and male workers aged 21 and above. 39% of workers ages 18-24 are Arab, and thus many are ineligible for these benefits. Most Jewish Israelis serve in the military from ages 18 to 21 and are not affected. The court ruled that specifying a minimum age is not discriminatory as “military service is one of the foundations of the social consensus ... as a right and a duty ... therefore the given average age for entering the labor market for the majority of young people... is the time when they are released from the army.” The decision follows a petition submitted by Adalah and the Adva Center in 8/08. [Press Release](#)

Follow-up actions

Challenging a law that conditions state-supported child allowances on vaccinations



In 9/11, the Supreme Court issued an order nisi on Adalah's petition against a new law that conditions child allowances on vaccinations. This law has a particularly harmful effect on Arab Bedouin children due to the lack of health care facilities in the unrecognized villages. Adalah submitted closing arguments in 6/12, and a hearing was held in 7/12. Adalah submitted additional arguments in 10/12 on recognizing "children" as a protected class in law for the purposes of this issue. [Press Release](#)

3. CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS

Adalah's civil and political rights litigation encompassed many fields: Citizenship, political participation, freedom of expression and the right to protest, freedom of movement, and religious rights. Early in the year, major Supreme Court decisions were delivered which upheld the discriminatory Citizenship Law, banning family unification (affecting thousands of people) and the Nakba Law, while a positive decision was obtained at the end of the year regarding Arab political participation in the elections. Adalah also continued to represent four Arab MKs in high-profile cases; two have been criminally indicted for engaging in legitimate political activity, while the other two cases raise contentious issues of separation of powers and the scope of the Knesset's powers. Adalah also represented political protestors (against home demolitions, against the War in Gaza, or in solidarity with the hunger-striking prisoners) at detention hearings and often succeeded to get them released; and on complaints of police violence against them as well as on criminal indictments against them before the courts.

Citizenship Rights

Supreme Court upholds ban on family unification



In 1/12, the Supreme Court in a 6 to 5 decision delivered a 232-page judgment upholding the constitutionality of the Citizenship and Entry into Israel Law. The law severely restricts Palestinian citizens of Israel from living together in Israel with their Palestinian spouses from the OPT, or from Syria, Lebanon, Iran and Iraq. Thousands of families affected by this law are forced to move abroad, live apart or to live together illegally in Israel. The majority of the court ruled that even if the

law harmed the constitutional rights of citizens of Israel such as the right to equality, this infringement was proportional and did not violate Israel's Basic Laws. [Press Release](#)

Extensive local and international media coverage of the case includes: [Al Jazeera English Interview with Hassan Jabareen](#); [Israel TV Channel 10 Interview with Sawsan Zaher on "London and Kirshenbaum"](#) (Hebrew); [Ha'aretz](#), [BBC News](#), [MSNBC](#) and others.

Analysis: [The Israeli Supreme Court's Decision in the Citizenship Law Case](#), by Hassan Jabareen and Sawsan Zaher, Adalah's Newsletter, Volume 89, January 2012. Also published in [The Jurist](#).
Case Review: [The Supreme Court's Decision in the Citizenship and Family Unification Law Case](#), Adalah's Newsletter, Volume 91, March 2012

Political Participation

IN FOCUS:

Representing Arab Knesset Members

Petition against revocation of MK Zoabi's parliamentary privileges



In 6/12, seven justices of the Supreme Court heard a petition brought by Adalah and ACRI on behalf of MK Haneen Zoabi against the revocation of her parliamentary privileges following her participation in the Gaza Freedom Flotilla in 5/10. The organizations' arguments emphasized that the Knesset had exceeded its authority in revoking her privileges, and contradicted the laws of parliamentary immunity that protect Knesset members' political activities. *Update:* In 2/13, the Supreme Court rejected

the petition on the grounds that, since the 18th Knesset's mandate had expired after the 2013 general elections, so had its decision to revoke her privileges. [Press Release](#)

Representing MK Zoabi on case seeking her indictment for participating in Gaza Flotilla

In 2/12, Adalah revealed that the Israeli military order prohibiting ships and individuals from traveling to Gaza was issued after the Freedom Flotilla set sail and was already in international waters in 2012. Therefore, there was no legal impediment to the ships' arrival in Gaza or any legal basis for their seizure. Adalah received a copy of the order through its representation of Arab political leaders arrested following the seizure of the flotilla. This information is part of Adalah's response on behalf of MK Zoabi to a Supreme Court petition filed in 1/12 by right-wing MKs demanding that the AG criminally indict MK Zoabi. Case pending. [Press Release](#)

Jerusalem Post, "[Zoabi: Blockade ordered only after flotilla set sail](#)," 15 February 2012

MK Tibi challenges Knesset Presidium's decision to bar Nakba denial bill



In 6/12, the Supreme Court issued an order instructing the Knesset Speaker to explain why he did not allow the introduction of a "Nakba denial" bill, proposed by MK Dr. Ahmad Tibi in response to the "Nakba law". Due to the serious constitutional questions regarding the Knesset's powers, the court expanded the panel. *Update:* Immediately before a hearing in 2/13, the Court dismissed the petition ruling that that the case is moot due to the election of the new Knesset. [Press Release](#)

Jerusalem Post, "[Rivlin must explain rejection of Tibi Nakba bill](#)," 20 June 2012

Criminal Trial of MK Barakeh: Soldiers testify to inciting violence at demonstrations



MK Mohammed Barakeh was criminally indicted in 11/09 on four counts of allegedly assaulting or insulting a police officer and a right-wing activist during four different demonstrations against the War on Lebanon, the Wall and the October 2000 killings. In 10/11, the Tel Aviv Magistrates' Court dismissed two of the four charges against him on the grounds of parliamentary immunity, following Adalah's arguments. During evidentiary hearings in 4/12, Israeli soldiers testified that they threw stones

during one of the protests to create a pretext for troops to deploy teargas and make arrests. This testimony clearly shows illegal use of force, and challenges the credibility of the claim that MK Barakeh assaulted any security officers. In 12/12, MK Barakeh testified at his trial, which will continue in 2013. [Press Release](#)

Trial of MK Naffaa on charges of travel to an enemy state, contact with foreign agent



MK Sa'id Naffaa is charged with illegal travel to Syria, assisting in organizing travel to an enemy state, and contact with a foreign agent stemming from a visit with 300 Arab-Druze religious leaders and social activists to holy places in Syria in 2007. At hearings in 6/12, Adalah argued that the charges should be dismissed as the alleged acts fell within MK Naffaa's parliamentary immunity. The case marks the first time that an indictment has been submitted against an MK for meeting with a 'foreign agent'. Adalah is also part of

the legal defense team representing 16 Arab Druze leaders indicted for traveling to an enemy state. In 12/12, the Nazareth District Court rejected Adalah's arguments regarding MK Naffaa's immunity. Adalah will appeal to the Supreme Court. [Press Release](#)

Local elections delayed again after decision to split Abu Basma Regional Council

In 10/12, the Razin Boundary Committee issued an unprecedented recommendation to justify splitting the Abu Basma Regional Council into two separate authorities just months before elections were due to take place, preventing Arab Bedouin residents from electing their own local leaders. In 2/12, Adalah sent a letter to the AG to ensure that local elections for the Council, which encompasses 10 newly recognized Arab Bedouin villages, were held in 12/12, as ordered by the Supreme Court in 2011 following a petition by Adalah and ACRI. The council had been headed by a government-appointed official since its establishment in 2003 under a law that allows the Interior Minister to postpone local elections indefinitely. Around 30,000 Arab Bedouin live within the jurisdiction of the council, which also provides services for another 40,000 people from neighboring unrecognized villages. Adalah's letter asked the AG to conduct the procedures necessary before an election, including voter registration and publicity at the legally required times. *Update:* The Council has been split and new mayors appointed by the Interior Ministry. [Press Release](#)

Commentary: [Segmenting the Naqab \(Negev\): Israel Redistricts to Postpone Local Elections for Arab-Bedouin Citizens](#), by Dr. Thabet Abu Ras, Adalah, 10/12.

Safed College forbids Arab students from running for student union president



In 5/12, Adalah sent a letter to the Registrar of Universities in Israel in the name of the President of the Arab Students' Union in Safed College requesting that he refuse to ratify Article 35 of the new student council directives. Article 35 lists at least 24 months' military or civil service as a prerequisite for running for president of the student union. Adalah argued in the letter that this article would prevent Arab students from running, since most do not perform military or national service. In a recent letter to Adalah, the

Registrar indicated that the directives he had received did not include this article, suggesting that it has been deleted. [Press Release](#)

Freedom of Expression

Supreme Court issues order to show cause on petition to cancel Anti-Boycott Law



In 12/12, the Supreme Court ordered the state to justify the law, and expanded the judicial panel in further hearings. Adalah and ACRI submitted the petition in 3/12 on behalf of the High Follow-up Committee for Arab Citizens of Israel, the Coalition of Women for Peace, and the Jerusalem Legal Aid and Counseling Center, groups affected by the law, and leading human rights NGOs seeking its cancellation. The 2011 law prohibits the public promotion of boycott against Israeli institutions or settlements in the West Bank by

making it a "civil wrong"; provides for the revocation of tax exemptions to state-funded institutions if they call for or engage in boycott; and permits courts to award compensation and punitive damages, even if no actual damage is proved. [Press Release](#)

Ha'aretz, "[Israel's HC to State: Explain why Boycott Law should remain in effect](#)," 10 Dec. 2012

Jerusalem Post, "[High Court delays decision on Anti-Boycott Law](#)", 5 December 2012

Jerusalem Post, "[Groups petitions court over anti-boycott law](#)," 13 March 2012

Supreme Court ignored the chilling effect already caused by the "Nakba Law"

In 1/12, the Supreme Court rejected a petition filed by Adalah and ACRI against the "Nakba Law". The court ruled that the petition was premature, as the 2011 law had not yet been used against any entity. The petitioners included the Alumni Association of the Haifa Orthodox School; parents of students who attend bi-lingual schools; and Professor Oren Yiftachel. The law empowers the Finance Minister to cut budgets of state funded institutions (e.g., schools, theatres) if they hold events that commemorate "the day of the establishment of the state as a day of mourning" or that aim to revoke "the existence of Israel as a Jewish and democratic state." Adalah and ACRI criticized the court's decision for ignoring the "chilling effect" of the law on freedom of expression rights even before its implementation. [Press Release](#)

Ha'aretz, "[High Court rejects petition against Israel's controversial 'Nakba Law'](#)," 5 January 2012

+972 Magazine, "[High Court rejects NGOs' petition against Nakba law](#)," 5 January 2012
United Press International, "[Israeli court refuses to block Nakba Law](#)," 5 January 2012
Jerusalem Post, "[High Court rejects petition against 'Nakba Law'](#)," 5 January 2012

Adalah & ACRI: Do not bar Nakba commemoration at Israeli universities



In 5/12, following the cancellation of a student-led Nakba commemoration event at Haifa University, Adalah and ACRI sent a letter asking the university to reconsider its decision. The NGOs argued that the holding of these events was part of students' freedom of political expression rights. The event was later held, with restrictions, and without the university assuming the security costs of the event. [Press Release](#)

Israel Hayom, "[Should Tel Aviv University fund a ceremony marking Nakba Day?](#)," 11 May 2012
Jerusalem Post Editorial, "[Nakba and freedom](#)," 14 May 2012
Ha'aretz, "[Chilling effect of the Nakba Law on Israel's human rights](#)," 17 May 2012
Al Jazeera English, Neve Gordon, "[Erasing the Nakba](#)," 22 May 2012

Right to Protest

IN FOCUS: Right to Protest

Defense of Al-Araqib protestors against home demolitions in the Naqab

Since the beginning of 2011, Adalah has been representing nine Arab Bedouin residents of Al-Araqib and other human rights activists who participated in protests against the repeated home demolitions in the village. The police prosecution brought 14 cases/indictments. Throughout 2012, Adalah presented arguments at hearings in the Bir el-Sabe Magistrate Court, and has asked the police prosecution to dismiss all charges. See "Successes" above, while other cases remain pending. [Press Release](#)

Seeking criminal investigation into abuse of protestors supporting hunger-strikers



In 5/12, Adalah submitted a complaint to the Police Investigation Unit ("Mahash") following the arrest of 17 demonstrators who were detained during a protest in solidarity with Palestinian prisoners on hunger strike. The complaint detailed police harassment including physical, verbal, and sexual abuse. Adalah and private attorneys represented the demonstrators at detention hearings, and submitted an additional complaint to the Israel Courts Administration and the Prison Service for long

delays in releasing the protestors. [Press Release](#)

+972 Magazine, "[Arrested protestors tasered, beaten, threatened with rape](#)," 12 May 2012
Ha'aretz, "[Israeli NGO: Police beat handcuffed detainees in Palestinian solidarity protest](#)," 18 May 2012

Defense of protesters in Bir Hadaj, Naqab against house demolitions

In 11/12, Adalah represented 19 detainees before the courts, including seven minors, from the Arab Bedouin village of Bir Hadaj, where homes are threatened with demolition. The police conducted a brutal raid that injured several people with rubber bullets and tear gas fired near an elementary school. Two of the minors detained were refused medical treatment by the police during interrogations. As a result of Adalah's representation, two of the minors were released without conditions, and five minors and four adults were released to house arrest. [Press Release](#)

+972, "[WATCH: Police fire tear gas on Bedouin children; Israeli media is absent](#)," 12 Nov. 2012
Ynet News, "[Bedouins lament police brutality](#)," 14 November 2012

Defense of protesters in Akka against Gaza Operation Pillar of Cloud

Adalah represented nine protestors from Akka (Acre) in 11/12, including four minors, who were detained while protesting against Israel's war on Gaza ("Operation Pillar of Cloud"). As a result of Adalah's representation, all the minors were released to house arrest, as were three adults. One adult was released after the court accepted there was no basis for his arrest. [Press Release](#)

Freedom of Movement

Supreme Court dismisses petition to reveal criteria for airport security checks

In 7/12, the Supreme Court dismissed a petition submitted by Adalah and Attorney Hussein Abu Hussein asking to reveal the criteria for security checks conducted in the airport. The court's decision relied on previous court decisions refusing to cancel the immunity certificate on the airport screening standards. Adalah submitted the petition in 1/12 as part of tort compensation lawsuit filed on behalf of Dr. Nadera Shalhoub-Kevorkian in 2010 against racial profiling, and the degrading and humiliating treatment she received at Ben-Gurion Airport. Hearings on the tort case to resume in 4/13. [Press Release](#)

No clear rules for citizens of Israel travel to 'enemy states'

In 3/12, the Supreme Court rejected Adalah's request that clear criteria for permits to visit 'enemy states', as defined by Israeli law, be determined and publicized by the Interior Ministry. Many Arab citizens ask to travel to these countries to visit family members; attend conferences; hold religious ceremonies; and foster cultural connections with the Arab world. The court considered the issue as part of Adalah's petition filed on behalf of author Ala Hlehel, who wished to travel to Lebanon to receive the prestigious "Beirut 39" literary prize; in this case, the court overturned the state's decision to ban his travel. The court accepted the state's publication of application procedures, rather than requiring clear criteria for the acceptance or rejection of an application, which Adalah argued for, as fulfilling its duty. [Press Release](#)

Religious Rights

By opening general museum, Municipality violates Court's ruling in Big Mosque case



In 3/12, Adalah filed a pre-petition to the AG demanding that the Bir el-Sabe (Beer Sheva) Municipality remove the architectural exhibition on display in the Big Mosque as it violates the 2011 Supreme Court ruling that the mosque would be opened as a 'museum of Islamic culture'. The court issued its decision in response to a petition filed by Adalah in 2002 on behalf of the Association for the Support and Protection of the Rights of the Bedouin in Israel, the Islamic Committee in the

Naqab, and 23 Arab citizens, requesting that the mosque be re-opened as a place of worship. There is currently no functioning mosque in the city. [Press Release](#)

Adalah to AG: Cancel wine and beer festival in Big Mosque in Bir el-Sabe

In 8/12, Adalah sent a letter to the AG demanding the cancellation of the 6th Annual "Salut Wine and Beer Festival" in the courtyard of the Big Mosque. Adalah requested that any activity that violated the sanctity of the mosque and the dignity of local Muslims be stopped immediately. Adalah's letter was part of a large local campaign against the festival that gained widespread coverage in the media. An agreement between the event organizers and the activists was reached to hold the festival at a certain distance from the mosque. [Press Release](#)

Al Arabiya News, "[Wine festival near mosque site in Israel angers Muslims](#)," 16 August 2012

Maan News, "[Sheikh condemns Israeli plans to hold wine festival at mosque](#)," 28 August 2012

Ha'aretz, "[Arab Israelis erect protest tent to battle planned wine festival near mosque](#)," 2 September 2012

Al Jazeera English, "[Be'er Sheva's masquerade](#)," 4 September 2012

Commentary: [The Big Mosque & the Wine Festival](#), by Salah Mohsen, September 2012

4. PRISONERS' AND DETAINEES' RIGHTS

Adalah's work focused on the severe conditions of imprisonment, often amounting to cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment, for the 4,600 Palestinian prisoners classified as security prisoners, and on challenging new legislation and policies imposing even harsher restrictions, particularly on lawyer-prisoner visits and the ban on higher education. Adalah's main achievements, largely in relation to the hunger-strike, are noted in the Successes sections, above.

Seeking cancellation of one-year ban on visits of prisoner's mother

In 6/12, in a letter to Nafha Prison, Adalah demanded cancellation of a decision to prohibit Mrs. Rawiyya Alshanti from visiting her son, Anis Safuri, for an entire year. A Nafha prison guard informed Mrs. Alshanti orally of the decision at the end of her visit in 5/12. The ban came in the wake of her refusal to submit to a humiliating strip search before entering the prison. Adalah argued that the decision was illegal, arbitrary and without justification.

New law imposes more restrictions on lawyers' visits to 'security-classified' prisoners

Adalah sent a letter to all MKs in 5/12 calling on them to reject a proposed law granting the IPS Director broader powers to limit the number of lawyers visiting a prisoner convicted of security offenses. Adalah argued that the bill ignores the fact that prisoners may need to consult with more than one lawyer, or that different lawyers represent them on different cases. These restrictions on the number of lawyers visiting a prisoner may be imposed when there is reason to believe that the meeting will harm state security, public security, or discipline within the prison. The IPS Director may restrict the number of lawyers able to visit a prisoner for three months, and for an additional three months with the AG's permission; the district court may extend the prohibition for up to six months at a time. The law passed in 5/12. [Press Release](#)

Follow-up on Pending Cases

SCT dismisses appeal against banning prisoner from higher education



In 12/12, the Supreme Court upheld a district court decision to reject the request of Rawi Sultany, a Palestinian citizen of Israel classified as a 'security prisoner', to continue his higher education at the Open University (OU) after two years of study via correspondence. The Court held that education is not the right of a prisoner. The Court's ruling sharply contradicts the longstanding principle in Israeli case law that prohibits arbitrary discrimination between prisoners classified as "criminal" or "security"

prisoners, and that the violation of a prisoner's rights is only allowed if it is necessary to maintain public order or prison security. In 2010, 270 prisoners took courses at the OU, only 70 of whom were classified as "criminal prisoners". In 6/11, the IPS suddenly and arbitrarily decided to stop all Palestinian political prisoners from studying higher education courses. *Update:* In 1/13, Adalah, the Haifa Prisoners' Rights Legal Clinic, and ACRI filed a motion to the Supreme Court to re-consider the decision. [Press Release](#)

District Court rejects prisoner's request to father child, citing classified evidence

In 2/12, the Nazareth District Court again refused to allow Mr. Walid Dakka, a Palestinian citizen of Israel classified as a security prisoner, to meet his wife for conjugal visits in order to father a child. The court ruled that its review of secret evidence proved that Mr. Dakka still had connections to anti-Israel organizations, and that he could use intimate meetings with his wife to exchange information harmful to state security. The court declined to disclose the evidence, claiming that there was a risk of exposing the sources. In stark contrast, Yigal Amir, the Jewish Israeli who assassinated Prime Minister Yitzak Rabin in 1995 and who is also classified as a security prisoner, was permitted to father a child with his wife while in prison. [Press Release](#)

5. OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY

Adalah undertakes OPT litigation in close consultation with NGO partners and coalitions in the OPT such as Al Mezan, PCHR, and the Civic Coalition to Defend Palestinians' Rights in Jerusalem. Adalah is also increasingly being asked by private lawyers and human rights organizations to intervene as "amicus curiae" or to assist in preparing constitutional, principle arguments before Israeli courts. Adalah's main areas of interest in 2012 were: (i) Gaza: access to courts and effective remedy, and right to life; and (ii) illegal settlements and land planning in occupied East Jerusalem. Adalah also monitored new Knesset legislation regarding the OPT.

Access to Courts and Effective Remedy

Allow Gazans entry to Israel to bring compensation claims before Israeli courts

In 9/12, Adalah filed a Supreme Court petition on behalf of Palestinian families, PCHR, Al Mezan, PHR-I against Israel's policy of refusing to issue entry permits to Palestinian residents of Gaza filing tort claims against the Israeli military. Under the policy, most of these claims are dismissed after the claimants and/or their witnesses from Gaza fail to appear in court because the state – a party in the case – denies them permits to enter Israel. With this procedure, Adalah argued, the plaintiffs are essentially denied access to a remedy before Israeli courts, despite Israel's contrary claims in foreign courts abroad. The AG asked to dismiss the case, claiming that each individual should submit his claim independently. Case pending. Prior to the petition, in 6/12, Adalah submitted an appeal to the Bir el-Sabe Administrative Court on behalf of two Palestinians from Gaza demanding that they be allowed to enter Israel in order to file tort damage cases against the Israeli security forces. Following the AG's announcement that the State would consider deviating from the general policy and grant these two families from Gaza entry permits to proceed with their cases, Adalah withdrew the petition. [Press Release](#)

Al Jazeera English, "[Gazans denied day in Israeli courts](#)," 25 November 2012

Supreme Court refuses to hear joint appeal concerning exorbitant court-imposed financial guarantees for Palestinians in compensation cases



In 7/12, the Supreme Court rejected a motion submitted by Adalah requesting that the court join eight different appeals filed by private lawyers concerning the exorbitant financial guarantees placed by the lower courts on Gazans seeking compensation in tort damage cases arising from Operation Cast Lead, and to allow Adalah to submit supplementary arguments in these cases. There are about 160 plaintiffs (eight families) in these cases, in which the courts have required over NIS 3.2 million

(or US \$830,000) as guarantees to proceed in the litigation.

Right to Life

Gazan fishermen face live fire and abuse from Israeli navy

In 7/12, Adalah sent a letter on behalf of Al Mezan and PHR-I to the Israeli Military Advocate General (MAG) documenting 14 cases of abuse of Gaza fishermen by the Israeli navy. The Israeli navy frequently shoots live fire at Palestinian fishing boats off Gaza, and forces fishermen to

strip naked and swim to the navy's ships. The soldiers then bind their hands and feet, blindfold, detain and interrogate them. Their boats and fishing equipment are also routinely confiscated.

[Press Release](#)

Demanding investigation into killing of Al-Dalu family, civilians during Gaza Op

In 11/12, during Israel's military invasion of Gaza, Adalah and Al Mezan sent a letter to the MAG and the AG demanding a criminal investigation into the killing of ten Palestinian civilians, including eight members of the Al-Dalu family. The victims were killed in an Israeli air strike on a residential building. In another intervention, Adalah and Al Mezan sent a complaint to the MAG calling for the Israeli military to refrain from attacking the "Journalists' Tower" in Gaza City, a civilian building. The complaint followed strikes on the building and threats to demolish it. Adalah argued that the bombing of civilian targets constituted a violation of the laws of war.

[Press Release](#)/[Press Release](#)

Illegal Settlements & Jerusalem

Jerusalem Municipality plans garbage dump on Palestinian villages

Adalah and the Civic Coalition-Jerusalem submitted an objection in 12/12 on behalf of the 'Anata Municipality to a plan to construct a garbage dump in East Jerusalem, on lands belonging to 'Anata (pop: 20,000) and Al-'Issawiyya (pop: 12,000). If implemented, the plan will use wide swaths of lands that are vital to Palestinian development and cut them off from the Palestinian territories, while improving connections between West Bank Jewish settlements, area E1, and the Jerusalem Municipality. [Press Release](#)

Stop proposed 35% tax exemption on donations to settlements

In 2/12, Adalah sent a letter to the Prime Minister, the AG, and the Minister of Justice demanding that they halt a bill granting a 35% tax exemption on donations to institutions that promote 'Zionist settlement'. The Ministerial Committee for Legislation approved the bill and the legislation passed into law in 5/12. [Press Release](#)

Building on private Palestinian land in West Bank violates Israeli and international law



In 5/12, Adalah sent a letter to the Prime Minister, the AG and others demanding that they reject proposed bills that seek to retroactively legalize building on private Palestinian land in settlements in the West Bank. These bills followed Supreme Court decisions mandating that houses in Migron and in the Ulpana neighborhood of Beit El, constructed on private Palestinian land, must be evacuated. Adalah argued that the bills would lead to the vast confiscation of land, and would

seize natural resources necessary for Palestinian urban growth and development. The bills were voted down after the Prime Minister withdrew the government's backing, and following strong international condemnation. [Press Release](#)

International law does not distinguish between settlements and outposts: both are illegal

In 6/12, Adalah sent a letter to the Levy Committee, established by the Prime Minister to consider land settlement in the West Bank. The Committee was formed in the wake of Supreme

Court decisions concerning the Ulpana buildings in Beit El and Migron, holding that the illegal outposts/settlements must be dismantled. Adalah argued that international law unequivocally recognized that the establishment of settlements or outposts in occupied territory was illegal, and that all must be removed. In 7/12, the Levy Committee found that Israel was not an occupying force in the West Bank, and proposed that the government issue a decree to sanction all West Bank settlements. [Press Release](#)

Read: [Summary of Levy Committee conclusions \(English\)](#) (Note: The Prime Minister's Office has deleted the Hebrew report and the English summary from its website).

Relocating Ulpana residents does not constitute 'military necessity'

In 6/12, the AG cited an 'urgent military need' to install caravans, without any of the necessary building permits, in a section of the Beit El military settlement for Ulpana neighborhood residents who will be relocated to the site following the Supreme Court's decision that the homes there had been illegally built on private Palestinian land. Adalah sent a letter to the AG in 6/12 challenging the government's assertion, and the bypassing of the necessary procedures for acquiring building permits, including a period of objections.

Jerusalem regional master plan entrenches Israel's illegal Occupation

In 8/12, the National Council for Planning and Building rejected an objection to the Jerusalem Regional Master Plan submitted by Adalah in cooperation with the Civic Coalition-Jerusalem in the name of 73 objectors (56 Palestinians who reside in Jerusalem and 17 local associations) in 11/08. This plan will further restrict the development of Palestinian neighborhoods in Jerusalem, entrench the Jewish settlements, and alter the city's demographic composition. [Press Release](#)

Follow-up on Pending Cases

Challenging revocation of Jerusalem residency of PLC members

Adalah continued its representation as amicus curiae, with ACRI, of three Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) members before the Supreme Court concerning the revocation of their Jerusalem residency status; an order to show cause issued in 10/11. *Update:* At a hearing held in 1/13, the Court suggested that the PLC members resign from their positions and that the Interior Ministry reconsider to reinstate their residency.

Absentee Property in Jerusalem

Adalah continued to follow-up on a motion filed to the Supreme Court in 1/11 requesting amicus curiae status in an absentee property case in which residents of the West Bank who own properties in Jerusalem are disputing their status as refugees. The motion remains pending.

INTERNATIONAL ADVOCACY

Figures

Activities	Planned 2012	Achieved 2012
Reports/advocacy Interventions to UN/EU/US	10-12	22 reports and interventions and 16 advocacy missions
Briefings for embassies and diplomats	Frequent meetings	Meetings (@48), mailers (24-48), presentations to visiting delegations of diplomats (@4-6 times), and study tours in the Naqab
Human rights conferences	10	13 advocacy trainings and conferences
Favorable concluding observations, statements, resolutions	---	9 favorable texts: UN – CERD, SR on Housing, SR on Free Expression, CAT & HRC List of issues EU – ENP Progress report, EP Resolution, EU-Israel Association Council US – State Dept HR Country Report

Overview

Adalah conducts international advocacy to promote compliance by the Israeli government with its international human rights and humanitarian law treaty obligations and agreements; and to raise awareness and influence international decision-makers and other actors to compel Israel to cease committing human rights violations against Palestinian citizens of Israel and Palestinians living under Occupation in the OPT.

Adalah's international advocacy in 2012 centered around three main themes:

- Equal rights for the Arab minority in Israel, focusing on discriminatory laws and the Praver Plan, which could forcibly displace the Arab Bedouin in the Naqab;
- Prisoners' and detainees' rights;
- EU-Israel relations

A key success of Adalah's international advocacy work in 2012 was the European Parliament's strong **historic resolution against Israeli land policies of forced displacement and dispossession on both sides of the Green Line**, and its call for Israel's **withdrawal of the Praver Plan**.

Other successes include the achievement of **nine favorable texts** from UN, EU and US bodies calling on Israel to protect the human rights of Palestinians. These successes and other activities will be discussed in the following section of the report.

Success

European Parliament Condemns Land Policies, Calls for Israel's Withdrawal of Prawer Plan



The European Parliament (EP) passed a [historic resolution](#) strongly condemning Israeli policies in the West Bank and East Jerusalem, including forced displacement and home demolitions in 7/12. The resolution is particularly noteworthy as it links Israeli policies and practices in the OPT with policies against Arab Bedouin citizens of Israel living in the Naqab. Moreover, the EP **called on Israel to withdraw the Prawer Plan**. [Press Release](#)

The resolution followed from presentations and meetings of Adalah, EMHRN, CIDSE, and APRODEV with the EP Working Group on the Middle East (WGME) and other parliamentarians. The EP voted to take urgent steps against the Prawer Plan. The Israeli government did not respond to the invitation to participate in the session held in Strasbourg in 6/12, nor did it send a representative.

Read: [Briefing Paper for the EU Parliament](#) | [Myths and Misconceptions about the Arab Bedouin](#) | [Understanding the Prawer Plan Bill](#)

See: European Parliament resolution of 5 July 2012 on EU policy on the West Bank and East Jerusalem (2012/2694(RSP)) | [“Why the EU Must Intervene to Stop the Prawer Plan: A Conversation with Dr. Thabet Abu Rass,”](#) Adalah’s Newsletter, Vol. 92, 4/12, and Ha’aretz, [European Parliament Condemns Israel’s policy toward Bedouin population](#), 7/12.

Adalah together with the EMHRN also undertook advocacy in Brussels in 4/12 and 6/12 to discuss the situation of the Arab minority in Israel in general, and the recent escalation and threat of displacement of the Arab Bedouin. These meetings also urged an EU public statement against the Prawer Plan and for community participation in decision-making.

Members of the EP WGME [issued a strong public statement](#) condemning home demolitions, calling for the recognition of Bedouin villages, and demanding the withdrawal of the government’s Prawer Plan in 11/12. The statement followed a [day-long tour of the Naqab](#) with Adalah and NGO partners as part of the “Stop Prawer” campaign. The MEPs met Arab Bedouin representatives and residents of several unrecognized villages.

1. EQUAL RIGHTS FOR THE ARAB MINORITY IN ISRAEL

Adalah's work on Arab minority rights has shown that targeted advocacy via in-person meetings with embassies in Tel Aviv, Brussels and EU member states, as well as timely updates generates action. Adalah continues to achieve strong concluding observations from UN treaty bodies and statements by the Special Rapporteurs on Israel's human rights record. A key challenge is to "make the international work local" to ensure that these favorable texts are used locally to make real change on the ground.

US and EU Reports Highlight Discrimination against Arab Citizens of Israel

The US and the EU both released their annual human rights and progress reports on Israel in 5/12. The US State Department called the "institutional and societal discrimination" against Arab citizens of Israel one of the country's top three human rights issues of the year in its [Country Report on Human Rights Practices in Israel in 2011](#). The EU stressed that "progress on the situation of the Arab minority was limited" in its [2011 Progress Report on Implementation of the European Neighborhood Policy](#). Adalah submitted reports to the US State Department and to the EU to contribute to their human rights reports.

Read: [Briefing paper to the EU](#); | International Advocacy Director Rina Rosenberg, ["Words are not Enough,"](#) Ha'aretz, 6/12

Key Advocacy Document – "New Discriminatory Laws and Bills"

Adalah continued to update and widely distribute its key advocacy document, ["New Discriminatory Laws and Bills"](#) in 2012. As of 11/12, the document discussed 31 new pieces of legislation targeting Arab citizens' rights, 20 of which were enacted into law by the Knesset during the Netanyahu-Lieberman government of 2009-2012.

UN CERD Calls on Israel to End Racial Discrimination

In 3/12, the [UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination](#) (CERD) released its [Concluding Observations](#) (COs), following its review of Israel. Adalah submitted an [NGO report](#) to CERD in 12/11 focusing on Israel's systematic discrimination against Palestinian citizens. In 2/12, Adalah Attorney Orna Kohn ([interview](#)) participated in the review session in Geneva, and also met with Special Rapporteurs (SRs) and diplomats with NGO partners. FIDH facilitated the visit. [Press Release](#)



UN HRC Poses Tough Questions to Israel concerning Palestinian Citizens' Rights

In 8/12, the UN Human Rights Committee (HRC) posed 26 questions to Israel in its "List of Issues" regarding its compliance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR). Nine of these 26 questions directly related to issues raised by Adalah in its [NGO report](#) to the HRC in 6/12, and in meetings held with HRC members. Israel must respond to the "List of Issues" by 7/13. The HRC questioned the lack of protection of equality in the Basic Laws, the Prager Plan, and inadequate Arab representation in the civil service, among other areas. [Press Release](#)

Justice Ministry Posts UN Recommendations to Israel in Hebrew and Arabic

In 6/12, the Israeli Ministry of Justice (MOJ) posted the translations of numerous “Concluding Observations” issued by UN human rights treaty bodies in Hebrew, making them available for the first time on its website. The MOJ also posted UN translations into Arabic. In 3/12, in advance of International Women’s Day, Adalah sent a letter to the AG requesting that he issue directives to the government to translate and publicize these concluding observations on the rights of women, and ensure their implementation. [Press Release](#)

UN Children’s Rights Committee Questions Treatment of Arab Children

Adalah submitted an [NGO report](#) to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) in 10/12. Adalah’s report focused on inequalities in health care and education between Arab and Jewish children, and other breaches of Israel’s obligations under the Children’s Rights Convention regarding Arab-Palestinian children, including the ban on family unification between Palestinian families. The CRC released its “List of Issues” for Israel in 10/12, in which it asked [several questions that relate directly to the issues raised in Adalah’s report](#).

Input for UN UPR: Israel failed to uphold 2008 commitments on Arab equal rights

Adalah submitted a report and [suggested a list of questions to the UN’s Universal Periodic Review process for Israel in 11/12](#). The report covered: the lack of a constitutionally-guaranteed right to equality in Israel, political participation, representation in the public service, the right to work, the rights to health, social security and equal educational standards, among others. The report was introduced to human rights officers in Geneva by UPR-Info. *Update:* Israel did not appear for its review before the UPR in 1/13. [See Joint NGO statement](#).

UN Expert: Land Model in Israel/OPT Excludes, Discriminates, and Displaces Palestinians



territory, affecting Palestinian communities." [Photos](#) | [Full Report](#)

In 2/12, the UN Special Rapporteur (SR) on Adequate Housing, Ms. Raquel Rolnik, visited Israel and the OPT. Adalah briefed her on our [key concerns](#) regarding the right to adequate housing for Palestinian citizens, and accompanied her on a tour in the Naqab. In her [strong preliminary conclusions](#), the SR accused Israel of implementing “a land development model that excludes, discriminates against and displaces minorities in Israel, which is being replicated in the occupied

UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression Concerned about Speech Limits

In 12/11, Adalah and human rights activists [briefed](#) the UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression, Mr. Frank La Rue, during his visit to Israel/OPT. His [report, issued in 6/12, emphasized four relevant issues](#) of concern: (1) Lack of sufficient protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression in domestic legislation; (2) Prior censorship on issues related to national security; (3) Restrictive bills and laws which threaten the right to freedom of opinion and expression, such as the Nakba Law, the anti-Boycott Law, and the Foreign Funding Law as well as various bills proposed to restrict funds to NGOs; and (4) Restrictions on the right to freedom of opinion and expression of minority groups in Israel.



Letter to the UN Special Rapporteur on World Water Day

In 3/12, on the occasion of World Water Day, Adalah sent a [letter](#) to the UN Special Rapporteur on Water asking that he call on Israel to provide equal, adequate access to water to all its citizens – Jewish and Arab - in the Naqab. [Photos](#)

Disability Rights: Call to Address Inequalities for Arab Children with Special Needs

In 11/12, on the occasion of International Day of Persons with Disabilities, Adalah issued a new call to the Israeli government to address gross inequalities in health and educational services for Arab children with special needs, which have left twice as many Arab children suffering from severe disabilities as Jewish children in Israel.

2. PRISONERS' & DETAINEES' RIGHTS

Adalah's work on prisoners' and detainees' rights shows that local events (for example, in the case of the Gilad Shalit-prisoner exchange in 2011 and the mass hunger strike in 2012) generates interest even among decision-makers who are not usual allies. Adalah undertook much of its advocacy for prisoners and detainees' rights in the context of our EU Torture project, with partners PHR-I and Al Mezan. Adalah also worked with the Public Committee Against Torture in Israel (PCATI), Addameer and Al Haq.

Success

UN Committee Against Torture (CAT) and the UN Human Rights Committee (HRC) Question Israel's Use of Torture and Cruel, Inhuman, or Degrading Treatment

In 7/12, the UN CAT released its "List of Issues for Israel; [37 of 59 questions regarding Israel's compliance](#) with CAT relate to issues raised in our joint NGO Report to the Committee. In 8/12, the UN HRC released [its respective "List of Issues"](#), with 10 of the 26 questions asked relating to issues raised by the partners in our NGO report.



Adalah, PCATI, PHR-I and Al Mezan submitted reports [to the UN Committee Against Torture \(CAT\)](#) in 3/12, and to the Human Rights Committee, which monitors the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) in 6/12.

The reports describe Israel's lack of compliance with both the CAT and ICCPR in its practices, which include:

- The "ticking time-bomb" justification for torture in interrogations;

- Illegal shackling, prolonged solitary confinement, inhumane conditions of confinement during interrogation, and severe restrictions on “security prisoners”;
- A culture of impunity for torture: the 700 complaints filed against the GSS and the prison service over the last 10 years have all been dismissed without prosecutions;
- The illegal punishment of the hunger-strikers by the Prison Service;
- The cruel and degrading treatment of Palestinian civilians in Gaza including the illegal closure; the harassment and arrest of fishermen; the denial of medical permits for those needing treatment out of Gaza; and the continued impunity for Operation Cast Lead.

Read: Ha’aretz (Akiva Eldar), [“The man who turned opportunism into an art form”, 24 July 2012](#)

Prisoners’ Rights Advocacy before the EU in Brussels

During the mass hunger strike staged by Palestinian prisoners, representatives of Adalah, PHR-I, Al Mezan, and PCATI, together with the NGOs’ European Advocacy Coordinator, conducted an advocacy visit to Brussels in 5/12 to push for more active EU engagement with Israel to end torture and ill-treatment of Palestinian prisoners. The delegation met with a range of EU actors, Belgian jurists, and civil society organizations. The partners widely distributed a joint [briefing paper](#), which was also signed by [Addameer](#). [Press Release](#)

After six weeks, in 5/12, the hunger strike ended in an agreement between the prisoners and the Israel Prison Service. The partners, together with Al-Haq and Addameer, released a second [briefing paper](#) in 6/12 detailing Israel’s failure to comply with the agreement in reducing administrative detention, lifting some of the most severe prison conditions, and allowing family visits for prisoners.

As a result of our work, the partners achieved favorable language in a **European Parliament (EP) Resolution of 5 July 2012** (paragraph 11), in which the EP calls for “an end to administrative detention”, “access to fair trial for all Palestinian detainees”, and “the release of Palestinian political prisoners”, especially members of the PLC, and welcomes the agreement to end the hunger strike and calls for “its full and immediate implementation”.

Briefing for UN Special Committee Investigating the Human Rights of the Palestinian People

In 7/12, Adalah Attorney Fatmeh Ajou' joined a delegation of human rights NGO representatives in briefing the UN Special Committee on the issue of prisoners and detainees' rights. The Committee [expressed concern about Israel's treatment of children](#), especially during interrogation and detention. [Report](#)

3. EU-ISRAEL RELATIONS

Our work on EU-Israel relations has demonstrated that an NGO voice from Israel – Adalah, PHR-Israel and PCATI - calling for the same aims and supporting the messages of some international human rights groups (e.g., regarding conditionality, inconsistency) is essential and unique.

EU-Israel Association Council Criticizes Israel for Human Rights Violations

In 7/12, the [EU-Israel Association Council sharply criticized Israel](#) for a wide range of human rights violations in Israel and the OPT. The [statement](#) also emphasized the importance of

protecting Arab minority rights in Israel, freedoms of human rights defenders, and civil society organizations to be able to continue their work, and criticized policies such as administrative detention. At the same time, despite recognition of these violations, the Association Council also indicated that the EU will significantly enhance joint economic activities with Israel: 60 concrete activities in over 15 specific fields. In response, Adalah, PHR-Israel and PCATI issued a joint statement noting that: “While it is crucial that the EU continue to raise concerns about human rights violations by the Israeli government, the EU statement demonstrates an alarming inconsistency between practice and rhetoric, and we fear that it may only promote additional impunity.” [Joint Statement](#)

NGO Recommendations to the EU in Preparation for EU-Israel Local HR Strategy

In 6/12, Adalah, together with PCATI, PHR-I, and Amnesty International submitted a joint letter to numerous EU bodies and permanent representative offices. The letter set forth five recommendations for EU human rights priorities for Israel for the next three years: 1) prisoners and detainees; 2) the Arab minority including the Bedouin; 3) migrants and asylum seekers; 4) human rights defenders and freedom of expression, assembly and association; and 5) IHL violations by Israel against Palestinians in the OPT. [The letter](#)

EMHRN and Partners’ Advocacy: EU-Israel HR Committees, ENP Progress Report

In 10/12, Adalah and its partners participated in an EMHRN advocacy mission in Brussels to discuss human rights concerns with EU officials for the upcoming EU-Israel Informal HR Working Group and the 2012 ENP Progress Report. In 11/12, Adalah submitted a [new report on key human rights concerns in 2012](#) to the EU in advance of these meetings and reports.

4. INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS/TRAININGS

EMHRN EU Advocacy Trainings and Working Group (WG) on Palestine/Israel



EMHRN organized a meeting for European NGOs held in Paris in 5/12 that brought together around 40 human rights experts from Israel, the OPT, and Europe. Adalah’s International Advocacy Director Rina Rosenberg gave an opening presentation on European advocacy on the rights of the Palestinian Arab minority. The main focus of the training was on EU positions concerning human rights violations in the OPT, and NGO advocacy work in this regard. Adalah also participated in an EMHRN-led EU advocacy training in Tel Aviv in 2/12 for human rights NGOs based in Israel. Adalah attended WG meetings in Paris in 5/12 and in Brussels in 10/12, where participants discussed joint advocacy priorities and objectives. Adalah’s International Advocacy Director is the facilitator of the

group. Local members include Adalah, the Arab Association for Human Rights (HRA), B’Tselem, PCATI, Al Mezan, PCHR, and Al Haq.

EMHRN Gender Working Group (GWG) and Women’s Rights Workshop

Adalah Attorney Sawsan Zaher participated in a meeting of the EMHRN GWG held in Cyprus in 4/12, entitled “How to Guarantee Women’s Rights in Political Transitions in the Arab World:

Developing Joint Strategies.” Adalah and EMHRN partners also held a meeting to discuss the rights of Palestinian women and the European Neighborhood Policy (ENP).

EMHRN Seminar & General Assembly

Adalah Board member Hussein Abu Hussein participated in a seminar in Rabat, Morocco in 2/12 on the theme of “Reform of Judiciaries in the Wake of Arab Spring” convened by the EMHRN, in cooperation with Moroccan human rights organizations. Approximately 60 judges, lawyers, and researchers from 15 countries in the Euro-Med region attended. Adalah Board member Odeh Bisharat participated in the EMHRN’s General Assembly in 6/12 in Copenhagen, together with representatives of 74 member organizations in the Euro-Mediterranean region.

Human Rights Committee of IPU: Protecting the Rights of Arab Parliamentarians

Adalah continued to work with the Committee on the HR of Parliamentarians of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), a multilateral organization that brings together 155 national parliaments. The IPU is monitoring the cases of: MK Haneen Zoabi, MK Mohammed Barakeh, and the parliamentarians from the Palestinian Legislative Council, whose Jerusalem residency has been revoked by the Israeli Interior Ministry.

Networking and cooperation with the UN Protection Cluster Working Group

Adalah participated in meetings of the UN Protection Cluster Working Group (PCWG) hosted by the OHCHR. Adalah gave presentations to the Cluster on its major Supreme Court cases and its work before UN human rights committees.

PILNet & Heinrich Boell Conferences

Adalah General Director Hassan Jabareen participated in a PILNet – Global Network for Public Interest Law conference held in Tunisia in 3/12. The conference aimed to create a forum for Arab public interest lawyers. Participants emphasized that Adalah was the first Arab legal center to use strategic litigation. In 10/12, Attorney Sawsan Zaher spoke on two panels at an annual international conference hosted by the Heinrich Boll Foundation with the German-Israeli Working Group for Peace in the Middle East (diAk).

Lectures in London for Lawyers and Law Students

In 11/12, Adalah General Director Hassan Jabareen delivered lectures on discriminatory laws in London sponsored by British Friends of Neve Shalom/Wahat al-Salaam and lawyers’ groups. Hassan also led a class of around 40 law students at the Center for Transnational Law, a consortium of law schools from around the world on Adalah’s litigation experiences and the concept of “Transnational Lawyering”.

Academic Lectures: Stanford Law School & Yale Law School

Adalah Attorney Sawsan Zaher gave a lecture by invitation in 10/12 at Stanford University Law School in California, at an [“International Public Interest Lawyering Symposium: Advancing Gender Equality through Human Rights”](#). She participated in a panel on “Lessons learned from the global gender equality movement”. Adalah General Director Hassan Jabareen presented a research paper at the [Human Rights Workshop at Yale School Law in 10/12](#) on how the Palestinians in Israel became a minority.

LEGAL EDUCATION

Figures

Activities	Planned 2012	Achieved 2012
Training for Lawyers and Law Students	Host 1-2 stagaires, law student interns	Hosted 9 local stagaires, law students and NIF and OSI LLM fellows; 4 legal and HR advocacy interns from abroad (13)
	Partnerships with US law school clinics	Organized mission to Naqab for 6 students from Fordham Law School; clinic partnerships with Harvard, Yale, and University of Virginia law schools
	Professional Lawyers Training course	30 lawyers participated in 10 session course on “Representing Detainees”
	Arab Law Students’ Conference	70 students participated in 7th annual conference, held over 3 days
Seminars and Conferences	3 events	Expert roundtable, forced displacement
	Int’l Practitioner/Experts workshop	Citizenship and Residency in Israel and the OPT
	20-30 lectures to universities, NGOs	40+ lectures and presentations
Publications	12 vols. of trilingual newsletter; increase subscribers	Published 11 volumes, sent to over 18,000 subscribers; launched new design and distribution system
	“On Torture” journal	Published 1,500 copies of the trilingual journal and distributed widely
	Articles and Commentaries	19 items published in newsletter
	Position Papers	8 position papers
Media and Public Outreach	Issue 70+ PRs, interviews	Issued 136 PRs; 11 issues widely covered
	Public outreach and campaigns	Conducted 78 study tours in the Naqab for 1,500 people; launched Stop Prawer Campaign
	Tri-lingual Websites	New websites launched & updated
	Social Media Outreach	Expanded Facebook friends from 1,053 to over 7680 (as of 12/12); increased presence, actions and visibility on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube

Overview

Through its legal education work, Adalah seeks to share its legal knowledge and practical experience with a wider range of law students and young lawyers in order to create a new generation of Palestinian lawyers trained in human rights legal advocacy; to contribute to and shape Israeli legal discourse and international discourse on minority and indigenous rights, and human rights law in general; and to increase local and international visibility of the violation of rights of Palestinians in Israel and the OPT in order to better promote and defend these rights.

A **key success** of Adalah's public outreach and educational work in 2012 was to raise awareness among thousands of people in Israel and abroad about the consequences of the Prawer Plan, the importance of the Arab Bedouin community's participation in planning and decision-making, and the need to recognize the unrecognized villages, as well as to generate interest and mobilize NGOs, community groups and journalists. Adalah did so by leading 78 educational study days in the Naqab for about 1500 people, initiating a series of educational lectures throughout the country for Arab and Jewish groups, launching a public, electronic campaign, and conducting extensive media outreach. The result of this work was to some extent, to slow down the implementation of Prawer Plan.

Adalah also had achievements in 2012 regarding the training of law students and lawyers. Adalah trained 9 local legal apprentices, law students and LLM fellows, and 4 international students, among the highest number of students ever in Adalah. This group brought a youthful spirit and energy to the organization, as well as valuable legal research and technical computer skills. Adalah also held its 7th Annual Arab Law Students Conference attended by 70 students; convened its third professional training course, attended by 30 lawyers in Beer el-Sabe on "Representing Detainees during Arrest and Interrogation"; and worked with several US law school clinics and students for legal research throughout the year.

Further in 2012, Adalah took major strides in its electronic and social media outreach. Adalah launched its new trilingual websites and re-designed its monthly electronic newsletter to simplify its production and its distribution system so as to more effectively track readership. The new websites are also connected to Adalah's Facebook page and Twitter account so that new posts are widely distributed across various platforms. Adalah also increased our Facebook friends from 1,053 to over 7,680 (as of 12/12). Adalah did so by creating new social media items for Facebook, rather than using old media techniques on new media platforms. Adalah also increased its presence on the web through new partnerships with Jadaliyya and +972 Magazine, as well as its visual presence and advocacy through the publication of photographs, videos, and posters. Adalah succeeded to institute all these advances, a main priority of the organization.

The section opens by highlighting Adalah's key public outreach and educational success on the Prawer Plan. It is then divided into the following sections: Training of Law Students and Lawyers; Workshops & Conferences; Publications; and Media Outreach.

Successes

Public Outreach and Educational Campaign to Stop Prawer and Recognize the Arab Bedouin Villages



Adalah launched a public outreach and media campaign to “Stop Prawer” and to promote the recognition of the unrecognized villages in 2012. **With this campaign, Adalah succeeded to slow down the implementation of the Prawer Plan**, potentially the largest single act of forced displacement of Arab citizens of Israel since the 1950s, to raise awareness in Israel and abroad about its consequences, and to generate interest and mobilize NGOs, community groups and journalists.

A major aspect of the campaign consisted of **educational study tours**. Adalah led **78 study tours in the Naqab for about 1,500 people** to show the effects of the plan on Arab Bedouin communities. Visiting delegations included donors, international organizations and networks, journalists, the UK Task Force, embassy representatives, local and international university students, and faith-based groups.

Adalah also initiated a **series of educational lectures** entitled “Bringing the Naqab North” on the Prawer Plan to Arab communities and institutions in Nazareth, Majdal Krum, Taibeh, and Kawkab. Adalah also gave lectures on the Prawer Plan to NGOs.

Further Adalah [launched](#) its **first public, electronic campaign** to “[Stop the Prawer Plan](#)” in 7/12. The campaign slogan “I am Invisible, because you refuse to see me,” refers to the willful blindness of the Israeli government towards its most vulnerable citizens. The campaign features tri-lingual posters of six Arab Bedouin threatened with displacement, photographed and designed by Jenny Nyman, and a [video](#). Additional actions included three Facebook pages in [Arabic](#), [Hebrew](#) and [English](#), and an [online petition](#).

Adalah also undertook **extensive media** initiatives including hosting an Arab and Israeli Jewish journalists’ educational tour with the I’lam Media Center in advance of Land Day; providing in-depth tours for international journalists; writing and publishing op-eds and giving numerous interviews in the Hebrew and Arabic media. Commentaries in Adalah’s Newsletters included: [Four Reasons to Reject the Prawer Plan](#), by Dr. Thabet Abu Rass and Professor Oren Yiftachel, 2/12 and [The Arab Bedouin and their Lands in the Naqab – The Tribal Dimension of Steadfastness](#), by Dr. Thabet Abu Rass, 5/12.

Training for Law Students & Lawyers

Legal apprentices, law students and LLM Fellows



In 2012, Adalah trained 9 local legal apprentices, law students, and LLM Law Fellows in its offices, the highest number ever for Adalah of new young lawyers. These students and young lawyers worked closely with Adalah's General Director and lawyers on the full range of their legal cases, and on legal education projects. All gained valuable professional experience through this work, and they brought a youthful spirit and excitement to the office as a whole.

Seven legal apprentices and law students worked with Adalah including: Fadi Khoury (Haifa University), Soheir Asaad (Hebrew University), Fadi Suidan (Carmel Academic Center), Sereen Elsalah (Hebrew University), Maria Zahran (Haifa University), Myssana Morany (Haifa University) and Mohammad Bassam (Tel Aviv University). Two new law fellows also joined Adalah's legal staff in the fall of 2012: Attorney Nadeem Shehadeh, who completed an LLM at American University in Washington, DC and is working at Adalah as a fellow from the New Israel Fund; and Attorney Jalal Dakwar, who is continuing his Open Society Institute fellowship at Adalah after completing an LLM at the Central European University in Budapest, Hungary.



Adalah also trained 4 international legal and human rights advocacy interns in 2012. Deryck Ramcharitar (University of Windsor Law School) and Lauren Herman (Harvard Law School) were legal fellows with Adalah during the summer; Aaron Kates-Rose (University of Toronto, NIF Fellow) volunteered for nine months before attending NYU Law School; Amjad Iraqi (University of Toronto) started his year-long internship in the fall. We also wish to thank Tarek Masri for volunteering in the summer of 2012.

Adalah's 7th annual Arab law students' conference, "Rights on Campus"



In 10/12, Adalah held its [7th Annual Law Students' Conference](#), focusing on the subject of "Rights on Campus". **70 Arab law students** from colleges and universities across the country gathered for three days to attend the event. The conference included a field tour, expert seminars and lectures by leading human rights lawyers, a human rights fair in which NGOs distributed information and materials about their work as well as volunteer and work opportunities for the students, and practical legal

workshops. According to one of the participating students, Rabi'a Ighbariyya, who is studying at Tel Aviv University, "The conference was a great place for Arab law students to discuss issues that are not raised at Israeli universities." [Program](#) | [Photos](#)

Working with law students and legal clinics at US law schools



Adalah's Naqab Office hosted six students from Fordham Law School in 3/12 on a week-long fact-finding mission to the Naqab on the lack of access to water in the unrecognized villages. The students prepared a [preliminary report](#), which they presented at the law school. See the students' blog: legalright2water.blogspot.com

Adalah has also developed valuable partnerships with US law schools, where law students conduct comparative legal research to support Adalah's litigation. Adalah worked with the University of Virginia Law School, the Harvard Law School Human Rights Clinic, and the Schell Center for Human Rights at Yale Law School.

Lawyers' training on "Representing Detainees during Arrest and Interrogation"



Adalah organized and convened a professional training course for **30 lawyers** on "Representing Detainees during Arrest and Interrogation" in the spring of 2012. The 10-session, 5-week training course held in Bir el-Sabe (Beer Sheva) was designed to provide Naqab-based lawyers with practical tools and information on Israeli and international law with regard to the rights of prisoners and detainees, torture and ill-treatment. The course featured lectures by

expert lawyers and academics in such fields as representing demonstrators in civilian and military courts; detainees' rights during detention and interrogation; and the use and prevention of torture and ill-treatment. The participants in the course provided very positive feedback. The trainings also offered an important opportunity for Adalah to expand its network of lawyers. This training was the third offered by Adalah on this subject; prior courses were held in Haifa and in Jerusalem. [Program](#) | [Photos](#)

Workshops & Conferences

Adalah held two expert workshops in 2012: one on "Citizenship and Residency in Israel and the OPT", and the other on "Forced Displacement in Israel and the OPT". Both of these issues affect thousands of Palestinian citizens of Israel and Palestinians living under occupation in the OPT. Adalah staff and Board also gave **40+ lectures** by invitation from Israeli universities, NGOs, citizens' groups and others in 2012 on a wide range of human rights subjects.

International experts' workshop on citizenship and residency



In 11/12, Adalah convened an [international experts' workshop](#) in Jerusalem on "Citizenship and Residency in Israel and the OPT". The 40 participants, local and international lawyers, practitioners and experts, appraised the available legal and other means of challenging Israeli policies that limit Palestinians' rights to citizenship and residency. Adalah will publish workshop papers as well as other articles in 2013. [Program](#) | [Photos](#)

Expert roundtable on forced displacement in Israel and the OPT

In 9/12, Adalah and Ben-Gurion University held an [expert roundtable discussion](#) entitled "Considering Forced Displacement: Shared Human Rights Challenges, Strategies and Solutions." The discussion attended by over 30 representatives of civil society organizations, lawyers and academics drew on the participants' experiences of advocating against displacement on both sides of the Green Line.

Publications

Adalah, Physicians for Human Rights-Israel and Al Mezan publish "On Torture" journal



In 6/12, Adalah marked the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture with the publication of a new journal, [On Torture](#), together with partners Physicians for Human Rights-Israel and Al Mezan. The journal includes articles, written by local and international experts, on the current state of torture in Israel, efforts being taken to fight it, and analysis of the damaging effects it can cause. Many of the articles were produced in connection with Adalah's two-day expert workshop, ["Securing Accountability for Torture and CIDT: New Trends and Comparative Lessons,"](#) which took place in 4/11. Copies of journal were distributed to practitioners, embassies, donors, international NGOs, and academics interested in torture and Israel/OPT.

Adalah's Newsletter



Adalah published **11 volumes** of its trilingual, electronic newsletter to approximately **18,000 subscribers** in 2012. The newsletter features the latest news updates on cases and international advocacy initiatives, special features, upcoming events, photo galleries and other multimedia items. Further, Adalah solicited and published **19 commentaries, legal analysis pieces, case reviews and interviews** in its 2012 newsletters. Many of these items were re-posted and shared on the websites of new partners, [Jadaliyya, +972](#), and others.

Examples of **Case Reviews** published in the Newsletter include:

- [The 2004 military operations in Gaza](#), by Adalah for Al Haq, PCHR and Adalah, 2/12
- [The Israeli HCJ and Israel's Quarrying Activities in the OPT](#), by Valentina Azarov, 2/12
- [Pardoning Protesters against the Disengagement from Gaza](#), by Keren Michaeli, 7/12

Adalah maintains an [archive](#) of past articles and commentaries published in the Newsletter on its website. New newsletters are also regularly posted through Adalah's Facebook and Twitter accounts, and to Israel/OPT listservs. The newsletters reach an audience of journalists, donors, embassies, diplomats, NGO staff, academics, and thousands of others.

In coordination with the launch of our new website, in 6/12, Adalah launched a re-design of the newsletter. The fresh, new look uses software that greatly enhances the ability of our media and advocacy teams to also track the interests of our readers.

Position papers

Adalah published **8** new position papers in 2012, in addition to international advocacy reports, briefing papers and commentaries.

Arab Bedouin in the Naqab

- [Understanding the Praver Plan Law](#), 4/12
- [Arab Bedouin of the Naqab - Myths and Misconceptions](#), 4/12
- [Jurisdiction and Proper Planning of Beer Sheva](#), with ACRI and Bimkom, 6/12

Arab MKs & The Elections

- [Briefing Note on Adalah's Representation of Arab Members of Knesset](#), 5/12 and 6/12
- [Elections Q&A: The 2013 Israeli Elections and Arab Parliamentarians](#), 12/12

Prisoners' Rights & OPT

- [Denying the Right to Legal Counsel to Exert Pressure on Palestinian Detainees](#), with PHR-I and Al-Mezan, 4/12
- [Inhuman Conditions of Imprisonment of Palestinian Security-Classified Prisoners in Israeli Prisons](#), with PHR-I and Al-Mezan, 7/12
- [The Truth About Gaza: The Occupation, The Siege, and the Context for War](#), 11/12

Adalah also regularly published updates on its current pending cases, providing complete updates to our **Litigation Docket** in [January](#), [April](#), [June](#) and [October](#). The document details the status of pending Adalah cases, and provides a list of recent decisions.

Media Outreach

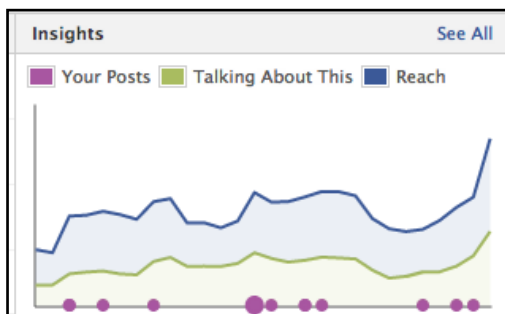
Adalah's new website



Adalah launched its [new tri-lingual website](#) in 2012. The new websites feature an updated look that highlights Adalah's work through better graphics, structure, and photos. The website also has a streamlined content management system that allows staff much greater control for uploading and upgrading content. Traffic analytics help staff to monitor visits, set goals, and see which pages on the site are the most popular. The websites are also connected to Adalah's [Facebook page](#) and [Twitter account](#) so that content can be easily spread across multiple platforms. Adalah also began work on making the websites much more of an information resource, as a "go-to website" for a wide variety of easily accessible materials on the legal status of Palestinians in Israel.

Social media

Facebook: Adalah greatly expanded its activities on social media networks in 2012. Adalah consolidated its [Facebook presence](#), and then launched its first paid advertising campaign, which increased its daily reach exponentially. Together, these steps have increased Adalah's Facebook direct audience by over 600%, and our Facebook page has over 7,680 fans (as of 12/12) and is growing constantly. Adalah regularly posts press releases, new media items, engages with news reports, and highlights partners' work on its Facebook page.



New materials especially created for Facebook are increasing Adalah's Facebook popularity dramatically and helping the organization to spread its message and gain supporters.

Adalah created several successful "memes", using humorous or ironic images to highlight important human rights issues, such as a [re-designed logo for the Tel Aviv municipality](#) to include Arabic and a [Bedouin 'Back to School' Checklist](#) to highlight the lack of electricity in many schools. These items were then reported on and discussed in the mainstream Israeli media.

Twitter: Adalah's [Twitter account](#) updates automatically from its Facebook posts, creating a simple way to ensure that Adalah reaches out to the "Twitterverse". Adalah's tweets are also re-posted often by a wide range of Twitter personalities. Adalah also sent live updates and Tweets from the Central Elections Committee during the elections disqualification cases in 12/12, and other newsworthy events.

Photo Slideshows

In 2012, Adalah also produced new photo slideshows, distributed through Facebook and on Adalah's website, including:

- For World Water Day: A photo slideshow on [Access to Water in the Unrecognized Bedouin Villages](#), published in three languages, 3/12
- For World Health Day: Photos on [Open Sewage Flows through Umm Batin](#), 4/12
- Photos from [Adalah and I'lam Media Center's journalists' tour in the Naqab](#), the [Victor J. Goldberg IIE Prize](#), [Lawyers' Training](#), the [South African Ambassador's visit to the Naqab](#), the [7th Annual Law Students' Conference](#), and the [International Legal Workshop on Citizenship and Residency](#).

Selected media coverage

As Adalah enlarges its new/social media presence, it also remains very active in its mainstream media outreach. In 2012, Adalah issued 136 press releases to Arabic, Hebrew and English-language news outlets. Adalah regularly briefs journalists in print, radio and internet media, and TV providing analysis of cases and new legal developments

Figures: Adalah's work was noted in international English-language printed/electronic media in 2012 at least [60 times](#). Coverage included: The Guardian, Al Jazeera English, BBC, the New York Review of Books, and Ma'an. Adalah's work was noted in the **English-Israeli print/electronic media** at least [74 times](#). Coverage included Ha'aretz English (50 times), Ynet News, the Jerusalem Post, Israel Hayom, and +972 Magazine. **A list of English news articles featuring Adalah's work can be found in a new website page: ["Adalah in the News"](#)**

The Hebrew media reported on Adalah's work about **125 times** in 2012. The main news outlets covering the work included: Ha'aretz; Globes, The Marker and Calculist (financial papers); NRG, Walla, Ynet (Hebrew websites), and Israeli radio such as Galatz Sahel and others.

Adalah's work was mentioned in international Arabic media more than **330 times**. Adalah staff appeared **24 times on Arabic TV**: 10 times on Al Jazeera, 5 times on MBC, 6 times on Palestine TV, and 3 times on BBC Arabic. Adalah also appeared frequently on Palestinian radio (OPT). Adalah's work appeared at least **650 times in the local Arabic** printed/electronic media. News outlets included Kol el-Arab, Arabs48, the Naqab News, etc. Adalah appeared at least **35 times** on local Arabic radio (Radio Shams, Kol Israel, etc.)

Features:

- On the Supreme Court's decision concerning the Citizenship Law (ban on family unification) case, Al Jazeera English conducted a [video-interview](#) with Adalah General Director Hassan Jabareen, and "London and Kirschenbaum", a popular nightly news show on Israel TV [Channel 10](#), interviewed Adalah Attorney Sawsan Zaher (Hebrew).



- For Land Day (30 March), Adalah and the Ilam Media Center organized a field study tour for 25 Arab and Israeli Jewish journalists in the Naqab. Print, radio, TV and internet journalists visited unrecognized villages and studied the latest Israeli plans to dispossess the Arab Bedouin of their land and concentrate them in centralized urban townships. Al Jazeera broadcast "Live from the Naqab". [Press Release](#) and [Photos on Facebook](#).



- Adalah's General Director Hassan Jabareen was quoted in an article by Dimi Reider, [Israel: The Knesset vs. Democracy](#) in the New York Review of Books, 15/3/12
- Adalah Attorney Suhad Bishara gave a lecture following the screening of short films made by director Rachel Leah Jones for Adalah, including "Targeted Citizen", at the [2012 London Palestine Film Festival](#) in 4/12.
- Ha'aretz English published an op-ed by Adalah's International Advocacy Director, Rina Rosenberg, entitled [Words are not enough](#) on 1/6/12, providing analysis on the recently released US State Department Country Report and the ENP Progress Report on Israel.
- In 9/12. Adalah and the Civic Coalition for Defending the Palestinians' Rights in Jerusalem (CCDPRJ) organized a [press conference](#) on the planning authorities' rejection of all objections, including one submitted by Adalah and the CCDPRJ in 11/08, to the Jerusalem Regional Master Plan. The plan clearly aims to exclude Palestinians from the city, consolidate Israeli control of the land, and maintain a Jewish demographic majority.
- Ynet News published an op-ed by Adalah Attorney Sawsan Zaher on 30/12/12, in [Hebrew](#) and [English](#), criticizing the AG's concealment of information that would have cleared MK Haneen Zoabi from any wrongdoing during the Gaza Freedom Flotilla.

Below are examples of 11 Adalah cases that received widespread media coverage:

- The Supreme Court's decision in 1/12 to uphold the **Citizenship Law** and the ongoing ban on family unification between Palestinians, received the most coverage of all of Adalah's cases. It was covered by news outlets such as [Al Jazeera English](#), [BBC](#), the [Guardian](#), multiple pieces in [Ha'aretz](#) and the [Jerusalem Post](#), the [Los Angeles Times](#), [MSNBC](#), the

[Telegraph](#), [Xinhua](#) and many others. Hebrew coverage included [Maariv](#), [Ynet](#), and [Israel Hayom](#). Arabic coverage included [Al-Hayat](#), [Al-Sharq](#), [Al-Awsat](#), [Al-Ghad](#) and [Kul Al-Arab](#), among others.

- The Supreme Court's decision to reject Adalah and ACRI's **Nakba Law** petition in 1/12 was also covered by [Ha'aretz](#), [Israel National News](#), [Jerusalem Post](#), [JTA](#), [Al-Jazeera English](#), [Sama News](#), [Arabs48](#) (Arabic), [Walla](#), [Globes](#), [Ha'aretz](#) (Hebrew) and both a [news article](#) and [Op-Ed](#) in +972 Magazine. Further, in 5/12, in response to the cancellation of Nakba Day protests at Israeli universities and Adalah and ACRI's defense of the students' right to protest, various OpEds were published in the [Jerusalem Post](#), [Ha'aretz](#), and [Israel Hayom](#). Arabic coverage included [Bokra](#), [Arabs48](#) and [Tolab48](#).
- Adalah's efforts to halt the displacement of the Arab Bedouin living in the Naqab as part of the **Praver Plan**, or as a result of new government decisions were covered by [Ha'aretz](#); [Jerusalem Post](#); [Ha'aretz Op-ed](#); [IRIN](#); [WafaNews](#); [Arabs48](#); [Panet](#); [Wanet](#); [Alarab.net](#); [Al-Hadath](#); [Al-Ayam](#); [Alternative Information Center](#). Adalah's objection to "Intelligence City" in the Naqab was covered by [Jerusalem Post](#); [Al-Hayat](#), [Al-Shams](#); [Al-Naqab.net](#), [Panet](#), [Yalanet](#); [pls48.net](#).
- Adalah's cases concerning the state's attempt to demolish and evacuate the Arab Bedouin unrecognized village of **Atir-Umm al-Hieran** was covered by: [Ha'aretz](#), [Al-Khaleej](#), [Addustour](#), [Alhayat](#), [Aljadedah](#), [Radio Ashams](#), [Wanet](#), [Palestinians 48](#), [Alarab.net](#), [Bokra.net](#), [Elemarat](#), [Syria today](#), [IRIN](#).
- Adalah's representation of lawyers and human rights organizations challenging the obstacles imposed by the Israel Prison Service on visits to **hunger-striking prisoners**, and the police violence against demonstrators in solidarity with the prisoners were covered by multiple articles in [Ha'aretz](#), [Ha'aretz](#), [+972 Magazine](#), [Ha'aretz](#). These cases were very widely reported on in Arabic media: [Panet](#), [Bokra](#), [Al Jabha](#), [Al Arab](#), [PNN](#) and in [Ha'aretz](#) (Hebrew). Adalah's demand for a criminal investigation into police violence against the demonstrators appeared in [+972 Magazine](#), [Ha'aretz English](#) and [Hebrew](#), and in Arabic in [Arabs48](#), [Ashams](#), [Safa](#), [Kasheef](#), and [Al-Arab](#).
- Adalah and ACRI's petition to the Supreme Court against the "**Boycott Law**" appeared in the [Jerusalem Post](#) and widely in Arabic media in [Panet](#), [Al Quds al-Arabi](#), [Al Arab](#), [Arabs48](#), [Haifanet](#), and in Hebrew in [Ha'aretz](#). The hearing on the petition was reported by [Jerusalem Post](#) and [Ha'aretz](#).
- Adalah's petition to the Supreme Court against a discriminatory program that provides **free tickets for children in Jewish towns to cultural events** during school holidays, called 'Afikomen,' was reported on by Ha'aretz in [English](#) and [Hebrew](#), [Walla](#) in Hebrew, and in the Arabic media in [Panet](#), [Al Arab](#), [Al-Jabha](#), and [Akka Net](#).
- The Israeli Supreme Court's decision to accept Adalah's petition against a discriminatory law that granted **income tax exemptions** to residents of Jewish towns while ignoring neighboring Arab towns, appeared widely in Hebrew, including on [YNet](#), [Calcalist](#), [Nana10](#), and in the Arabic media on [Arabs48](#), [Ashams](#), and [Panet](#).

- Adalah's involvement in preventing a **Wine and Beer Festival** from being held inside the Big Mosque in Bir el-Sabe was covered in English by [Al Arabiya](#), [Ma'an News](#), [Ha'aretz](#), and [Al Jazeera English](#), in Arabic by [Al Akhbar](#), [Arabs48](#), and [Al Jazeera](#), and in Hebrew by [Ha'aretz](#) and [NRG](#).
- Following police brutality and arrests of 19 Bedouin residents of **Bir Hadaj** during a raid to post demolition orders, Adalah's representation of the detainees appeared in [+972 Magazine](#), Ynet News ([English](#) and Hebrew), Ha'aretz ([English](#) and [Hebrew](#)), and received coverage in Arabic in [Al Jabha](#) and [Arabs48](#). Adalah also took [photos of the incident](#) and shared them on its Facebook page.
- Adalah's representation of Arab political parties, Balad/Tajammu' and Ra'am-Taal, and MK Haneen Zoabi against **election disqualification motions** from right-wing parties received extremely widespread coverage in all of the Hebrew newspapers, radio and TV, in English from the [Guardian](#), [Jerusalem Post](#), [Ynet News](#), [Ha'aretz](#), [+972 Magazine](#), and [Israel HaYom](#), and in Arabic newspapers including [Al-Akhbar](#), [Al-Mustaqbal](#), [Al-Hayat](#), [Al-Quds Al-Arabi](#), [Masrawy](#), [France 24 \(Arabic\)](#), [Al-Ahram](#), and [Assafir](#).

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

With its institutional development work, Adalah seeks to become a more effective and efficient organization by further institutionalizing its organizational processes and procedures and securing financial resources for its activities as well as for Adalah's long-term sustainability.

Successes

Human Rights Award for Top Lawyering



In 06/12 Adalah's General Director, Attorney Hassan Jabareen, and the Legal Advisor to the Association for Civil Rights in Israel (ACRI), Dan Yakir, were awarded the [2012 Victor J. Goldberg IIE Prize for Peace in the Middle East](#) for promoting the rights of Arab citizens of Israel. The award was presented at ceremony held at the American Corner/Arab Jewish Community Center in Jaffa, hosted by the [Institute of International Education](#) (IIE) in cooperation with the US Embassy in Tel Aviv. [Photos](#) Hassan was also appointed as a Senior Robina HR Visiting Fellow at **Yale Law School** for 2012-2013.

Attorney Zaher Recognized as "40 Under 40" Promising Talent



Adalah Attorney Sawsan Zaher was [named one Israel's most promising young talents](#) by the Marker Magazine's "40 Under 40" project in 7/12. The Marker Magazine wrote: [It is] 'her fighting spirit, total commitment and up-close knowledge of the hardships and distress of the people she represents which will enable her to win many battles in the future.' Adalah also congratulates Sawsan for participating in the inaugural "Women and Public Service Institute" in 6/12 at Wellesley College, one of the leading women's colleges in the US. This prestigious program brought together 50 women leaders from around the world.

Highest Budget in Adalah's History

In 2012, Adalah achieved the highest annual budget in its history, over US \$1.4 million from 14 foundation donors and individual contributors. Three new donor partners awarded grants to Adalah for its work in representing protestors, bringing cases to secure the right to health, and convening expert legal workshops and publishing articles. Adalah also secured new grants for our work on behalf of the Arab Bedouin in the Naqab for 2013 and 2014.

Board of Directors and General Assembly

First Woman Chair of the Board



Adalah's new Board of Directors, elected at the General Assembly (GA) meeting in 12/11, held its first meeting in 01/12. During this meeting, Dr. Hala Khoury-Bisharat (Advocate) was elected the first woman Chair of the Board for Adalah. Dr. Khoury-Bisharat is a lecturer in law at Carmel Academic College, as well as an adjunct lecturer with different faculties of law in Israel. She has been on Adalah's Board of Directors since 2007.

New Board Members Elected

This meeting also welcomed three new board members as elected by the GA: Odeh Bisharat (Spokesperson of the Municipality of Yafta Nazareth and contributor to Ha'aretz), Hussein Abu Hussein, Advocate (Private human rights lawyer) and Khalil Al-Amour (teacher from the unrecognized Arab Bedouin village of Al Sira in the Naqab). Outgoing Board members were Board Chairman Dr. Mahmoud Yazbak; Advocate Fuad Sultany; and Professor Mohammad M. Haj-Yahia. Adalah's Board of Directors and Finance Committee held periodic meetings throughout the year to discuss major programmatic issues, upcoming campaigns and financial and administrative matters.

General Assembly

Adalah held its annual General Assembly (GA) meeting in 12/12. Adalah has 46 GA members. At this meeting, the GA discussed and approved Adalah's 2011 Annual Report of Activities and Audited Financial Report. These documents were also distributed to all donors, and received high praise for the quality of reporting. The GA also discussed a report of Adalah's Control Committee. As Adalah fulfilled all reporting requirements, Adalah received a "certificate of good governance" from the Registrar of Associations for 2012 (and 2013).

Organizational Manuals and Systems



In 08/11 Adalah began a process of organizational consultancy with Sadara Business Consulting Group, led by Dr. Basel Ghattas, the former General Director of the Galilee Society. The main goal of the process is to set a new organizational structure and draw up an administrative manual for Adalah. It is also meant to reflect and build on recommendations of an evaluation team.

Adalah also began working in late 2012 with consultants through donor-consortium NGO Development Center (NDC). The consultants are helping Adalah to improve its archiving systems, intern and volunteer orientation, and social media outreach as well as to strengthen its computerized financial systems.

Board-Staff Workshops



Adalah's Board and staff say, "Stop Praver"! Jericho, July 2012

Adalah held two two-day Board-Staff workshops, one in 02/12 and the other in 7/12. At these meetings, the Board and staff discussed and approved the annual work plan and budget, identified challenges and work priorities, assessed new trends and legal developments, and evaluated Adalah's projects and institutional developments.

EU Torture Partners' Meeting



In 5/12, Adalah, PHR-I and Al Mezan held a two-day partners' meeting in Brussels. The organizations have been working together since 2009 on an EU-funded project to combat torture and ill-treatment of Palestinian prisoners and detainees incarcerated in Israeli prisons as well as civilians living in the OPT. The partners used the meeting to evaluate our work, and to plan for how to take it forward in future initiatives.

Staff Development

- In 05/12, Adalah's General Director, Hassan Jabareen, and Office Manager Fathiyya Hussein participated in an "Art of Leadership" course at the [Rockwood Leadership Institute](#).
- Adalah's International Advocacy Director, Rina Rosenberg, was appointed a Schell Center Visiting Human Rights Fellow for 2012-2013 at Yale Law School. In this capacity, Rina is working with clinic students on two legal research projects for Adalah, and participating in human rights workshops and seminars at Yale.

- In 11/12, Adalah Attorney Aram Mahameed participated in a course on "The Justiciability of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights: Theory and Practice" held by the Institute for Human Rights at the Abo Akademi University in Finland.
- In 11/12, four Adalah staff members participated in a course organized by Christian Aid on project monitoring and evaluation.
- In 3/12-5/12, Adalah Media Director Salah Mohsen participated in an Arabic-language media course given by 'Ilam Center for Media.
- From 2/12-3/12, Adalah Attorneys Sawsan Zaher and Rami Jubran participated in seminars given by the Israeli Bar Association on protecting the rights of disabled children.

Fundraising and Finances

New grants to Adalah

During 2012, Adalah succeeded to further diversify its sources of income with new short-term and longer-term grants to the organization.

- **UNDP:** This project includes support for Adalah's expert legal workshops and the publication of articles, case reviews and briefing papers.
- **Medico International (Germany):** This grant supports the promotion of health rights among Palestinian citizens of Israel.
- **NIF (donor-advised):** This grant supports Adalah's work in protecting the "right to protest", including training and the legal representation of demonstrators.

Adalah also succeeded to secure new grants for its work in 2013 and 2014 on protecting the rights of the Arab Bedouin living in the Naqab.

- **EU Naqab:** A new EU grant to work with the Negev Coexistence Forum on litigation, advocacy, education and media outreach.
- **Christian Aid (UK):** This grant supports the making of a short film and other multi-media products in 2013.

Outreach

In 04/12, Adalah's General Director, Hassan Jabareen and International Advocacy Director, Rina Rosenberg travelled to the US for 10 days with the support of the Ford-Israel Fund to meet with US-based donors and potential donors, and to strengthen ties with US law schools.

In 05/12, Nadia Ben-Youssef, Adalah's International Advocacy consultant, participated in the 2nd Annual EIDHR (European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights) [Forum for Civil Society](#) in Brussels.

Donors and contributors

Foundations donors to Adalah in 2012 are:

- The Ford-Israel Fund (USA)
- Open Society Development Foundation (Switzerland)
- OxfamNOVIB (The Netherlands)
- The European Union
- New Israel Fund (USA and Israel)
- The Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (Switzerland)
- EED (Germany)
- Christian Aid (Great Britain)
- Broederlijk Delen (Belgium)
- Sigrid Rausing Trust (Great Britain)
- NGO Development Center (Ramallah). Consists of the pooled funds of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), the Royal Danish Representative Office to the PA, the Swedish International Development Cooperation (Sida) and the Netherlands Representative Office to the Palestinian Authority (PA) channeled through the NGO Development Center (NDC) – HR/GG secretariat.
- ACSUR – Las Segovias (Spain)
- UNDP (Ramallah)
- Medico (Germany)

We sincerely appreciate and thank all contributors for their support to Adalah.

Board and Staff



Board of Directors

Chairperson, Dr. Hala Khoury-Bisharat, Advocate
Dr. Khaled Abu Asbah
Hussein Abu Hussein, Advocate
Khalil Alamour
Odeh Bisharat
Dr. Mas'ud Hamdan
Salma Wakim, Advocate

Audit Control Committee

Jeries Rawashdeh, Advocate
Khalid Dagash, Advocate

Staff

Founder and General/Legal Director: Attorney Hassan Jabareen

Legal Department

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights: Director, Sawsan Zaher; Attorney Rami Jubran (until 04/12); Mohammed Bassam, law student

Land and Planning Rights: Director, Suhad Bishara; Attorney Aram Mahameed; Mysanna Morany, law student

Civil and Political Rights: Director, Hassan Jabareen; Director of Criminal Justice, Orna Kohn; Attorneys Rima Ayoub-Assaf and Fatmeh El-Ajou; Soheir Assad and Fady Khoury (through 2/12), legal apprentices; Maria Zahran, law student

Law Fellows, 2012-2013: Nadeem Shehadeh (NIF), Jalal Dakwar (OSI-CEU)

Media and Public Relations Department

Director: Salah Mohsen

Arabic Media: Majd Kayyal

Hebrew Editors: Ran Shapira, Yasmine Halevi

Multimedia Coordinator: Jenny Nyman

International Advocacy Department

Director: Rina Rosenberg (Jabareen), Esq.

IA/Publications Coordinator: Katie Hesketh

IA Coordinator: Alyssa Bernstein

Administration and Finance Department

Finance Director: Ghassan Kharouba, CPA

Office Manager: Fathiyya Hussein

Accountant: Basheer El Saleh

Administrative Assistant: Suheir Badarne (through 7/12) and Reem Zoabi

Housekeeper: Alia Saadi

Naqab Office

Director: Dr. Thabet Abu Rass

Field Worker: Muhammad Mahajna

International Law & Advocacy: Nadia Ben-Youssef (Consultant)

Housekeeper: Tatyana Rosenberg