

Adalah's Annual Report of Activities 2014

Issued June 2015



*The closing ceremony of Adalah's 9th annual Arab law students' conference,
Neve Shalom-Walat al-Salam, October 2014*



Table of Contents

Introduction	3
Context	4
Legal Action	6
International Advocacy	28
Legal Education	36
Institutional Development	47

Introduction

What's Inside

This report highlights Adalah's successes and the main outcomes of activities conducted from January to December 2014. As this report reflects, Adalah achieved numerous successes in our legal representations through our impact litigation cases and legal interventions before the Israeli courts and state 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 achieved successes and important partnerships through our international advocacy. In addition, Adalah trained lawyers and law students, issued new publications, and engaged in extensive outreach to Arabic, Hebrew and English audiences via social media, multi-media and print and electronic media campaigns, and public events. Adalah staff and board members also presented at and participated in conferences to which they were invited, both in Israel and abroad.

This report presents our work throughout the year in four areas: Legal Action, International Advocacy, Legal Education, and Institutional Development. We hope that this report provides readers with a useful and informative presentation of our work.

The views expressed in this report are those of Adalah and do not reflect the official position of the European Union or any other donor to Adalah.

Who Are We

Adalah ("Justice" in Arabic) is an independent human rights organization and legal center with offices in Haifa in the north and Beer el-Sabe (Beer Sheva) in the south. Established in November 1996, Adalah aims to promote human rights in Israel in general and the rights of the Palestinian Arab minority in particular. This work includes promoting and defending the human rights of all individuals subject to the jurisdiction of the State of Israel. Adalah chose its aims based on the needs of the Palestinian community, and the domestic and international human rights and humanitarian legal frameworks available for minority groups and civilians living under occupation. In order to achieve these goals, Adalah:

- Brings impact litigation cases before Israeli courts and legal interventions before various state authorities and land planning committees;
- 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.

Contact Us

Main Office

94 Yaffa Street, PO Box 8921

Haifa 31090 Israel

Tel: +972 (4) 950-1610

Fax: +972 (4) 950-3140

Email: adalah@adalah.org

Website: www.adalah.org

Naqab Office

90 KKL Street

Beer Sheva 8420158

Tel: + 972 (0) 8 665-0740

Context

Numerous sweeping political changes took place in Israel/Palestine in 2014. A major overall change was the collapse of the Israeli-Palestinian peace negotiations in April, which resulted in a total lack of political horizon to guide events for the rest of the year. One consequence was the Palestinian prisoners' hunger strike, which began in April and lasted for 61 days. The hunger strikers demanded the end of Israel's use of administrative detention. The Israel Prison Service (IPS) imposed a series of punitive measures in order to suppress and end the strike, and the government attempted to enact legislation to sanction the use of force-feeding. Adalah and its partners undertook legal cases challenging restrictions on lawyers' and doctors' visits, the shackling of hunger strikers to their hospital beds 24-hours a day, among others; and initiated successful advocacy against the force-feeding bill.

In mid-June, three Israeli teenagers were kidnapped and killed in the occupied West Bank. This event led to a tremendous escalation of violence beginning with Israel's large-scale military operations in the West Bank, including the widespread arrests of Hamas activists. Also in June, extremist Israeli Jewish youth brutally killed Palestinian teenager Mohammed Abu Khdeir in Jerusalem. Soon thereafter, in the summer of 2014, Israel launched a devastating 51-day war on the Gaza Strip. In response to these events, Palestinian citizens of Israel took to the streets and to social media platforms to protest against the violence and killings and the war on Gaza.

These events affected Adalah's program implementation in several ways. In response to the largest wave of protests, arrests and detentions since October 2000, Adalah represented dozens of youths at detention hearings and provided extensive legal advice to demonstrators. As observed by a fellow human rights defender, the Israeli security forces and the courts used many similar methods in Israel against Palestinian citizen protestors as they use against Palestinians in the West Bank and in the military courts. For example, numerous youths received warnings and requests for "talks" with the GSS/police, essentially "marking" protestors in an attempt to scare them; the police often refused to give authorization for protests, claiming that they were a dangerous threat to public order; the police frequently declared in advance that assemblies were illegal; a large number of minors were arrested and police failed to follow the special rules for their treatment; the police arrested protestors as groups and the court upheld "group detentions" for lengthy periods of time, without providing any individual or particularized evidence, as required by law; and prosecutors issued many indictments, particularly against Arab Bedouin protestors, and demanded lengthy times of pre-trial detention and house arrest. Israeli Jewish protestors did not receive this treatment; most were not detained at all or were released within 24 hours. In addition to direct representation, Adalah urged the Attorney General (AG) to investigate all of these illegal practices, and conducted extensive media work to call attention to these policies.

Further, Palestinian citizens of Israel experienced unprecedented levels of racism and racial incitement during this period both by government officials as well as by Israeli Jewish citizens. 2014 saw a dramatic increase in "price tag" attacks in Arab communities in Israel (a trend that is migrating from the West Bank to Israel), and Adalah called upon the AG to seriously investigate these incidents and prosecute those responsible. Moreover,

particularly during the war on Gaza, many Arab citizens faced dismissals from their jobs, attempts to suspend them from the universities, or other warnings and sanctions from work colleagues, employers, and university administrators for their Facebook posts criticizing government policies and the war. Government ministers also incited against the Arab community, calling them traitors and threatening to revoke their citizenship. Adalah worked closely with Arab NGO partners to provide legal advice and assistance to Palestinian citizens in this regard, and with the High Follow-up Committee for Arab Citizens of Israel, which also demanded an investigation by the AG against incitement by governmental officials.

The war on Gaza resulted in the killings of 2,200 Palestinians and the injury of 11,000 more. Around 75% of those killed and injured were civilians. Thousands of homes, hospitals, schools, mosques, and other civilian objects were totally destroyed. In response, Adalah cooperated with Al Mezan in Gaza and filed complaints into about 20 incidents to the Military Advocate General (MAG) and the AG demanding independent, criminal investigations into these suspected war crimes and crimes against humanity. To date, the MAG has opened investigations into two of our cases, while he has refused to open investigations in most others, claiming that the army proceeded against military targets in a proportionate way. Several other complaints remain pending. Adalah will continue to correspond with the MAG concerning the cases. Adalah also submitted a report to the UN Commission of Inquiry (COI) on Gaza in early 2015. Notably, the Palestinian Authority accepted the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and signed the Rome Statute at the end of the year, and in 1/15, the ICC launched a preliminary investigation into events from mid-June 2014.

Significant changes also took place regarding discriminatory legislation. Adalah continued to monitor and challenge new laws such as the “Governance Law” that increased the election threshold from 2% to 3.25% required for political parties to obtain seats in the Knesset. This law was enacted in March 2014 and became extremely relevant as the Prime Minister called for new elections in December 2014. This law affected Arab political parties in particular, as historically they have received less than 3.25% of the vote, and thus calls for one united Arab list became very prominent (the Arab parties then ran as a Joint List in the March 2015 elections and obtained 13 seats in the new Knesset). Adalah and ACRI challenged the new law before the Supreme Court, which dismissed the case in an 8-1 vote in 1/15.

A further example of the Supreme Court’s reluctance to intervene in Knesset legislation was its rejection of petitions in September by Adalah and ACRI against the “Admissions Committees Law”, which allows 434 small communities built on ‘state land’ in Israel to deny applicants housing on the basis of “social suitability.” The court ruled that the case was not ripe, as the law has not yet been applied; however, hundreds of Arab citizens, as well as other marginalized groups, have been denied housing based on these policies over the years. The Supreme Court’s “non-interventionist” approach has led Adalah, as well as other human rights organizations, to refrain from bringing more impact litigation before the court as the chances of success have decreased. Due to this reluctance to intervene and other political circumstances, as noted above, Adalah’s caseload became much more defensive, and focused on protecting individuals’ rights throughout 2014.

I. Legal Action

During 2014, Adalah submitted **18 new cases and appeals** and **55 legal interventions**, represented close to **70 political protestors** at detention hearings, and continued to follow up on all pending cases before Israeli courts and land planning committees. Adalah achieved **12 wins** and had **12 losses**.

Successes in 2014

Land Rights

District Court rejects state's home demolition plans for Arab Bedouin village of Alsira



Since 2006, Adalah has been representing the Bedouin residents of Alsira, an unrecognized village in the Naqab (Negev), against the state's plans to demolish their homes and force the people to leave their ancestral lands, so that the state may use it for other purposes. In 2011, Alsira won a precedent-setting decision from the Magistrates' Court ordering the immediate cancellation of 51 demolition orders against their homes. The state then [appealed the decision](#) to the Beer Sheva District Court in 2012. In a second major win, in 5/14, the [District Court rejected the](#)

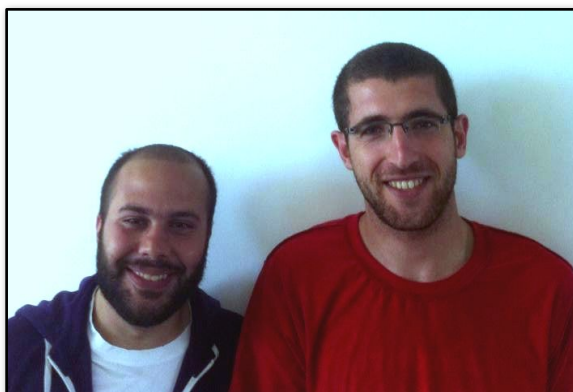
[state's appeal](#). The judge wrote in her [decision](#): "The appeal revolved around a village that was built before the state's establishment, and has existed since without any problems...there would need to be a strong and genuine public interest to justify the need for uprooting 350 people from their homes and displacing them."

- Shirly Seidler, "[Court rejects state's request to demolish Bedouin village](#)," *Ha'aretz*, 1 May 2014

- Amjad Iraqi (Adalah IA Coordinator), "[Bedouin village wins major ruling as court blocks state's demolition plans](#)," *+972 Magazine*, 6 May 2014

Freedom of Expression

Arab students' right to commemorate the Nakba defended at Haifa University



In 5/14, Arab student clubs at Haifa University sought to hold an event on campus to mark Nakba Day (15 May), a national day of mourning for Palestinians. However, university officials decided to prohibit the event, claiming that it would "pose a threat to public safety". The students then held a demonstration on campus to protest the university's decision, and observed a moment of silence for the Nakba. The Dean of Students decided to expel two student leaders, Tareq

Yassin and Ahmad Masalha, for these acts, and later banned all Arab student clubs' activities until the end of the semester. Lecturers from Haifa University and other Israeli universities sent a letter of protest to the university administration, and students circulated an online petition against the treatment of left-wing groups and Arab students.

Adalah represented the students and the student groups in several proceedings before Haifa University tribunals, the Haifa District Court, and the Supreme Court (SCT). In 5/14, the Haifa District Court [cancelled the university's decision to expel the students](#) and ordered their return to the university, accepting Adalah's arguments that the Dean of Students had exceeded his authority by taking this step. However, in a separate opinion, the court decided to uphold the ban on Arab students' club activities, and Adalah appealed to the SCT in 6/14. Following the submission of the appeal, Haifa University announced that it would lift the ban on the clubs' activities.

- Yonah Jeremy Bob, "[Students protesting Nakba to return to campus](#)," *Jerusalem Post*, 21 May 2014
- Yarden Skop, "[Judge orders return of suspended Haifa University Students](#)," *Ha'aretz*, 21 May 2014

Indictments withdrawn against activists protesting home demolitions in Al-Araqib

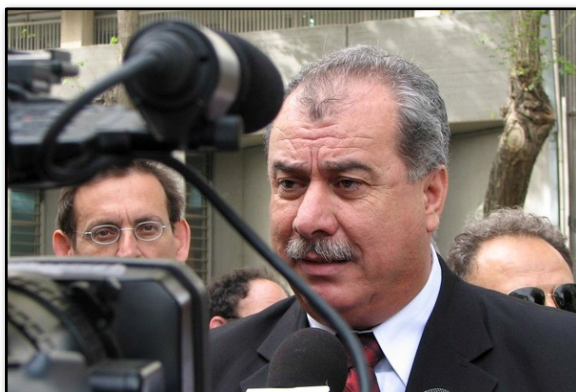


Many activists and villagers were arrested and injured during protests against home demolitions in 2010 and 2011 in the unrecognized Bedouin village of Al-Araqib in the Naqab. Since 2012, Adalah has represented 10 individuals on 14 criminal indictments before the Beer el-Sabe Magistrates' Court against charges including attacking police officers and disrupting public order. By the end of 2014, Adalah had succeeded in its representations of protestors on 13 indictments, including [three in the first half of 2014](#). In these 13 cases, the court cancelled or acquitted the individuals of numerous charges,

or the state prosecution withdrew its indictments. *Update: The last indictment, against the head of the village Sheikh Sayyah al-Touri, on charges of forcibly taking control of land and failure to obey orders to leave the land, [was dismissed in February 2015](#).*

- [Background on Al-Araqib by the Negev Co-Existence Forum](#)
- [Photos of Al-Araqib \(Adalah Facebook\)](#)

MK Barakeh acquitted of one charge, appeals conviction of another charge



Adalah has been representing Arab MK Mohammed Barakeh, former head of the Democratic Front for Peace and Equality (Hadash or al-Jabha), in a criminal case in which he was charged with four different offenses relating to anti-war and anti-Wall protests over the course of several years. During the proceedings, following Adalah's preliminary motions, the court dismissed two of the four protest-related charges, finding that they fell within his parliamentary immunity. In 3/14, the court [acquitted MK](#)

[Barakeh of the charge of assaulting an undercover officer](#) during a protest against the Separation Wall in Bil'in in the West Bank in 2005. However, the court convicted MK Barakeh on the fourth charge of assaulting a right-wing activist during a protest against the War in Lebanon in 2006; in this incident, MK Barakeh tried to prevent the activist from assaulting peace activist and former MK Uri Avnery, aged 85 at the time. The court sentenced MK Barakeh to [pay a NIS 650 fine](#). Adalah [appealed against the conviction](#) in 6/14. *Update: In 5/15, the Tel Aviv District Court overturned the conviction; MK Barakeh is now cleared of all charges.*

- Yonah Jeremy Bob, "[Arab-Israeli lawmaker gets light sentence of small fines for scuffle with protester](#)," *Jerusalem Post*, 24 April 2014

- Revital Hovel, "[Arab MK fined for assaulting man in 2006 demonstration](#)," *Ha'aretz*, 24 April 2014

Arabic Radio Ashams Permitted to Broadcast on Yom Kippur



In 10/14, the Supreme Court (SCT) issued [an injunction](#) ordering the Second Television and Radio Authority (STRA) to allow Radio Ashams, the most-listened-to Arabic radio station in Israel, to broadcast on Yom Kippur, the Jewish day of Atonement. The court delivered this injunction based on a petition filed by Adalah and the I'lam Media Center on behalf of Radio Ashams and in their own names, which

challenged an STRA regulation prohibiting Arabic radio stations from broadcasting on the holiday. Adalah argued that the ban on broadcasting violates fundamental rights of both the radio station owner and of the station's 300,000 listeners. It is impermissible to impose Jewish holidays on Arab communities, as it violates their freedom of expression and their right to dignity. *Update: The SCT will hear the case again in July 2015 on principle issues before delivering its final decision.*

- Ariel Ben Solomon, "[Adalah files petition against Broadcasting Authority over Yom Kippur broadcast ban](#)," *The Jerusalem Post*, 10 February 2014

- "[Israeli-Arab radio to continue broadcast during Yom Kippur](#)," *Times of Israel*, 3 October 2014

Freedom of Employment & Freedom of Movement

Journalist Majd Kayyal released after five days incommunicado detention



In 4/14, the Israeli security authorities arrested Majd Kayyal, a 24-year old journalist and web editor at Adalah, while crossing from Jordan to Israel. Kayyal was returning from a conference in Beirut, Lebanon, that he independently attended to mark the 40th anniversary of the "As-Safir" newspaper, to which he is a frequent contributor. Kayyal was accused of travelling to an 'enemy state' and having contact with a foreign agent. The court imposed a sweeping 'gag order' on the case, prohibited him from meeting with a lawyer, and extended his detention without

clear justification. Adalah submitted urgent motions and appeals to all levels of Israeli courts challenging these multiple rights violations. Following five days of incommunicado detention, [the court lifted the gag order](#), and Kayyal was released several hours later. This case received the most media attention of all of Adalah's legal representations in 2014.

- Isabel Kershner, "[Arab-Israeli activist is moved to house arrest](#)," *New York Times*, 17 April 2014
- Gideon Levy & Alex Levac, "[Kayyal speaks out after Shin Bet interrogation](#)," *Ha'aretz*, 26 April 2014
- Salah Mohsen (Adalah Media Director), "[How one Palestinian citizen challenged Israel's 'enemy state' policy](#)," *+972 Magazine*, 19 April 2014

Fighting Racism in Children's Sports

Israel Football Association retracts decision segregating children's football teams



In 10/14, Adalah [filed a petition](#) to the Tel Aviv District Court on behalf of a family demanding the cancellation of the Israel Football Association's (IFA) decision to divide the children's national football league. The division would have effectively created segregation between Israeli Jewish teams and most Arab teams in the Triangle area (in the center of Israel). In its response in 10/14, the IFA hinted that the division was based on requests for separate and not mixed leagues from Israeli

Jewish families. In 11/14, the Tel Aviv District Court held a hearing on the case, in which the IFA agreed to mix the leagues and to add new Jewish teams to the Hashomron league. The IFA declared that it will not create or support any separation within the league between Arab and Jewish teams. They also agreed to hear Adalah's suggestions on issues relating to mixed leagues, for advancing educational values and league assignments.

- Annie Robbins, "[New Israel Fund partners with Israel Football Association on racism project as IFA segregates Israeli youth league](#)," *Mondoweiss News*, 10 November 2014
- Yonah Jeremy Bob, "[Normally mixed soccer league sued for allegedly booting some Arabs into separate division](#)," *The Jerusalem Post*, 22 November 2014

Litigation

I. Land and Planning Rights

Unrecognised Arab Bedouin Villages

Saving Atir & Umm al-Hiran



Adalah continued to work to save the twin unrecognized Bedouin villages of Atir and Umm al-Hiran (1,000 residents) in the Naqab. The villages are slated to be demolished and the land used to expand a Jewish National Fund (JNF) sponsored forest called "Yatir" (over Atir), and to build a new Jewish town named "Hiran" (over Umm al-Hiran). Adalah has represented the residents for 10 years before Israeli courts and in land planning committees against the home demolition orders and eviction lawsuits.

Supreme Court poses sharp questions to state in eviction lawsuits

In 6/14, the Israeli Supreme Court (SCT) held an additional hearing on Adalah's appeal against the eviction of residents from Atir-Umm al-Hiran. There was a significant breakthrough when one of the Justices asked the state's representatives to answer a central question that was not previously asked by the court: ["Why not integrate the homes of Umm al-Hiran into the area's new master plan?"](#) The state claims that a detailed master plan has been put in place to build 2,400 new housing units in the area, and that the homes in Atir-Umm al-Hiran do not fit into that plan. The justice retorted that the government's plan for the area can change since "the plan is not part of the ten commandments." The court ordered the parties to negotiate, however it was unsuccessful as the state basically refused to reconsider the master plan and wants to go forward with Hiran for Israeli Jewish citizens only. *Update: In 5/15, the SCT dismissed the petition against the evictions in a 2-1 ruling; see Adalah's website for more details on our campaign to save the village.*

Beer Sheva District Court stays further proceedings on eviction cases

A further 19 eviction lawsuits against residents of Umm al-Hiran are pending before the Beer Sheva District Court. At a hearing on this appeal in 4/14, the court decided to stay the proceedings on all of these lawsuits pending the SCT's decision in the related eviction cases (see above).

SCT upholds home demolitions in Umm al-Hiran; Magistrates' Court grants another stay

In 5/14, Adalah submitted a motion for permission to appeal to the SCT, following a decision by the Beer Sheva District Court [rejecting Adalah's appeal to cancel 33 demolition orders](#) against the homes of the residents of Umm al-Hiran. While the District Court accepted Adalah's argument that the state moved the Abu Al-Qian tribe to the village in the 1950s, it also ruled that this fact did not justify their "illegal" building of structures. [The SCT rejected Adalah's motion in 9/14](#); and also rejected Adalah's motion to reconsider in 12/14. As a result, Adalah filed a motion to the Magistrates' Court to delay the implementation of the demolition orders. This motion was accepted, and the orders were frozen until the middle of 3/15. *Update: In 2/15, Adalah again approached the Magistrates' Court to postpone the demolitions, and the court agreed to do so until the end of 5/15, on the condition that the residents each pay NIS 5,000 as a financial guarantee. Adalah also challenged this ruling, unsuccessfully and the villagers paid over NIS 100,000. The home demolitions case remains pending.*

Appeal against "Yatir Forest and Park" rejected

On behalf of residents of Atir, Adalah and Bimkom submitted an appeal to the National Council for Planning and Building in 3/13 against the rejection of the objection to the "Yatir Forest" Plan No. 264/03/11 in 6/12. The plan, initiated by the Jewish National Fund (JNF), seeks to demolish homes in Atir and displace the Bedouin residents, and to plant trees in their place. In 10/14, the Council rejected the appeal. However, it also rejected the option of home demolitions outside of the regular judicial process. It is likely that the plan to expand the forest will not be implemented before the legal situation concerning Atir is clearer.

Adalah's Newsletter, ["Invisibility Cloak: A village and a detainee,"](#) April 2014 and ["Can Israel demolish an Arab village to build a Jewish one?"](#) November 2013

Bedouin homes in Al Fur'a under threat of demolition due to delayed master plan

In 6/14, Adalah sent a letter to the Attorney General (AG) calling for the freezing of legal proceedings against the residents of the Arab Bedouin village of Al Fur'a in the Naqab. The residents are being charged with building houses without permits. The letter stated that despite the recognition of the village in 2006 and that the planning authorities entrusted the development of the master plan for the village to engineering offices in 2009, there has been no progress whatsoever in the master plan.

Thus there is no choice for the residents but to build without permits. Adalah requested that the legal proceedings be frozen until the planning process for the village was completed. The AG responded that each family must individually ask for legal proceedings to be frozen. Adalah will continue to follow up.

Demanding safe roads to schools in Al Amal and Tal-Arad

In 12/14, Adalah sent a letter to the Ministries of Transportation and Education and the Regional Council of Al Kassoum demanding the opening of safe roads to schools in Al Amal and Tal-Arad, two unrecognized Arab Bedouin villages in the Naqab, as per the government decision from [2009](#), following Adalah's cases in this regard. Over 1000 children attend these two schools. The Regional Council responded that this was a matter for the Ministry of Transportation, which has not replied to Adalah's letter. Adalah is considering how to best proceed.

Housing Rights

Supreme Court rejects petition against "Admissions Committees Law"



In 9/14, in [a 5-4 decision](#), the SCT dismissed petitions brought by Adalah and the Association for Civil Rights in Israel (ACRI) against the "Admissions Committees Law" enacted in 2011. The law allows for 434 small Israeli Jewish communities built on 'state land' to reject applicants for housing based on the criteria of "social suitability" and the "social and cultural fabric" of the town. The law allows for the possibility of rejecting applicants who are Palestinian Arab citizens of Israel, as well as other marginalized groups, solely on the basis of their race, ethnicity, religion, or other identity. The Court ruled that the petition is premature or not "ripe" for a judicial ruling, despite the fact that scores of applicants were arbitrarily refused admission to the towns based on these policies.

- Revital Hovel and Jack Khoury, "[High Court upholds residential screening law, enabling Jewish villages to keep Arabs out](#)," Haaretz, 18 September 2014
- "[Israeli High Court of Justice upholds controversial residential screening law](#)," i24newsTV, 18 September 2014
- Amjad Iraqi, "[Israeli Supreme Court Made Unjust Decision in Upholding 'Segregation Law'](#)," Huffington Post, 30 September 2014
- Bethan Staton, "[Israeli court upholds 'discriminatory' laws](#)," Middle East Eye, 25 September 2014

Residents of Ajami neighborhood enter negotiations for fairer housing

For several decades, the Palestinian neighborhood of Ajami in Jaffa-Tel Aviv has been undergoing an extensive process of gentrification, with poor Arab residents finding it almost impossible to remain in their community. Adalah, together with NGO partners Darna - The Popular Committee for the Protection of Land, ACRI, and Bimkom, filed a petition in 7/13 on behalf of residents [demanding that the ILA change the criteria of its housing construction tenders](#) in the neighborhood in order to allocate property in a way that would benefit the public at large, rather than selling property to the highest bidder. The petition argued that the ILA's policies should "reflect the principle that profits are not the only relevant consideration." In 1/14, Adalah and its partners agreed to withdraw the petition and enter into negotiations.

Petition against refusal to sell apartments to Arab citizens in Afula

In 8/14, the SCT heard a petition filed by Adalah in 12/13 demanding that the ILA and a construction company be ordered to [sell an apartment to an Arab citizen in a new neighborhood in Afula](#) located

in central Israel. The petition was filed after the company refused to sell the man an apartment, arguing that the area was not a “mixed neighborhood.” Adalah argued that the apartments, which were built on state lands managed by the ILA, could not be subject to discriminatory allocation against citizens based on their national belonging. At a hearing in 12/14, the court issued an injunction but requested – illegally - that the construction company give evidence of potential economic damage for also selling homes to Arab citizens. *Update: Next hearing scheduled for 6/15.*

Palestinian citizens receive approval to register apartments on JNF lands

In 1/14, following Adalah's letters to the ILA in 12/13, [two brothers from the Bakri family received approval](#) to register their apartments near Carmiel, which they bought in 2010. They were unable to register them at the Land Registry because the JNF owns the lands on which the apartments are built. Adalah argued that the delay in the registration of the Bakris' properties was a result of clear discrimination by the ILA, and in violation of prior agreements made between the state/the ILA and the JNF before the SCT. Israeli Jewish residents who also bought apartments in the building were able to register their properties without delay.

- Jack Houry, [“Israeli Arabs face red tape when leasing JNF land,”](#) *Ha'aretz*, 23 December 2013

National Priority Area list remains discriminatory against Arab towns

In 4/14, Adalah sent a letter to the AG and the ILA demanding the cancellation of an ILA Council decision, which was approved by the Finance Ministry in 12/12, concerning the designation of National Priority Area “A” towns that are entitled to receive additional benefits, such as land price discounts. Adalah argued that the list was discriminatory and not equitable as the ILA Council included only 26 Arab towns out of a total of 444 towns on the “Area A” list (6% of the list). Adalah contended that the number of Arab towns in Area A should be significantly increased. Several years earlier in 2006, Adalah won a landmark SCT ruling against the government concerning the need for clear selection criteria and even legislation in the allocation of state resources pursuant to NPA policies. In 9/14, the AG requested that the ILA respond to Adalah's complaint. As of 4/15, Adalah has still received no response. [Read Adalah's Position Paper on National Priority Areas, 2010](#)

VAT exemptions for former soldiers and first-time homebuyers is discriminatory

In 5/14, Adalah sent a letter to the Finance Ministry arguing that [providing former soldiers and first-time home buyers with additional tax exemptions is discriminatory](#), and ignores Arab citizens' severe housing crisis. The Israeli media announced that the Ministries of Justice and Finance reached an agreement concerning Value Added Tax (VAT) exemptions for first time homebuyers, and that this plan would be presented to the government for approval. Accordingly, all first time homebuyers would receive an exemption from VAT of 18% on home purchases up to NIS 600,000, and married couples who served in the military would receive an additional tax exemption for first-time home purchases of up to NIS 1.6 million shekels. This legislation was frozen due to the new elections.

- Niv Elis, [“New government criteria for VAT exemptions on housing draw accusations of racism,”](#) *Jerusalem Post*, 12 May 2014

Land Planning

Objection against planned expansion of Wadi 'Ara Road (Road no. 65)

In 7/14, the National Infrastructure Committee rejected an objection filed in 2/13 by Adalah, together with the Arab Center for Alternative Planning (ACAP) and the Public Committee in Wadi 'Ara, [against the planned expansion of Wadi 'Ara Road](#) (Road no. 65 in the center of Israel) into a highway. The plan would lead to the confiscation of vast lands from Arab towns, and ignores the need for standard planning considerations as well as the participation of landowners in planning in the area. The

proposed highway also imposes physical limits that would prevent the expansion of five Arab towns. While Arab towns are overpopulated and lack any extra land, Israeli Jewish towns close to the road have large areas for development and expansion. Despite its rejection of the objection, the Committee adopted very important principles that were raised by the objectors including: (1) the need to minimize areas designated for open scenic areas adjacent to the road; after finishing the road work, all lands that were not used will be returned to their owners; (2) the agricultural roads in the area should be upgraded to urban roads; (3) the plan will not change existing building options; (4) walkways should be added; and (5) areas for confiscation should be decreased.

Master Plan for Mu'awiya does not meet residents' housing and development needs

In 12/14, the District Land Planning Committee rejected Adalah's objection submitted in 12/13 on behalf of the Head of the Basmeh Regional Council and [over 400 residents of the Arab village of Mu'awiya](#) (in the Triangle in the center of Israel) against the Interior Ministry's Master Plan for the village. The Master Plan, the first to be submitted for the village in over 30 years, contained no vision or consideration of the community's urgent needs for economic development and housing. The state developed the Master Plan without any dialogue, participation or representation of the villagers, and it sought to confiscate large amounts of the village's lands while ignoring the fact that the lands are being used for housing that has existed for years. The residents decided not to appeal but to focus on specific planning processes in the northern part of the village.

II. Economic and Social Rights

Education Rights

Connecting Arab Bedouin schools to the electricity network



Adalah filed a Supreme Court (SCT) [petition](#) in 7/13 demanding that 7 schools with approximately 3,000 students located in newly-recognized Arab Bedouin villages in the Naqab be connected to the national electricity grid. The Ministry of Education agreed to connect the schools in 9/13, but by 8/14 the schools remained unconnected and the electricity company informed Adalah that the military had halted its work [due to the Gaza War](#), as these open areas do not have shelters to protect them. *Update: Three schools in Umm Batin are*

now connected to the electricity grid. The other four schools, one in Kohle and three in Alsayyed, are in the process of being connected. The electricity company is due to give the Court an update in 7/15.

Registration of Palestinian children in Beer el-Sabe (Beer Sheva) School

In 9/14, Adalah sent a letter to the Beer el-Sabe Municipality and the MOE on behalf of a Palestinian resident of East Jerusalem now living in Beer el-Sabe. The Municipality refused to register Mr. Abu Jouda's four children in school. Adalah argued that the children have a right to education, regardless of their legal status. Following Adalah's letter, the Municipality registered the children.

Establishing the first high school in the Arab Bedouin village of Al Fur'a

In 2/14, Adalah sent a letter to the MOE and the Al Qasoum Regional Council demanding [the establishment of the first high school in the newly-recognized village of Al Fur'a](#) in the Naqab. Al

Fur'a is home to 5,000 residents, more than 400 of whom are high school aged. Most of the high school students continue their studies outside of the village, with some schools located more than 25 kilometers away. The lack of a secondary school in Al Fur'a causes a dropout rate of 45%. A survey conducted by Adalah confirmed that out of 375 students enrolled in the village's middle school, only 205 students attended high school in the nearby towns. After further investigation and follow-up, Adalah found that it could not bring a successful petition in this matter.

Demanding transport for children in unrecognized villages to preschools

In 12/14, Adalah sent a letter to the MOE and the Al-Qasoum Regional Council demanding that they provide transportation to about 20 preschool-aged children living in the unrecognized village of Alsira so that they could attend preschool. The government has refused to build any preschools in the village, limiting the children's right to education. The MOE denied the request, stating that they have no legal obligation to provide transportation. *Update: After Adalah sent a second letter, the Regional Council replied that they are working on opening more preschools, and that there is a specific MOE order preventing them from providing transportation to already existing preschools. The MOE has not yet replied.*

Letter against discriminatory distribution of university scholarships

In 9/14, Adalah sent a letter to the Bezeq Telecommunications Company demanding that it amend discriminatory criteria for allocating university scholarships to students in Israel. Receipt of the grants requires the completion of military service, from which most Arab youth are exempt. Bezeq replied that Arab students could meet the criteria by completing national civil service. In response, Adalah sent a second letter in 12/14 emphasizing that over 90% of Arab youth perform neither national civil or military service, and thus the company should add criteria to open up the scholarships to more Arab youth.

Right to Health & Water

High water prices in five unrecognized Bedouin villages in the Naqab must be cut

At a SCT hearing held in 11/14, Adalah withdrew [its petition](#) filed on behalf of representatives of five



unrecognized Bedouin villages (pop: 12,000) in 7/13, concerning highly inflated water prices in the Naqab. The petitioners argued that the current pricing system amounts to illegal gains for the Water Authority as villagers are obliged to pay for infrastructure that they do not have access to, such as the national sewage system. However, after the court stated that it would not intervene, Adalah decided to withdraw the case. This case follows a series of Adalah cases and court decisions over the years concerning the lack of access to clean drinking for Arab Bedouin

residents of the unrecognized villages, despite the SCT's 2013 ruling that "the right to water is a constitutional right."

Health clinics must be established in newly-recognized Bedouin villages

In 12/14, Adalah sent a letter to the Health Ministry and the Clalit Health Services demanding the establishment of a [health clinic](#) for the Arab Bedouin residents of Kohleh (pop. 1000) and Makhool (pop. 800) in the Naqab. These villages were recognized in 2003 but still lack most basic services. Currently, village residents have to travel to Kseifeh, 9 km away, to receive medical treatment, which imposes an undue burden, particularly on women and children, as there is no public transportation.

Hospital cannot ban employees from speaking Arabic at work

In 9/14, Adalah sent a letter to [Nahariya Hospital after the hospital banned employees from speaking Arabic](#) at work, violating Arab workers' rights to dignity, freedom of expression, and language rights. About 50% of the patients and a large percentage of the staff are Arab. The hospital responded that it enforces the rule only when workers are in proximity to non-Arabic speaking patients. Adalah refuted this in a second letter, saying that the hospital's letter instituting the rule clearly showed it to be sweeping for all parts of the hospital. No new response has been received.

Employment & Economic Rights

Tax benefits law excludes Arab towns in the Naqab

In 2014, Adalah responded to state motions that requested an extension of deadlines for the implementation of a 2012 SCT decision concerning tax benefits to 2015. The decision came after the SCT accepted petitions filed in 2005 by Adalah, ACRI, and local municipal authorities which [demanded the end of special tax relief for Jewish towns only](#) and sought similar incentives for Arab towns. *Update: The Court has granted the state an extension until 8/15.*

Education Ministry should cancel "Torah studies" as prerequisite for high-level jobs

In 6/14, Adalah sent a letter to the MOE demanding that it remove "Torah studies" as one of the conditions to obtain a high-ranking position at the ministry. The issue was raised when a bid announcing an open position for the Director of the Education Department at the Al-Qasoum Regional Council in the Naqab, comprised of Arab Bedouin villages, required the nominee to hold an academic degree in "Torah studies." Adalah argued that this condition should not be applied to the Arab education system. In its response in 7/14, the MOE stated that Torah Studies is an alternative criterion but does not guarantee the appointment itself since a hiring committee examines all applications. The MOE also noted that appointments based on this criterion are mainly relevant to Jewish religious communities.



Israeli ministries must ensure adequate representation of Arab women in employment

In 5/14, Adalah sent new letters to five Israeli ministries raising concern that Arab women's representation in the government civil service was still well below the quota set by the government. Adalah requested that the ministries provide information concerning the officials in charge of implementing the quota, the budget allocated within the ministries for ensuring the quota's implementation, and the steps being taken by the ministries to guarantee

appropriate representation. Adalah issued a [position paper](#) in 3/13 on Arab women in government employment, summarizing the ministries' work and their response to the demands made in 2008 and 2012. In 6/14, both the Ministry of Communications and the Ministry of Economy responded detailing their efforts to recruit Arab men and women workers, and at the end of 2014, the additional 3 ministries sent the requested information. Adalah is considering its next legal steps.

Nazareth Illit Municipality must ensure adequate representation of Arab workers

In 10/14, [Adalah sent a letter to the Nazareth Illit Municipality](#) urging it to immediately fulfill its legal duty of ensuring adequate representation of Arab workers in the municipality. Although Arab residents constitute more than 17% of the city's population, most departments employ no Arab workers. Further, in 2014, Arab employees within certain departments decreased in number. Adalah is continuing to follow-up.

Canceling NII regulations concerning disability benefits for workers

In 4/14, Adalah sent a letter to the National Insurance Institute (NII), the Minister of Welfare and the AG to cancel Article 15 of the NII regulations. The article states that a special committee is allowed to raise the disability rate up to 50% for employees who are injured during work due to age and professional considerations. The increase aims to allow the workers to receive adequate and just compensation for their injury. However, the regulation also states that it cannot apply to those who have less than 20% disability rate, therefore leaving them without adequate coverage. The NII's main consideration is that those whose disability rate is above 20% will be able to get monthly payments and those who have less than 20% get a one-time allowance. Both Arab and Jewish citizens with disabilities are affected by these regulations. Adalah is continuing to follow-up.

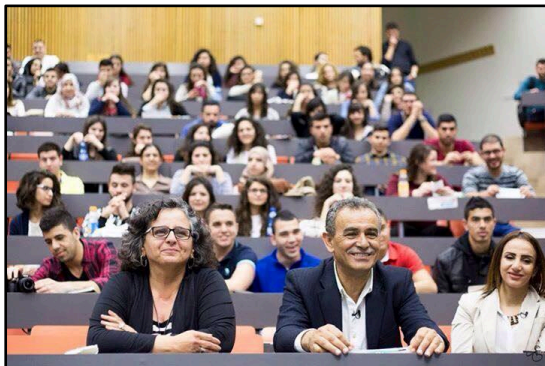
Kosher certificate requirement for importing meat is discriminatory

In 4/14, Adalah sent a letter to the Ministry of Economy demanding the cancellation of Article 2 of the Meat Products Law, which requires a business that imports meat to hold a kosher (kashrout) certificate in accordance with Jewish religious law. Adalah argued that this article is discriminatory as it does not take into consideration Arab citizens, who do not follow Jewish religious law, their freedom of occupation, and the effects of these conditions on Arab businesses that import non-kosher meat. Adalah is continuing to follow up.

III. Civil and Political Rights

Political Participation

SCT dismisses petition against Electoral Threshold Law



In 12/14, nine SCT justices heard a petition seeking to cancel a 2014 amendment to the Electoral Threshold Law, which raised the percentage of votes needed to gain seats in the Knesset from 2% to 3.25%. Adalah and ACRI submitted an *amicus curiae* expert opinion prior to the hearing arguing that the law undermines the parliamentary representation of the Palestinian Arab minority, more than other groups of citizens, and violates freedom of expression rights and the right to equality of Palestinian citizens of Israel. *Update: In*

1/15, in an 8-1 decision, the SCT rejected the petition; the reasons were not specified due to the tight timeline before the March 17 election, requiring that all lists be presented by the end of 1/15.

- Revital Hovel, "[High Court hears petition against law raising electoral threshold](#)," *Ha'aretz*, 29 December 2014
- Yonah Jeremy Bob, "[Court rules not to strike electoral cut-off law; decision could spur uniting of Arab parties](#)," *Jerusalem Post*, 14 January 2015
- Itamar Sharon, "[High Court rejects bid to annul 3.25% Knesset threshold](#)," *Times of Israel*, 14 January 2015

Legal Representations of MK Haneen Zoabi (Balad/al-Tajammu' party)



Adalah represented MK Zoabi, the only Palestinian woman parliamentarian in the Knesset, on three different cases in 2014.

Adalah and ACRI filed a petition to the SCT in 10/14 on behalf of MK Zoabi against the Knesset Ethics Committee's decision of 7/14 to suspend MK Zoabi from all parliamentary meetings for six months (until the end of 1/15). The Knesset voted to suspend MK Zoabi for

statements that she made concerning the kidnapping and later the murder of three Israeli teenagers in the West Bank in mid-June. The petitioners argued that the Knesset lacked the authority to impose such a punishment and that the sanction was totally disproportionate, and that the decision violated MK Zoabi's right to freely express her political opinion and her right to political participation. In 12/14, the Court [rejected](#) MK Zoabi's petition without a full decision.

- Yonah Jeremy Bob, "[High court rejects Zoabi's petition against Knesset ban](#)," *Jerusalem Post*, 10 December 2014
- Revital Hovel, "[High Court raps Haneen Zoabi for remarks on the kidnapped-teens case](#)," *Haaretz*, 9 December 2014
- Mairav Zonszein, "[The Knesset v. Zoabi: Israeli Arab MK's politics put on trial](#)," *+972 Magazine*, 9 December 2014

Adalah also represented MK Zoabi (as a respondent) on a petition filed by MK Dani Danon (Likud) to the SCT against her, the AG and the police, demanding that she be criminally prosecuted for the above-noted statements. The AG had refused to indict and prosecute MK Zoabi for these statements, finding that they did not amount to incitement, and that no crime was committed. Adalah [responded to the petition in 11/14](#). Update: In 5/15, the SCT dismissed the petition.

Adalah is further representing MK Zoabi on an indictment filed against her on charges of incitement to violence, threat and insulting a public employee. MK Zoabi is charged with raging against Arab policemen, calling them 'collaborators' and saying that 'those who collaborate with the oppressor against their people' should be used 'to wipe the floor' and that people should 'spit in their face.' MK Zoabi stated in her police investigation in 8/14 that her reaction came as a quick, instantaneous, angry response towards the Israeli police's practices against detained children in Nazareth, who were demonstrating against the police killing of Kheir Hamdan in Kufr Kanna. It is not the norm for the police to investigate elected public officials about their political statements, especially instantaneous and spontaneous statements that materialize from public political activism; their parliamentary immunity protects them from this type of action. Case pending.

- Editorial, "[Don't prosecute MK Zoabi](#)," *Ha'aretz*, 8 January 2015
- Revital Hovel, "[AG: Arab lawmaker to stand trial for incitement to violence, pending hearing](#)," *Ha'aretz*, 6 January 2015

Freedom of Expression

Supreme Court holds second hearing on Anti-Boycott Law

In 2/14, an [expanded panel of nine SCT justices held a hearing on a petition to cancel the “Anti-Boycott Law”](#), which was enacted in 3/11. Adalah and ACRI filed the petition on behalf of leading human rights organizations in Israel, as well as three associations calling for an economic boycott of the settlements in the West Bank and/or of Israel. At a previous hearing held in 12/12, the Court issued an *order nisi* requiring the State to explain the justification for the law. *Update: the SCT rejected the petition in 4/15.*



- Revital Hovel, [“State defends anti-boycott law: Freedom of expression in Israel isn't like U.S.”](#), Ha'aretz, 16 February 2014
- Yonah Jeremy Bob, [“High Court hears state defend Anti-Boycott Law,”](#) Jerusalem Post, 16 Feb 2014
- Yonah Jeremy Bob, [“Analysis: Will a middle-of-the-road compromise on anti-boycott law mean no wins?”](#) Jerusalem Post, 17 February 2014

Police permit Al Remieh families’ demonstration after multiple requests

In 2/14, Adalah assisted families in the village of Al Remieh to obtain permission from the police to demonstrate against their displacement from their homes. Following letters to the police commander and the AG, the Commander allowed the protest to take place.

Challenging house arrest of Arab citizen for social media post

In 4/14, Adalah filed an appeal to the Nazareth Magistrates’ Court on behalf of Mr. Ghassan Munair against the police’s imposition of house arrest against him, following his Facebook post in which he opposed Israel’s recruitment of Christian Arab citizens of Israel to the army. During the interrogation, the investigator informed Munair that the police had decided to charge him with incitement, but that he would be freed if he agreed to five days’ house arrest and to surrender his personal iPad, laptop, and mobile phone. Munair agreed to these conditions without consultation with a lawyer, and he denies that he intended to threaten anyone with his Facebook post. The court scheduled a hearing only one hour before Munair’s house arrest was to end, leaving no time to challenge these procedural due process violations by the police (note: Israeli law permits the police to impose conditions of release on individuals, without the filing of charges. In Adalah’s view, however, these procedures do not meet the minimal standards of due process. Adalah will continue to monitor and challenge the use of these procedures, particularly against Arab youth).

Iqrit youth released on bail after being arrested in their ancestral village



In 6/14, Adalah filed an appeal to the Haifa District Court demanding the release of Nidal Khoury, who was [one of three youth activists arrested in the destroyed Palestinian village of Iqrit](#). The police charged the three activists, two of whom were represented by private lawyers, with various offenses including trespassing on property owned by the ILA, obstructing the work of public employees,

assaulting a public employee, and threatening a public employee. The court accepted the appeals on the grounds that the police raided Iqrit illegally because it did not give prior warning for the eviction orders. The District Court ordered the youths' release on bail and cancelled the Magistrates' Court decision, which prohibited them from returning to their village for 60 days. The youth have been living in Iqrit since 8/12. Following the case, they returned to Iqrit, demanding that their right to return and their right to live in their ancestral village be recognized and fulfilled.

Activist released from detention after arrest at peaceful rally

In 6/14, Adalah appealed against the Haifa Magistrates' Court decision to extend the detention of [Haifa resident and left-wing activist Yoav Bar](#). Bar participated in a rally in Haifa in solidarity with Palestinian administrative detainees on hunger strike. The police charged Bar with organizing an illegal demonstration. Adalah argued in its appeal that the demonstration was legal and did not require a permit; as such, Bar had committed no crime. The court accepted Adalah's appeal and ordered his immediate release; however, the court also ruled that Bar was prohibited from entering Ben-Gurion Street and participating in any demonstrations for 14 days. Adalah appealed again and the Haifa District Court ordered the cancellation of protest ban.

- Eli Ashkenazi, "[Court overturns barring of left-wing activist from Haifa street](#)," *Ha'aretz*, 17 Jun 2014

Mass arrests and illegal police practices during wave of protests in summer 2014 & incitement against Palestinian citizens of Israel

Throughout the summer of 2014, following the killing of Palestinian teenager Mohammed Abu Khdeir in Jerusalem in 6/14 and during Israel's military offensive on the Gaza Strip, Adalah, together



with volunteer attorneys, represented [scores of demonstrators](#) at detention cases in the lower courts and on appeal. According to police data, [around 1,500 Arab and anti-war demonstrators](#) (in East Jerusalem and in Israel) were arrested by the Israeli police, the largest wave of detentions since the October 2000 killings. Around 350 people were indicted. Adalah also provided legal advice to protest organizers and to activists, who were "marked" by the GSS/police as agitators and warned of arrest prior to protests.

In 9/14, Adalah sent a [detailed letter](#) to the AG demanding the opening of investigations into Israeli police practices against Palestinian Arab citizen demonstrators. District Court judges critiqued the police's treatment of demonstrators in these cases, as it appeared that in some cases, the police arrested demonstrators without having the slightest reason to do so.

Adalah detailed the most serious illegal practices used by the police to suppress the protests, based on the demonstrators' testimonies and from the detention cases in which Adalah represented protestors. These police practices included: (a) Dispersing the demonstrations illegally and arresting protestors; (b) Illegal arrests, such as numerous cases in which police arrested activists a day before a demonstration was to be held, or even a few minutes before they arrived; (c) Imposing restrictive conditions, such as restraining orders and house arrest, to prevent demonstrations; (d) Refusal to reveal 'secret evidence' against political activists in a series of "Facebook arrests;" (e) Failing to abide by special procedures that apply to children including conducting arrests and investigations during the late hours of the night, preventing children from meeting with a lawyer, and preventing parents from being present with their children during the investigation, as required by law.

- Adalah's Newsletter, "[Why Accountability Matters?](#)," July 2014
- Hagar Sheizaf, "[Following wave of protests, Israel arrests scores of Arab activists, minors,](#)" +972 Magazine, 23 July 2014
- Patrick Strickland, "[Palestinians in Israel, West Bank endure arrest campaign,](#)" MEE, 26 Aug 2014
- Mya Guarnieri, "[Israel cracks down on anti-war protesters,](#)" Al Jazeera English, 5 August 2014

Higher education institutes must stop punishing Arab students for their political views

In 7/14, Adalah sent a [letter](#) to the Minister of Education asking him to issue immediate instructions directing the presidents of Israeli institutions of higher education to stop taking punitive measures against Arab students based on their anti-War opinions on Gaza, and to stop giving warnings that limit the students' and faculty's right to express their opinions.

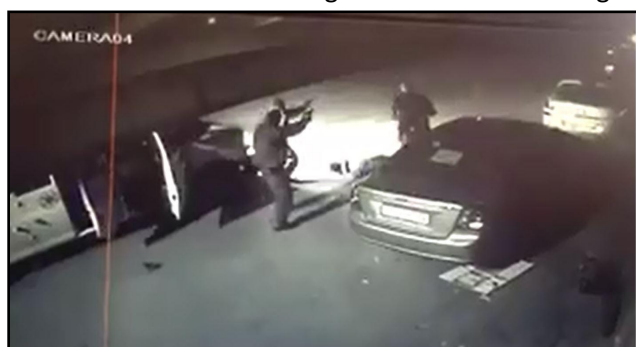
High Follow-up Committee demands investigations into racist incitement by Israeli leaders

Several Israeli political leaders, including government ministers, publicly made racist statements that encouraged violence against Arab citizens during the summer of 2014. On behalf of the High Follow-up Committee for Arab Citizens of Israel, the highest political body among elected Arab leaders, extraparliamentary movements, and civil society organizations, Adalah sent a [letter](#) to the AG and the State Prosecutor demanding criminal investigations against Israeli leaders for incitement.

Duty to Investigate

Police killing of Kheir Hamdan

In 11/14, Adalah released a [statement](#) and Adalah, Mossawa and Mezan (Nazareth) sent an urgent letter to the AG demanding an immediate investigation and the prosecution of those responsible for



the point-blank police killing of Kheir Hamdan on 8 November 2014 in Kufr Kanna. The killing was [captured on video by a nearby CCTV camera](#). In the letter, the organizations requested that the AG immediately suspend all the policemen who were at the crime scene, and open a criminal investigation under the direct supervision of the AG's office, as required by law. *Update: In 5/15, the Justice Ministry's Police Investigation Unit*

decided to close the file without filing an indictment. The family is appealing this decision.

- "[Police execute Palestinian citizen in the Galilee?](#)" Alternative Information Center, 9 November 2014
- Lahav Harkov, Ben Hartman, "[Arabs declare general strike as thousands riot to protest shooting death by police,](#)" Jerusalem Post, 8 November 2014
- Ali Abunimah, "[Video captures execution of Palestinian citizen by Israeli police,](#)" Electronic Intifada, 9 November 2014

Racial Profiling & Hate Speech

Cal Auto refuses car rental to 30,000 Palestinian citizens because of their family names

In 1/14, Adalah sent a letter to the Israeli car rental company Cal Auto demanding the [immediate cancellation of its policy to refuse to rent cars to Arab citizens](#) with the family names of Jabarin and Ighbariya due to "classified information" in its possession. Adalah sent the letter following a complaint by businessman Ibrahim Jabarin regarding the company's refusal to rent him a car. The policy effectively denies the rental of cars to over 30,000 Arab citizens with those family names, and

is therefore discriminatory and illegal as it denies equal services to people on an arbitrary and sweeping basis. Adalah also sent a letter to the AG arguing that the transfer of information from security sources to private companies is an illegal and dangerous practice. Cal Auto claimed that such relations with security agencies were a common practice in many companies.

- Jack Khoury, "[Israeli car rental firm blacklists Arab families](#)," *Ha'aretz*, 31 January 2014

Demand to open criminal investigation into racist remarks by former Nazareth Illit Mayor

In 2/14, Adalah sent a letter to the AG demanding the opening of a criminal investigation into the former Mayor of Nazareth Illit, Shimon Gapso, for racist remarks made against Palestinian citizens of Israel. Adalah wrote the letter on behalf of two Arab members of the Nazareth Illit Municipality, Dr. Raed Ghattas and Dr. Shukri Awawdeh. This letter was Adalah's second request to the AG regarding Gapso, [the first of which the AG rejected in 2011](#). The AG again refused to investigate.

Price tag attacks in Israel

In 5/14, Adalah sent a [letter to the AG](#) and the Chief of Police demanding the opening of investigations into "price tag" attacks directed against Arab citizens in Israel, their property and their holy places. "Price tag" attacks have shifted from attacks against Palestinians in the OPT, to increasing incidences against Palestinian citizens as well. The letter detailed seven events including racist graffiti such as "Every Arab is a criminal" and "Jesus is a monkey," vandalism, attacks on Christian and Muslim holy places, such as the Tabgha Church in Tiberias and more. Adalah received a response from the AG stating that investigations are ongoing..

- See *Americans for Peace Now*, "['Price Tag' Escalation Timeline: Jan 1, 2011 – present](#)," July 2014

- Hussein Abu Hussein (Adalah Board Chairman), "[Price tag terror: Is Israel facing a war between religions?](#)" *Ha'aretz*, 5 May 2014

Cultural and Religious Rights

Israeli universities must recognize Muslim, Christian and Druze religious holidays

In 3/14, Adalah sent letters on behalf of Arab student leaders to Tel Aviv University (TAU, over 2,100 Arab students), Hebrew University of Jerusalem (HU, close to 4,200 Arab students) and the Technion (about 1,660 Arab students) demanding the recognition of Arab religious holidays as official university holidays. Adalah stressed that celebrating these holidays are a cultural and religious right and that school vacations solely during Jewish holidays discriminates against them. Arab students are either forced to miss their classes to celebrate their holidays or miss their holidays in order to attend classes. The Technion (in 3/14) and TAU (in 5/14) responded that they respect the Arab religious holidays and instruct all the departments to allow exceptions for Arab students during these days. Adalah replied demanding the acknowledgment of these holidays as *official* holidays. The HU responded (in 4/14) that they are willing to discuss the issue in a wider forum and then to update Adalah. In 9/14, Adalah sent follow-up letters. TAU did not respond, and the Technion replied that no changes had been made to their policy. However, HU decided to acknowledge the three main Arab religious holidays as official holidays for all staff and students in 12/14.

Representing Palestinian filmmaker Ms. Suha Arraf

In 8/14, in a letter [coordinated through Adalah](#), Ms. Suha Arraf, a Palestinian woman film director and citizen of Israel, issued a response to Israeli foundations and government agencies that are demanding that she return funding that she received for the production of her first feature film, "Villa Touma." The controversy began after Ms. Arraf categorized her movie as a "Palestinian film,"



when she submitted it to the Venice Film Festival, to which it was accepted. Ms. Arraf had been the target of a harsh campaign of incitement and harassment in Israel as a result of her decision. Adalah is continuing to assist Ms. Arraf against state claims against her.

- Suha Arraf, "[I am an Arab, Palestinian and citizen of Israel - I have the right to define my own identity](#)," Ha'aretz, 24 August 2014

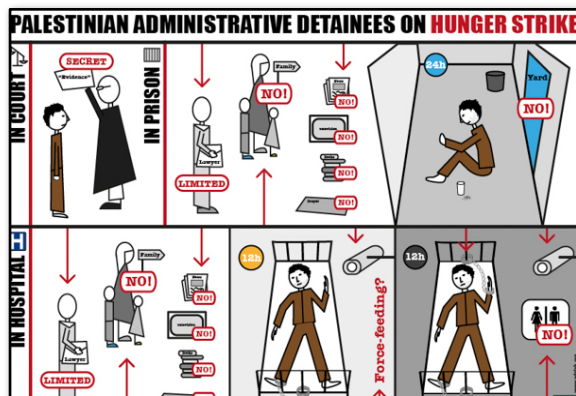
- Haaretz Editorial, "[Stop political persecution in Israel's film industry](#)," 8 August 2014

IV. Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT)

Prisoners' and Detainees' Rights

Palestinian Hunger Strikes & Administrative Detainees

"Force-feeding Bill", a severe violation of human rights and medical ethics



In 2/14, Physicians for Human Rights-Israel (PHR-I) and Adalah sent a letter to the AG urging him [to withdraw his support for a controversial bill permitting the "force-feeding" of prisoners](#), Palestinians being held in Israeli prisons, on hunger strike. The human rights organizations argued that the "Force-feeding Bill" [violates human rights and medical ethics](#) and legalizes practices that constitute torture by allowing hunger striking prisoners to be forcefully fed and given medical treatment. It also puts physicians and other medical professionals in

the service of political-security goals. In 6/14, the legislation was essentially frozen, due to growing local and international criticism of the bill and political developments.

- Ha'aretz Editorial, "[Don't force-feed Palestinian hunger strikers](#)," 10 June 2014

Illegal to prevent attorneys from visiting hunger strikers

In 5/14, Adalah sent a letter to the Israel Prison Service (IPS) and the AG [demanding an end to the IPS's obstacles on lawyers' visits](#) to Palestinian administrative detainees who were on hunger strike. Adalah sent an additional letter in 6/14 to the public prosecutor, requesting that he demand that Israeli prisons immediately end the prohibition on lawyers from visiting prisoners on hunger strike. Adalah received numerous complaints from lawyers against the IPS for disrupting or preventing them from meeting with their clients, despite the detainees' critical situation. The prohibitions and

restrictions imposed on lawyers by the IPS violate Israeli law itself; such restrictions are only allowed in cases where there is concern that such visits may lead to a crime. Adalah was able to remove some barriers to lawyers' visits.

Illegal to ban hunger strikers from family visits

In 6/14, Adalah sent an urgent letter to the IPS and the AG, followed by a petition to the Lod District Court in 7/14, [demanding that the IPS withdraw its decisions](#) prohibiting all family visits for hunger striking prisoners and detainees. In correspondence, the IPS legal advisor acknowledged that the IPS is preventing the hunger strikers from family visits as a punitive measure, as hunger striking is a violation of prison regulations. Adalah withdrew its petition in 11/14 following the client's request.

Illegal to ban hunger strikers from going out to the prison yard

In 6/14, Adalah sent a letter to the IPS and the AG demanding that the IPS withdraw its decision [preventing hunger striking prisoners and detainees from going out to the prison yard](#) for an hour a day. Adalah argued that going out to the prison yard is a basic right granted to any prisoner under the UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners. Adalah further contended that the IPS was dealing with the basic rights of prisoners as if they were a reward, and as if it had the authority to revoke them at any moment.

Petition against the IPS for shackling hunger-strikers to hospital beds

In 6/14, Adalah sent an urgent letter which called for an [immediate end to Israeli hospitals' shackling of hunger striking prisoners to their beds](#) by their hands and feet 24 hours a day. This restraint prevented prisoners from moving at all and further complicated their already deteriorating health status. The restrictions impeded on the prisoners' most basic humanitarian needs, such as going to the bathroom, especially at night when staff claimed that there were not enough wardens to accompany them to the toilet. [In response to Adalah's letter](#), the Health Ministry claimed that it was the IPS that decided to shackle prisoners, not the ministry, and that it had no prior knowledge about this issue. Following this exchange, Adalah and Addameer filed a petition to the Nazareth District Court against this policy. The petition argued that these practices constituted torture and/or cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment, which are prohibited. The court dismissed the petition on the grounds that it presented a theoretical question because the strike had ended by that time, in 6/14.

- Adalah's Newsletter, "[The Hunger Strike is Over but Torture Continues](#)," June 2014

- Middle East Monitor, "[Human Rights Centre: Israel brutally humiliating hospitalized prisoners on hunger strike](#)," MEMO, 13 June 2014

Duty to Investigate

Death of prisoner Jihad Al-Tawil must be investigated

In 2/14, Adalah and PHR-I sent a letter to the AG requesting that he order an investigation into the circumstances of the [death of Palestinian prisoner Jihad Al-Tawil](#). Al-Tawil died at the Soroka Medical Center, where he was taken by the IPS, 15 days prior to his death. Al-Tawil was sentenced to three months of imprisonment for a traffic violation, and prior to his imprisonment he had no major health condition. When Al-Tawil's family arrived at the hospital, they were informed that he was in the Intensive Care Unit, unconscious and connected to a respirator. An IPS representative asked the family to sign a form that confirmed Al-Tawil's release from the IPS's custody, but the family refused to do so until they understood why his condition deteriorated so rapidly. The AG has opened an investigation and the organizations continue to monitor it.

12 investigations opened into the torture/ill-treatment of Palestinian children



In 6/14, Adalah sent letters to the Military Advocate General (MAG) and the AG [demanding an end to the practices of physical and psychological torture and ill-treatment against Palestinian children](#) in the OPT during their arrest and interrogation by Israeli security personnel. Adalah based its letter on 21 shocking testimonies given by Palestinian children and recorded by lawyers from the Defense for Children International/Palestine Section (DCI/PS). The dangerous practices described in the testimonies constitute serious criminal offenses such as assault, threats, sexual harassment and

other unlawful activity committed by soldiers, GSS interrogators, and prison wardens. Adalah requested that criminal investigations be opened and that those responsible be prosecuted. In 11/14, in response to Adalah's complaints, the MAG announced that the Military Police had opened 12 criminal investigations into Israel soldiers' treatment of Palestinian children during their arrests.

- ["Human Rights groups reveal cruel treatment of Palestinian children by Israel,"](#) MEMO, 4 June 2014
- Ben Norton, ["New testimonies from tortured Palestinian children,"](#) Mondoweiss, 5 June 2014
- Fady Khoury (Adalah Attorney), ["Palestinian kids detail abusive interrogations, arrests,"](#) +972 Magazine, 8 June 2014

Prisoners' Conditions

Israel must explicitly prohibit torture

In 11/14, Adalah prepared and released an "Anti-Torture Bill," a legislative proposal that outlines the basic provisions that should be incorporated into Israeli law to explicitly prohibit the practice of torture, and to bring the law in line with Israel's international human rights treaty obligations under the UN Convention Against Torture (CAT).

- See Adalah's Newsletter, ["Is Torture a Crime in Israel?,"](#) November 2014.

IPS refusal to permit a lawyer to visit her client cancelled

Following a letter Adalah sent in 2/14, the Israeli Military Prosecutor General informed Adalah in 3/14 that he would cancel a decision by a Chief Military Officer to [prevent Attorney Rawan Ighbarieh of the organization "New Profile" from visiting her client Omar Saed in prison](#). Mr. Saed, an Arab Druze citizen of Israel, is serving consecutive sentences of imprisonment for refusing obligatory military service in the Israeli army as a conscientious objector. Attorney Ighbarieh approached Adalah when she tried to visit her client in his third period of imprisonment and a guard told her that visits were restricted because she did not carry a permit of "legal representation before the military court," a condition that did not exist previously.

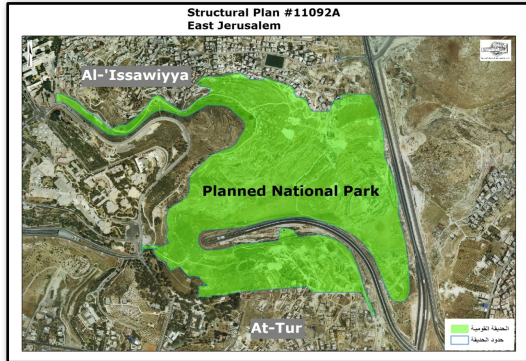
Right to education for Palestinian political prisoners in Israeli prisons

The SCT held two hearings in 7/14 and 11/14 on an extraordinary [motion for reconsideration](#) filed by Adalah, ACRI and the Haifa University Prisoners' Rights Legal Clinic in 1/13. The motion, filed on behalf of three Palestinian prisoners, followed the SCT's ruling in 12/12 that upheld a sweeping ban on higher education via correspondence courses for Palestinian political prisoners designated as "security prisoners" and held in Israeli prisons. Adalah argued that the Court's first decision was a

radical departure from past precedent which held that education is a basic right. *Update: In 4/15, the SCT upheld the dismissal of the petition.*

West Bank, including East Jerusalem

“National Park” to be built on Palestinian neighborhoods of Al-‘Issawiya and At-Tur



In 2/14, Adalah and the Civic Coalition for Palestinian Rights in Jerusalem filed an appeal to the National Council for Planning and Building (NCPB) [against a new “National Park” to be built on the lands of the Palestinian neighborhoods of Al-‘Issawiya and At-Tur in East Jerusalem](#). The Jerusalem District Planning and Building Committee (JDPB) rejected an objection filed in 11/13. The plan would confiscate 732 dunams of land from these neighborhoods and prevent their development. The NCPB held a hearing in 4/14, and in 5/14 the JDPB partially approved the plan

with some changes, including the removal of 40 dunams of ‘Issawiya’s lands from the plan. It also decided to freeze the plan’s implementation for 60 days to allow for further negotiations between the planning authorities and the villages’ representatives. Adalah will continue to follow-up.

- [“Israel approves plan to build 'National Park' on lands of Palestinian villages Al-'Issawiya and At Tur in East Jerusalem,”](#) *Palestinian News Network*, 27 May 2014

- [“Israel approves plan to build 'National Park' in Palestinian land in Jerusalem,”](#) *Wafa*, 27 May 2014

Landfill and National Park to be constructed on lands of ‘Anata and Al-‘Issawiya

The JDPC held hearings in 12/14 on an [objection](#) submitted in 12/12 by Adalah, in cooperation with the Civic Coalition, on behalf of the ‘Anata Local Council. The objectors argued that a new plan to construct a landfill and national park on approximately 500 dunams of private land belonging to Palestinians from the villages of ‘Anata (pop. 20,000) and Al-‘Issawiya (pop. 12,000) in East Jerusalem would involve the confiscation of the land and the transfer of its ownership to the Jerusalem Municipality. If implemented, the plan would block the development of ‘Anata and Al-‘Issawiya, cutting its residents off from the Palestinian territories. It would simultaneously ensure contiguity between Jewish settlements in the West Bank, the E1 area, and the Jerusalem municipality. The objectors also argued that the plan would result in large numbers of home demolitions on the pretext that they were built illegally and that they impeded the implementation of the plan. *Update: In 2/15, the JDPC rejected the objection claiming that the land slated for confiscation is unsuitable for the development and planning of the two villages. In Adalah’s view, the JDPC completely ignored IHL norms, as the plan causes harm to private property without any urgent military necessity, and serves the political goals of the occupying power in the area. The plans for the area seek only to tightly restrict the Palestinian population under the guise of ‘development.’*

- [“Israel Begins Work on National Park on Jerusalem’s Issawiya Land,”](#) *Wafa News*, 10 March 2015

- [“Israel approves plan to build 'National Park' on lands of Palestinian villages Al-'Issawiya and At Tur in East Jerusalem,”](#) *Palestine News Network*, 27 May 2014

- Saed Bannoura, [“Israel approves illegal confiscation of 700 dunams of Palestinian lands,”](#) *IMEMC*, 19 May 2014

Military order prohibiting Palestinians’ right of appeal in property cases must be cancelled

In 1/14, Adalah sent an urgent letter to the AG, the Defense Minister, and the Head of the Israeli Military’s Central Command in the West Bank, demanding the immediate withdrawal of a new

military order that allows the [military commander to confiscate Palestinian property in the OPT without the possibility of appeal](#) by the property owners before a military court. The primary purpose of the military order is to prevent Palestinians accused of being 'security threats' or accused of conducting criminal activities from appealing its decisions to expropriate their property, equipment and vehicles. The military order constitutes a violation of the Palestinians' right to own property and the right to a fair legal process. [HaMoked filed a petition to the SCT against the order.](#)

- Chaim Levinson, "[Palestinian aims to win back right to appeal property confiscations in military court](#)," Haaretz, 17 January 2014

The Gaza Strip

Seeking accountability for war crimes in Gaza



In the summer of 2014, the Israeli military launched a massive 50-day military operation on Gaza following a series of events that began in 6/14 in the West Bank, for which the Israeli government blamed Hamas. As a result of the operation, about 2,200 Palestinians were killed, 75% of whom were civilians, including 525 children and 300 women, and around 11,000 people injured; and hundreds of thousands of people were displaced. Thousands of homes were destroyed, and hundreds of hospitals, schools, mosques, and other civilian objects were demolished. The intensive bombing of Gaza caused the majority of civilian

casualties and destruction. Civilian infrastructure was also devastated, including Gaza's power plant and power distribution network, and the water and sanitation infrastructure.

During and after the war, Adalah and Al Mezan together filed 12 complaints and demands for independent criminal investigations into approximately 20 incidents with the Israeli military authorities. Al Mezan documented incidents and collected testimonies of victims, and Adalah submitted complaints to the Israeli authorities regarding the targeting of civilians and civilian objects that resulted in the killing and injury of civilians in their homes, hospitals, medical facilities and ambulances. To date, the MAG has announced the opening of investigations into two cases submitted by Adalah and Al Mezan, and the organizations are continuing to follow-up, mostly on the MAG's refusal to open investigations.

Examples of specific cases include: (1) a complaint filed on 18 July 2014 demanding an independent criminal investigation into the killing of four children on the beach in Gaza; the MAG responded that he will open an investigation; (2) a complaint filed on 10 July 2014 demanding that the Israeli military open investigations into the bombing of the Kawari family home in Khan Younis that killed 8 civilians; the MAG responded that there was no reason to open an investigation and he closed the case; and (3) a complaint filed on 17 July 2014 demanding an investigation into the killing of 8 members of the al-Haj family; to date, the MAG has not responded.

- Adalah's newsletter, "[Why Accountability Matters](#)," July 2014.

- For the full list of complaints and the MAG's responses, as well as Adalah's analysis concerning the investigations, see Adalah's submission to the UN Commission of Inquiry on the Gaza Conflict [here](#).

Abuse of fishermen in Gaza



Throughout 2014, the Israeli navy continued to harass and abuse fishermen in Gaza at sea by opening fire at them, demanding that they strip and jump in the water and swim to the navy boats, and handcuffing, blindfolding and arresting them once on the Israeli boats. The fishermen's boats and other equipment and belongings were also confiscated along the way. Al Mezan has documented dozens of fishermen cases for several years now, and Adalah and Al Mezan have submitted joint letters to the Israeli authorities

emphasizing that the Israeli navy's treatment of the fishermen violates international law, and constitutes cruel, inhumane and degrading treatment. The human rights organizations have demanded that such treatment stop immediately. Adalah and Al Mezan [submitted 4 complaints to the Defense Ministry in 2014](#) by fishermen who were treated inhumanely.

SCT upholds ban on Gazans from entering Israel for compensation cases against military

In 12/14, the [SCT dismissed a petition](#) submitted by Adalah in 2012 challenging the state's policy of banning Palestinians from Gaza from accessing Israeli courts for their civil tort compensation cases against the State of Israel. Adalah filed the case in cooperation with human rights organizations PCHR, Al Mezan and PHR-I, on behalf of four individuals from Gaza who filed tort lawsuits against the Israeli military for killings, injuries and extensive property damages and whose requests for permission to enter Israel to pursue their tort cases were repeatedly denied. While the SCT's judgment acknowledged the conflict of interests created by this policy between the state's position as the respondent before the court and as the authority that determines who can and who cannot enter Israel to access the court, it did not find it determinative.

After the petition was filed, the AG proposed new procedures for "examining requests to enter by Palestinian residents of Gaza for the purpose of pursuing judicial proceedings in Israel." These regulations openly and absurdly specified that the AG should look into the possibility of facilitating the pursuit of legal cases only provided that it does not harm the state's position in the case. Although the court criticized the new regulations, it nonetheless asked the complainants to abide by them. The AG did not provide one example of any individual who obtained a permit to enter Israel under these regulations. The SCT did not address the grave violation of the rights of the complainants and of their rights to compensation for damages incurred by them resulting from the state's policy of denial of access to a remedy.

In Adalah's view, the court's decision is fundamentally at odds with IHL, which clearly establishes the right of victims who live under Occupation to submit claims for damages to the courts of the occupying power, and stipulates that the legal proceedings available to them should be effective and just. The decision also contradicts claims made by the Israeli Foreign Ministry before the courts of European states that Palestinians have the opportunity for an effective remedy before Israeli courts and that there is therefore no need for foreign courts to decide on this matter.

- Revital Hovel, "[High Court rejects Gazans' petition seeking entry into Israel in order to sue state,](#)" Ha'aretz, 20 December 2014

II. International Advocacy

In 2014, Adalah conducted the following international advocacy activities:

- **New reports and interventions:** Adalah submitted 11 new reports/interventions to UN, European Union (EU) and US human rights bodies;
- **Advocacy missions abroad:** Adalah participated in 7 advocacy missions abroad and held frequent meetings with embassy representatives in Israel;
- **Study tours:** Adalah conducted dozens of study tours in the Naqab (about 4 per month) for hundreds of visitors including diplomats, journalists, academics, donors, and activists;
- **International human rights events:** Adalah participated in 14 international human rights workshops, conferences, and meetings convened by our partners.

Adalah's international advocacy work focused on **4 main advocacy themes** in 2014:

1. Fighting discrimination and ensuring equality for Palestinian citizens of Israel;
2. Protecting the human rights of Arab Bedouin citizens in the Naqab;
3. Defending prisoners' and detainees' rights and combating torture/ill-treatment;
4. Accountability for international law violations during the 2014 war on Gaza.

Successes in 2014

UN Human Rights Committee issues strong concluding observations to Israel



In 10/14, the UN Human Rights Committee [issued its concluding observations](#) regarding Israel's lack of compliance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR). Adalah, together with partners PHR-I, Al Mezan, and the Negev Coexistence Forum (NCF), submitted three reports in 9/14 response to the Committee's questions and Israel's replies. The subjects of the reports were: (1) [the rights of Palestinian citizens of Israel](#); (2) [the rights of Arab Bedouin citizens in the Naqab/Negev](#) (jointly with the NCF); and (3) [Israel's use of torture and cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment of Palestinian prisoners/detainees and Palestinians in the OPT](#) (jointly with the Al Mezan and PHR-I). Adalah also attended the review session in Geneva in 10/14.

Highlights of the Committee's concluding observations (CO) regarding the rights of Palestinian citizens of Israel included calling upon Israel to: "explicitly incorporate the principle of equality and non-discrimination" into its Basic Law: Human Dignity and Liberty (CO #7); end its policies of punitive home demolitions, discriminatory planning and zoning, and forcible transfer and evictions of Arab Bedouin citizens in the Naqab (CO #9); revoke the Citizenship and Entry into Israel Law, which bans family unification between Palestinian citizens of Israel and Palestinian residents in the OPT (CO #21); protect the rights to freedom of expression and association, and address any restrictions on these rights such as the "Anti-Boycott Law" and the NGO "Foreign Funding Law" (CO #22).

Highlights of the concluding observations regarding the rights of Palestinian prisoners/detainees and torture/ill-treatment included calls to Israel to: address the serious flaws in its investigative and justice mechanisms by implementing the second report of the Turkel Commission (CO #6); end the practice of administrative detention against Palestinians (CO #10); ensure that its proposed “Anti-Terrorism Bill” fully complies with the provisions of the ICCPR (CO #11); “explicitly prohibit” torture and ill-treatment (physical and psychological) through legislation (CO #14); “eradicate torture and ill-treatment against adult and child detainees and carry out prompt, thorough, effective, independent and impartial investigations into all allegations of torture and ill-treatment” (CO #15); ensure that Israel’s arrest and detention of Palestinian children complies with the ICCPR (CO #19).

Adalah subsequently used these concluding observations for its legal cases and legal interventions before Israeli courts and state authorities, and its other advocacy initiatives. See for example: Adalah’s Newsletter, [“Is Torture a Crime in Israel?”](#) in November 2014.

UN and EU officials speak out against Force-Feeding bill; legislation subsequently frozen

In 5/14, Adalah, PHR-I, Al Mezan and Addameer submitted a [detailed report](#) to the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and the UN Special Rapporteur on Health, regarding the proposed Force-Feeding Bill. The human rights organizations argued that the bill violates prisoners’ rights, including their right to dignity and to hunger strike as a last resort to protest their administrative detention.

In 6/14, in an exceptional move, the UN SRs on Torture and Health [issued a statement](#) urging the Knesset not to enact the Force-feeding bill, and not to force Palestinian detainees on hunger strike to receive any medical treatment against their will. The statement emphasized that, “Even if it is intended for the benefit of the detainees, feeding induced by threats, coercion, force or use of physical restraints are tantamount to cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment.” The [UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon](#) and the [UN High Commissioner for Human Rights](#) also stated their concern and opposition to the bill and the administrative detention of Palestinians.

In addition, in 6/14, following intensive advocacy, the spokesperson on Palestinian detainees at the EU [released a statement](#) on the hunger strike, saying: “We are following with great concern reports about the deteriorating health condition of Palestinian administrative detainees who have been on a hunger strike for several weeks. The EU has repeatedly expressed its concern about the extensive use by Israel of administrative detention. The EU calls for the full respect of international human rights obligations towards all Palestinian detainees and prisoners.”

Due in great part to the strong statements made by UN and EU officials, together with opposition by the local Israeli medical community, the bill was frozen in 6/14 and was not brought back for a vote in the Knesset in 2014.

Advocacy Themes in 2014

1. Fighting discrimination, ensuring equality for Palestinian citizens of Israel

In 2014, Palestinian citizens of Israel continued to face institutionalized discrimination in all fields of life. Adalah advocated against new discriminatory legislation and government policies, racism and incitement by government officials, and restrictions on freedom of expression rights throughout the year. A particularly grave concern was the mass arrests and brutality by Israeli police against Palestinian citizens during Israel's military offensive on the Gaza Strip in the summer. Adalah's

advocacy focused on raising these issues in international forums in order mobilize international pressure against the state's violations of the rights of Palestinian citizens of Israel.

EUROPEAN UNION

Raising key human rights concerns in Germany



Members of the delegation with German Social Democratic MP Frank Schwabe, Speaker of the parliament's Committee on Human Rights and Humanitarian Aid

In 3/14, Adalah, together with human rights organization partners, participated in an advocacy mission convened by the Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network (EMHRN) and Medico in Berlin. Recognizing the leading role played by Germany in EU policy towards Israel and the OPT, as well as Germany's close relations with Israel, the delegation called on decision-makers to take serious steps against ongoing human rights violations against Palestinians in Israel and the OPT. The delegation briefed journalists, parliamentarians, the German Foreign Ministry, the Chancellor's cabinet and the public on key concerns for Palestinians living

under occupation and the siege in Gaza, and for Palestinian citizens of Israel including the ramifications of defining Israel as a "Jewish state."

New report and EU advocacy on Palestinian women's rights

In 3/14, the EMHRN [released its new report](#) on the EU-Israel and EU-PA relationship regarding the human rights of Palestinian women in both Israel and the OPT. Adalah was a member of the steering committee for the report and made significant contributions to its content. The report addressed challenges facing Palestinian women, such as access to health, education, employment, housing, family life, political participation, as well as gender-based violence in both Israel and in the OPT. The report provides organizations with an essential and comprehensive EU advocacy tool to highlight the discrimination faced by Palestinian women on both sides of the Green Line.



In 4/14, Adalah, Al Tufula Center and Kvinna til Kvinna, partners and associates in the EMHRN Women's Rights Working Group, [organized a briefing](#) for 20 EU and EU member state diplomats in Tel Aviv to present the report, and to advocate for its recommendations. At a meeting of the EMHRN Working Group in Copenhagen, Denmark in 6/14, in which Adalah participated, the WG decided that it would conduct an advocacy mission in Brussels (held in 2/15) to introduce the report and

its recommendations to EU officials, particularly concerning issues around violence against women.

Promoting Palestinian citizens' rights in EU-Israel Relations

Adalah submitted three short reports in 2014 raising key concerns regarding the rights of Palestinian citizens of Israel in advance of the EU-Israel Informal Human Rights Working Group (postponed from 3/14 and held in 11/14) and the EU-Israel Sub-Committee on Political Dialogue (held in 12/14). The reports highlighted developments regarding the enactment of discriminatory laws, the Praver Plan, the case of Atir-Umm al-Hiran, and new cases of housing, land, social and political rights (See for

example [Adalah's Briefing Note of April 2014](#)). Adalah also participated in civil society consultations at the EU Delegation in Tel Aviv, and together with partner human rights organizations called on the EU to ensure that human rights were prioritized and promoted in EU-Israel relations.

UNITED STATES

Awareness-raising initiatives for US-based community groups and officials

Throughout 2014, Adalah's USA Representative, Nadia Ben-Yousseff, gave numerous talks and presentations in the US, speaking to university and law school students, interfaith groups, US-based NGOs and think-tanks, journalists, and US officials. Highlights of this work during 2014 included:

- In 1/14, a screening of Adalah's short films and "Families Interrupted" photography exhibition were featured at an event in New York City, co-sponsored by the New Israel Fund (NIF) and the Nathan Cummings Foundation, entitled "Catalyzing Change: Contemporary Art & Social Justice." Over 100 supporters attended the event, which focused on art as a vehicle for social change.
- In 3/14, Adalah's USA representative gave a lecture on the rights of the Bedouin community in the Naqab for over 30 members of a Reconstructionist synagogue in Hastings-on-Hudson.
- In 5/14, Adalah's USA representative gave a lecture to a group of American interfaith leaders visiting Israel and the OPT as part of a delegation with the Telos Group. The lecture provided a historical overview and the current context of the challenges facing Palestinian citizens, and highlighted the root causes of ongoing inequality.
- In 9/14, Adalah's USA representative participated in panels at the National Lawyers Guild Conference in Chicago on the theme of "Mass Incarceration in the US and Palestine".
- In 10/14, Adalah's USA representative gave a talk at the first national Open Hillel conference in Boston, which discussed the framework for protecting Palestinian rights. She also participated in the National Students for Justice in Palestine conference on the "Jewish and democratic state."
- In 11/14, Adalah's USA representative participated in the Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Annual Meeting in Washington, DC.
- In 12/14, Adalah's USA representative, together with the Arab American Institute and the Jerusalem Fund, organized a first briefing for the staff of the US Senate Foreign Relations Committee on discrimination against Palestinian citizens of Israel. The meeting called for prioritizing human rights within any future peace negotiation processes.

LOCAL ACTIVITIES

Palestinian citizens' human rights in Israel during the Gaza War

In 8/14, Adalah, Mossawa and the Arab Association for Human Rights (HRA) convened a [meeting for 20 delegates of embassies in Israel](#) to discuss human rights violations against Palestinian citizens of Israel in the backdrop of Israel's military offensive on Gaza. The subjects included the increase in campaigns of racial incitement by public officials, the massive arrests of Arab citizens during anti-war demonstrations, police violence during these events, the rights violations of detainees, and the rise of Arab workers being fired from their jobs as a result of expressing their opinions on Facebook in protest of the war on Gaza, among others.

2. Protecting the Human Rights of the Bedouin Community in the Naqab

Although the Praver Plan legislation was frozen in 12/13, numerous aspects of the plan continued to be implemented on the ground, including home demolitions, the issuing of demolition and eviction orders, and the destruction of crops. State officials also pressured residents of various unrecognized Bedouin villages to abandon their lands through one-on-one oral 'negotiation'. Further, the government still refused to engage with Bedouin citizens in any serious participatory process in

order to resolve the land disputes, and thus, the citizens continue to suffer from severe daily hardships. Adalah prioritised its advocacy work in 2014 to continue calling for the full halt to the Praver Plan and to improve Bedouin citizens' social-economic rights and living conditions.

EUROPEAN UNION

EU ENP highlights concerns over Praver Plan and rights of the Bedouin

In 3/14, the EU published its [ENP progress report](#) for 2013. The report urged Israel to “increase efforts to ensure equality of all Israeli citizens as regard to the rights of people belonging to minorities, including the Negev Bedouins” and added that for the Praver-Begin plan on the Negev Bedouin, there is a “need for proper consultation of the communities concerned.” Adalah submitted a [briefing paper](#) in 10/13 in advance of the ENP review, noting its key concerns regarding discrimination against Palestinian citizens, including the Bedouin, with an emphasis on the detrimental aspects of the Praver Plan. In 10/14, Adalah, together with partner organizations, submitted two new reports to the ENP for its review of Israel for 2014: the first on the rights of [Palestinian citizens of Israel](#), and the second on Israel's lack of accountability and use of torture/CIDT against [Palestinians in the OPT](#).

Raising concerns of the Bedouin in the UK

In 1/14, Dr. Thabet Abu Rass, the director of Adalah's Naqab office, travelled to London to meet with a wide range of supporters regarding the Praver Plan and new developments in the field in the Naqab. While in London, he met with former minister and current MP for the Labour Party, Jack Straw, who is deeply interested in the issue of Palestinian displacement on both sides of the Green Line. In addition, he met British government officials in the Foreign Office and representatives of international human rights organizations. Dr. Abu Rass was also interviewed by several media outlets on the Praver Plan and the Bedouin.



Dr. Thabet Abu Rass of Adalah with MP Jack Straw in London, January 2014

Advocacy mission to EU to raise attention to Bedouin Rights, Praver Plan

In 10/14, Adalah, the Negev Co-Existence Forum (NCF), EMHRN, and CIDSE conducted an advocacy mission in Brussels and met with members of the EU parliament, the EU ENP division, and other EU officials to discuss Arab-Bedouin rights in the Naqab. The partners highlighted the continued implementation of the Praver Plan on the ground, despite the freezing of the legislation, including the hundreds of home demolitions in Bedouin villages. The partners appealed to the EU representatives to call for the full halting of the Praver Plan and to demand respect and protection for Bedouin citizens' rights.

LOCAL ACTIVITIES

Study tours in the Naqab



Throughout 2014, Adalah carried out dozens of tours to Arab Bedouin villages in the Naqab (approximately 4 tours per month) for hundreds of participants including diplomats, journalists, students, donors, activists and others. The tours sought to raise awareness about the challenges facing the Bedouin community, particularly those living in unrecognized villages under heightened threat of home demolitions and forced displacement. The tours also took participants to newly-recognized villages and government-planned towns to witness the state's discrimination and negligence in providing basic services despite their legal status. The participants

frequently commented that the tours were extremely important in drawing attention to human rights violations against the Bedouin community.

Highlights of Adalah's tours in the Naqab 2014 included: (i) A tour in 2/14 for academic researchers from the University of Oslo in Norway; (ii) A tour in 3/14 for several German foundations and journalists; (iii) A tour in 5/14 with NCF for 10 representatives of Latin American embassies in Israel; (iv) A tour in 6/14 for a Palestine Works delegation of 20 law students from the US, Canada and Australia; (v) A tour in 6/14 with NCF for 12 Hebrew-language bloggers and journalists, and; (vi) A tour in 11/14 for 14 Palestinian artists.

3. Defending Rights of Prisoners & Detainees against Torture/Ill-Treatment

In 2014, Palestinian prisoners staged a hunger strike to protest against Israeli practices of administrative detention and a wide range of other human rights violations committed against them in prison. The Israel Prison Service (IPS) instituted a range of punitive measures against the hunger strikers, including placing severe obstacles and restrictions on attorney visits, banning family visits, prohibiting time in the prison yard, shackling hunger-strikers to their hospital beds for 24-hours a day, among other extremely harsh practices. At the same time, the Israeli government pushed ahead with its controversial "force-feeding" legislation, threatening the hunger strikers with force-feeding should they continue their protest. Adalah's advocacy work thus focused on these key issues in 2014, with several positive achievements (see "Successes" above).

EUROPEAN UNION

European Parliament Fact-Finding Mission on prisoners' rights

In 3/14, members of the European Parliament (EP) conducted a Fact-Finding Mission (FFM) to assess the conditions and policies towards Palestinian prisoners in Israeli prisons. The mission was held in accordance with a European Parliament Resolution passed on 14 March 2013, following the death of prisoner Arafat Jaradat in Israeli custody. Adalah, together with its human rights partners, provided written input to the FFM in 2/14 in preparation for its mission. The EP [issued a statement](#) about their mission in 3/14.

EU-Israel ENP Progress Reports, NGO reports and advocacy against torture

The EU issued its European Neighborhood Policy (ENP) [progress report on Israel](#) in 3/14, in which it highlighted continued complaints of the use of torture by Israel and the lack of investigations into these complaints. The EU further expressed concern of Israel's continued excessive use of administrative detention, and emphasized the need to implement the recommendations of the Turkel Commission Report to ensure accountability. The EU ENP report highlighted several issues raised in a [joint NGO input](#) submitted by Adalah, PHR-I, PCATI and Al Mezan in 11/13 regarding the human rights of prisoners and detainees in Israeli prisons. In 11/14, Adalah, Al Mezan, and PHR-I [submitted a new joint report](#) to the EU in advance of its ENP Progress Report on Israel for 2014, providing new updates. In 11/14, Adalah's International Advocacy Coordinator, Amjad Iraqi, participated in an advocacy mission with the EMHRN and other human rights organizations on the EU ENP process. The advocacy visit also included participation in an EMHRN-organized European NGO Advocacy Workshop, and an EMHRN PIP Working Group meeting in Brussels.

Advocacy mission to Brussels on prisoners/torture and ill-treatment

In 6/14, our EU Advocacy Coordinator (joint EU Torture project) met with EU and EU member state representatives regarding the Palestinian prisoner hunger strikes, the Force-Feeding Bill, and other issues concerning prisoners' and detainees' rights in Brussels. In London, meetings were held with members of Medact to the British Medical Association (BMA), which helped to initiate its emergency motion and letter to the Israeli government against the Force-Feeding Bill.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Joint statements against Torture and Ill-Treatment

In 4/14, Adalah, PHR-I, Al Mezan and PCATI issued a [joint statement](#) on Palestinian Prisoners' Day and widely distributed it. The statement highlighted Israel's illegal practices and called on the international community to urge Israel to respect international human rights and humanitarian law on Palestinian prisoners' rights. In 6/14, the human rights organizations issued a [joint statement](#) on the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture. The statement sought to raise urgent attention to the acceleration of the Force-Feeding Bill, the status of the hunger strikers, and the "Green Light to Torture" against newly arrested administrative detainees. In 5/14, Adalah representatives participated in an EMHRN PIP Working Group meeting in Copenhagen, Denmark. The Working Group agreed to make prisoners' and detainees' rights a priority field of interest, and to prepare an EU advocacy strategy document to further advance this cause.

Partners' meeting in Copenhagen against torture and ill-treatment



In 5/14, Adalah, together with Al Mezan and PHR-I, convened a partners' meeting in Copenhagen to further their joint EU-funded project on combating Israel's use of torture and ill-treatment against Palestinians in the OPT. The meeting focused on the partners' progress in the project, and upcoming activities including UN/EU events and main advocacy themes. The partners also discussed the prisoners' hunger-strike and Israel's proposed force-feeding bill, and mapped out further legal work in this regard.

4. Accountability for IHL and IHRL violations against civilians in Gaza/OPT

The war on Gaza

In 7/14, Adalah joined other Palestinian NGOs in Israel in [issuing a joint statement](#) urging the international community to call on Israel to halt its military attacks against Palestinian civilians in Gaza. In another [joint NGO statement](#), 14 organizations sent a letter to the UN Human Rights Council demanding an end to the war on Gaza, and the opening of investigations into violations of IHL. In 7/14, the UN Human Rights Council adopted a resolution establishing an [independent, international commission of inquiry](#) to investigate all violations of IHL and IHRL in the OPT since 13 June 2014, and to make recommendations with a view to preventing and ending impunity and ensuring that those responsible are held accountable.

In 8/14, Adalah's USA Representative participated in an [emergency summit](#) with 60 Arab-American leaders from 13 states convened by the Arab American Institute in Washington, DC. The summit was organized as a response to the ongoing humanitarian and political crises across the Middle East, with a focus on Gaza, and aimed to open a direct line of engagement with US DC-based policymakers. Participants pressed for a lasting ceasefire in Gaza, and called on the Obama administration to demand an end to the siege on Gaza and to the Occupation. They also stressed the necessity of UN investigations and accountability mechanisms to address international law violations.

In 9/14, Adalah representatives met with the UN Special Rapporteur (SR) on the OPT. Adalah discussed its work in submitting complaints to the Israeli MAG concerning IHRL and IHL violations during the War on Gaza, and the Palestinian prisoners' hunger strike. The SR [expressed strong concern](#) about the killing and injuring of Palestinian children during the war, and cases of torture and ill-treatment against Palestinian children in the OPT by Israeli security forces.

In 10/14, Adalah participated in a meeting with the [UN Commission of Inquiry on the 2014 Gaza Conflict](#) in Geneva. Adalah presented on the complaints that it submitted to the Israeli MAG together with Al Mezan concerning 20 incidents of alleged war crimes committed by the Israeli military against civilians in Gaza during the War, and the initial responses of the MAG to these demands to open independent criminal investigations. Israel had [announced that it would not cooperate](#) with the Commission.

In 10/14, Adalah, together with the EMHRN and other Israeli and Palestinian human rights organizations, participated in an advocacy mission to Brussels focusing on accountability. The partners met with EU officials and diplomatic representatives of various EU member state missions based in Brussels.

Networking in UN-sponsored forums to promote Palestinian rights

In 2014, Adalah became an [accredited civil society member](#) of the UN Palestinian Rights Committee. Adalah was subsequently invited to participate in two conferences convened by the UN Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People (UNC-PP) with other human rights organizations. In 5/14, Adalah Attorney Fady Houry participated in a conference on the [Question of Jerusalem](#) in Ankara, Turkey. Attorney Houry gave a presentation entitled "Jerusalem Master Plans and the Absentee Property Law" at a public forum held at TOBB University. In 12/14, Adalah's Media Director, Salah Mohsen, participated in a conference entitled, "[International Conference of Local Governments and Civil Society Organizations in Support of Palestinian Rights](#)", in Seville, Spain.

III. Legal Education

During 2014, Adalah conducted the following legal education activities:

- 1. Training for lawyers and law students:** Adalah trained 6 legal apprentices and law students, and 6 international interns in its offices; mentored 2 law students from the Haifa University Arab Minority Rights Legal Clinic; and held one professional legal course for 25 lawyers on representing detainees and prisoners.
- 2. Human rights awareness-raising workshops for Bedouin community:** Adalah together with the Negev Coexistence Forum (NCF) convened 7 human rights workshops for 55 members of the Arab Bedouin community in the unrecognized villages in the Naqab.
- 3. International workshop & public events:** Adalah convened 2 international workshops with the Center for Palestine Studies at Columbia University on “The Nakba and the Law” and “New Case Developments;” staff gave public lectures and participated in conferences in Israel and in the US; and Adalah held a photo exhibition and fundraiser entitled "Families Interrupted" on the ban on Palestinian family unification in Israel at *Alwan for the Arts* in NYC.
- 4. Publications:** Adalah published 10 editions of its electronic newsletter (with over 15,000 subscribers); and 3 litigation dockets.
- 5. Media & social media outreach:** Adalah prepared and distributed 90 press releases with 6 major cases receiving widespread media coverage; wrote 13 op-eds, which were published by media outlets; updated its trilingual websites with around 7,000 unique visitors per month; maintained 2 Facebook pages (Arabic and Hebrew; and English) with about 13,800 followers; and created 6 multimedia products.

1. Training for Lawyers and Law Students

Representing Detainees and Prisoners: Arrest, Investigation and Remedies



In 5/14 and 6/14, Adalah held a 10-session professional training course for 25 lawyers (14 women and 11 men) over five days on the legal representation of detainees and prisoners. The course, which was held at Beit Hagefen: The Arab Jewish Cultural Center in Haifa, featured lectures by

lawyers, legal academics, and human rights practitioners on a range of subjects. Topics included: the international human rights law of torture and access to remedies; the constitutionalization of criminal cases; the legal representation of “security suspects,” including interrogation, gag orders, and the ban on meeting with lawyers; the representation of child “security suspects” in Israeli courts and military courts; and others. [See the Program](#) | [Photos](#).

The participants gave highly positive feedback on the course, the quality of the material, and the topics covered. One participant noted that: “hearing lectures given by professionals in criminal law was enlightening, especially on a practical level. It gave me tools to deal with prisoners and/or detainees and with arrest conditions.” Another participant noted that: “the course did not just add to my legal knowledge, it also was enriching from a political and humanitarian perspective.”

9th Annual Arab Law Students Conference



In 10/14, 62 law students attended Adalah’s 3-day conference held in Neve Shalom/ Wahat al-Salam near Jerusalem. Students participated in workshops on IHL; learned about freedom of expression rights, including on social media; were taught skills to represent youth protestors and detainees; and more. Keynote speakers included Supreme Court Justice Salim Jubran and Ha'aretz journalist Amira Hass, who spoke about her coverage of the Gaza War during the summer of 2014. Adalah Board members and Attorneys with Adalah and other HR partner organizations including PCATI, ACRI, Kav L’Oved and others led workshops and discussions. Participants rated the conference highly and gave positive feedback on the lectures and topics covered. One participant stated that the conference “met my expectations in terms of introducing me to legal professionals in varying legal specialties and to different fields of the law.” See the [Program](#) | [Photos](#)

Legal apprentices and law students



Six legal apprentices and law students trained in Adalah throughout 2014. They gained valuable experience by working alongside Adalah's attorneys on the full range of their legal cases and participating in all of Adalah’s trainings, meetings, and events. Adalah also mentored law students from Haifa University’s Arab Minority Rights Clinic.

2. Human Rights Trainings for Community Members

Adalah and NCF organized 7 human rights trainings in four unrecognized Bedouin villages that were identified as being at high-risk of demolition by state authorities in 2014. The trainings aimed to strengthen the participants' knowledge of their human rights and their ability to document and advocate against violations.



The workshops brought together a total of 81 participants (29 women and 52 men). Trainings were held in Atir, Wadi el-Na'am, Al Qrein, and Al Za'rura.

Each workshop provided an overview about the Israeli legal system and the right of freedom of expression and to demonstrate, followed by a media workshop on the significance and methods of documenting events such as home demolitions, and police violence. Each participant also received a list of helpful resources and telephone contacts.

Feedback from participants in the workshops

Ali Abu Sheheta, Al Qrein village:

"The workshop was great, it was at the right time and for an urgent need. It gave me much new information about my rights to protesting and challenging the court decisions. Now I can protest better peacefully without giving them (the police) any excuses to use force against me."

Ali Abu Al-Qi'an, Atir village:

"The workshop was excellent. It came at a hard time of demolitions and with a lot of pressure on our families, but we feel more empowered now and we can demand our rights in a more assertive way."

Mohammad Abu Goda, Al-Zarurah village:

"The workshop was vital and important. We are very happy for the cooperation we created between the local committee and Adalah and the Negev Coexistence Forum. We ask for more training with more practical tools so we can face this hard ongoing discrimination."

3. International Workshops and Public Events

Adalah-CPS Workshops: "Nakba & the Law: Presence of the Past" & "New Case Developments"

In 2/14, Adalah held a joint workshop with the Center of Palestinian Studies (CPS) at Columbia University on "The Nakba and the Law." The workshop launched a research partnership between Adalah and CPS on rethinking the Nakba as a legal phenomenon. Of particular interest is how the Nakba is manifested in Israeli case law as it relates to Palestinian citizens of Israel and the Palestinian refugees, especially in the fields of land, territoriality and citizenship. Sixteen lawyers and academics joined the workshop from Adalah, CPS, Columbia Law School, the University of California-Berkeley, and Queens CUNY Law School, among others. Adalah and CPS intend to hold a series of workshops, convene an international conference, and issue a joint publication in the coming years. In 10/14,

Adalah and CPS held another workshop in New York which brought together human rights lawyers, advocates, academics and UN representatives to discuss new decisions of the Israeli Supreme Court in land and political participation rights impacting the rights of Palestinian citizens of Israel.

Selected Lectures

Throughout 2014, Adalah's staff members gave lectures and participated in conferences in Israel and internationally. A highlight of Adalah's lectures took place in 2/14, when Hassan Jabareen gave a lecture to a full-house of close to 100 participants at Columbia University Law School entitled "Through the Lens of the Law: The Jewish and Democratic State." The lecture was sponsored by CPS, the Middle East Institute, the Human Rights Institute, and Social Justice Initiatives. [See the video here](#). Attorney Jabareen gave lectures dozens of times throughout the year at Hebrew, Tel Aviv, and Haifa Universities, Bir Zeit University, and at numerous other venues.

Also in 2/14, Attorney Suhad Bishara, Director of Adalah's Land and Planning Unit, gave a lecture entitled "Securing Land Rights for Palestinian Citizens of Israel" to 45 students, civil society representatives, and community members at New York University, as part of the Conflict, Security, and Development Series at the Wagner Public Policy School. The lecture focused on how the definition of Israel as a Jewish state shaped the land regime. Attorney Bishara also gave a guest lecture on the discriminatory land regime in Israel at New York University Law School at the request of Prof. Frank Upham in his "Property Rights" seminar.

Attorney Sawsan Zaher, Director of Adalah's Social and Economic Rights Unit, gave many talks in 2014, the highlights of which included: a lecture in 2/14 on discrimination in education as part of a book launch event in Tel Aviv; a lecture in 3/14 at an event hosted by Baladna on the Citizenship and Entry into Israel Law; and a lecture in 8/14 at the Interdisciplinary Center (IDC) on freedom of expression during the war on Gaza.

Rina Rosenberg, International Advocacy Director, gave a presentation at the Minerva Center at Hebrew University in 6/14 on Adalah's experiences before UN human rights mechanisms, including achievements/challenges during a conference of the university's International Human Rights Clinic.

Salah Mohsen, Adalah's Media Director, participated in a panel discussion in 6/14 in Ramallah entitled "Settlers' Attacks: Roots and Responses" convened by the Carter Center.

Exhibition and Event: Citizenship Law/Ban on Family Unification



In 2/14, Adalah, together with the Center for Palestine Studies (CPS), hosted a public event/fundraiser and photography exhibition entitled "Families Interrupted" at the Alwan Center for the Arts in NYC. The exhibition, shown in 2013 in Haifa and Jerusalem, focuses on the ban on family unification in Israel between Palestinian citizens and Palestinians from the OPT.

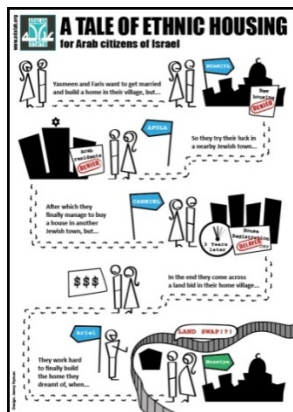
The event included a presentation and Q&A with Adalah's General Director, Hassan Jabareen, about the Citizenship Law in Israel, as well as the screening of [a short film](#) on the ban on family unification directed by Ayed Fadel and Mike Kardosh and produced by Adalah. Around 90 people attended the event. See photos of [NYC Photo Exhibition](#) | See the ["Families Interrupted" website](#).

4. Publications

Adalah's Newsletter

In 2014, Adalah published 10 [volumes of its newsletter](#), and received around 200 new subscribers. As of 12/14, subscribers included: 4,000 in English, 9,000 in Arabic, and 2,000 in Hebrew, totaling approximately 15,000.

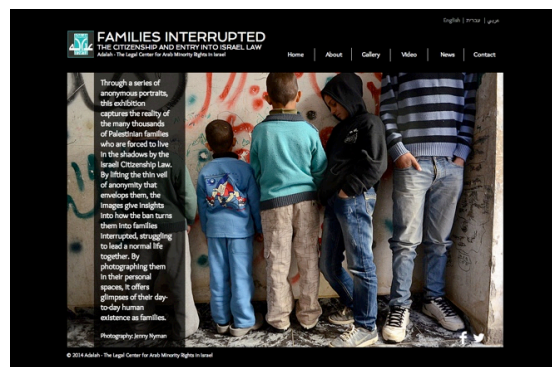
January 2014: [Yasmeen & Faris: A Tale of Ethnic Housing](#)



Based on real-life events and Adalah's cases, this newsletter featured an illustration showing the difficulties faced by a fictional Arab couple in Israel in trying to buy a home. The story incorporates: restrictions on residential areas in proposed Master Plans for [Arab villages](#), the [discriminatory practices of construction companies](#) against potential apartment buyers, [the lengthy process of registration](#) for Arab property owners, and the [unfair and high price bidding procedures for residential land](#) in Arab towns. It ends with an ironical illustration of the consequences of Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman's proposals for land and population swaps.

February 2014: [Valentine's Interrupted](#)

This newsletter uses "Valentine's Day" as an opportunity to raise awareness about the ban on family unification, as well as to promote Adalah's "Families Interrupted" photo exhibition in NYC and its newly upgraded exhibition website. The newsletter effected a new push in Adalah's campaign against the ban on family unification.



March 2014: [New Data on Land Day: Israel's Land Discrimination in Numbers](#)



In commemoration of the 38th Anniversary of Land Day, this newsletter brought issues of land allocation and the sale of Palestinian refugee property to the forefront. In an effort to document how Israel continues to tighten its control over confiscated Palestinian-owned land and property in Israel and the OPT, Adalah released [a report](#) analyzing the numbers and locations of state-published bids for new housing units and industrial and commercial zones, as well as its sales of refugee property. The newsletter also

highlighted Adalah's legal work on access to education in the Naqab, including cases demanding [the establishment of a high school](#) and [connection of schools to the electricity grid](#) in Bedouin villages.

April 2014: Israel's 'Invisibility Cloak': A Village and a Detainee



This newsletter brings together two seemingly different cases: the state's attempt to demolish and evict residents from Atir-Umm al-Hiran in the Naqab, and the [arrest and incommunicado detention](#) of Adalah's web editor and journalist Majd Kayyal following his return from the 40th anniversary conference of As-Safir newspaper in Beirut, Lebanon. The connection is made as follows: [a journalist can be hidden in the Shabak's cellars and lose all contact with the outside world](#), and at the same time, [an entire village can be erased to establish a new Jewish town in its place](#); both of these cases highlight the arbitrary and sweeping ways in which Israel tries to make Palestinians invisible.

For the case of Atir-Umm al-Hiran, Adalah continued with its ["Save Atir-Umm al-Hiran"](#) campaign, utilizing a [photo essay](#) as a means to share the personal stories of five villagers. For Majd Kayyal's case, Adalah published a detailed [analysis](#) on the issue of secret arrests.

May 2014: Praver is Frozen, but the Nakba Continues

To commemorate Nakba Day (15 May), Adalah sought to renew the public debate on the forced displacement of Arab Bedouin in the Naqab, after the halting of the legislative process of the Praver Plan in December 2013. Despite the Praver Plan's legislative freeze, the state continues to demolish homes, to deny Bedouin citizens access to basic services, and to move forward with [a discriminatory regional Metropolitan Plan for Beer Sheva](#).



The newsletter features a short article on these issues by Adalah's USA representative Nadia Ben-Youssef ["While Praver is Frozen..."](#)

June 2014: The Hunger Strike is Over, but Torture Continues



This newsletter, published to mark the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture, focused on three urgent issues: the "Force-Feeding Bill," administrative detention and the "Green Light to Torture". Adalah issued [a joint statement](#) with Al Mezan, PHR-I and PCATI against these practices.

The newsletter also highlighted Adalah's legal actions to challenge the punitive measures taken by the IPS against the hunger-striking Palestinian

prisoners, showcased an illustration showing the rights' violations against hunger-strikers, in court as administrative detainees, and then in prison or in the hospital. The newsletter also features a video-clip interview with Adalah's General Director Attorney Hassan Jabareen about these urgent issues.

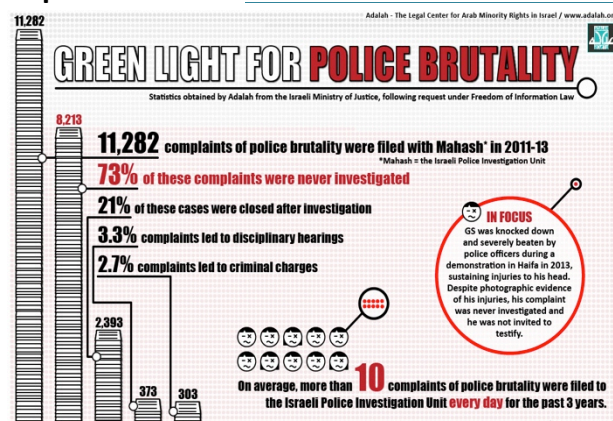
July 2014: [Ending Israeli impunity in Gaza: Why Accountability Matters](#)

Several weeks into the attack on Gaza, Adalah published this newsletter to emphasize the need for accountability for alleged war crimes. The newsletter focused on the importance of these demands by local and international actors to recognize the nature of Israel's disproportionate attacks on Gaza.



Additionally, the newsletter highlighted the need for accountability for police brutality against Palestinian citizens of Israel. A large wave of protests took place in opposition to the war. Adalah represented dozens of detainees, many of them minors, and continues to demand investigations into police violations of the law.

September 2014: [On October 2000 Anniversary: Alarming New Data on Police Brutality](#)



This issue of Adalah's newsletter highlighted new statistics on police brutality and commemorated the killings of 13 Palestinian citizen protestors by Israeli police in October 2000. The newsletter emphasized the persistent impunity of Israeli police forces and the need for accountability in their actions.

The newsletter highlighted that the Israeli legal system continues to legitimize discriminatory figures and institutions. This is reflected in the appointment of Meni Mazuz as a SCT Court

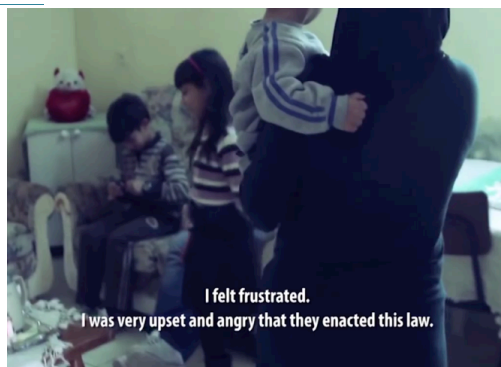
Justice, who as AG, closed the investigations into the killings of the 13 Palestinian citizens.

November 2014: [Is Torture a Crime in Israel?](#)

In this newsletter, Adalah set forth a proposed "Anti-torture bill". The newsletter highlighted that despite the Israeli Supreme Court's landmark anti-torture case 15 years ago, Israel continues to systematically use methods of torture and ill-treatment in the absence of an Israeli law that explicitly prohibits torture – new legislation that UN human rights treaty bodies have called for repeatedly. The proposed bill outlines the basic provisions that should be incorporated into Israeli law in order for Israel to comply with its international human rights obligations. The newsletter also drew attention to the opening of investigations into 12 out of 21 cases of torture of Palestinian children in the OPT, following a letter to the Military Advocate General based on testimonies collected by DCI-P.



December 2014: [Being a Palestinian Citizen of Israel](#)



In its December newsletter, Adalah illustrated many of the continued struggles faced by Palestinian citizens of Israel as non-Jews living in a “Jewish state.” The newsletter included six photos with six examples of cases that Adalah dealt with in 2014, with taglines reflecting the nature of the cases such as, “A car rental company denied me their services because my family name is Jabareen.”

Multimedia Products

Adalah released 6 multimedia products in 2014:

- In 1/14, Adalah produced an infographic on “A Tale of Ethnic Housing” (see above).
- In 2/14, Adalah launched the online exhibition for “Families Interrupted.” [See the website.](#)
- In 4/14, Adalah produced a photo gallery on Umm al-Hiran (see above).
- In 6/14, Adalah produced an infographic on “Palestinian Administrative Detainees on Hunger Strike.” [See the infographic.](#)
- In 6/14, Adalah produced a video clip interview with Adalah’s General Director, Hassan Jabareen, on the legal aspects of the hunger-strike and the Force-feeding bill. [See the video.](#)
- In 10/14, Adalah produced an infographic on “Police Brutality” (see above).

Litigation Docket

Adalah issued three litigation dockets in 2014, which provide a list of all pending cases before Israeli courts and land planning committees, as well as recent court decisions. See the latest litigation docket from November 2014, [here](#).

5. Media and Social Media Outreach

The Case of Majd Kayyal



The case of journalist and Adalah web editor, Majd Kayyal, received the most media coverage of any case of Adalah in 2014. Kayyal was detained on 12 April 2014 while crossing from Jordan to Israel. He was returning from a conference in Beirut, Lebanon which he independently attended after receiving an invitation to mark the 40th anniversary of the “As-Safir” newspaper, to which he has been a frequent contributor for about two years.

Kayyal was brought to court, where the prosecution alleged that Kayyal had “travelled to an enemy state” and had “contact with a foreign agent.” The second offense carries a criminal penalty of 15 years in

prison. The judge imposed a gag order on the case, a prohibition on meeting with lawyers, and eight days of detention. Adalah submitted urgent appeals against the lengthy period of detention, and motions to lift the ban on meeting with lawyers and the gag order; the latter was brought by Adalah in its own name and on behalf of the I'lam Media Center, as well as journalists Wade' Awawdeh, Jack Khoury, Khulood Masalha, and Yoav Etel. The Haifa Magistrates' Court lifted the gag order after five days of incommunicado detention. [Read the story here.](#)

Immediately after the gag order was lifted in 4/14, Adalah hosted a [press conference](#) at its office, which attracted wide attention and successfully stirred up a debate on secret arrests on various fronts. Dimi Reider from +972 [live tweeted](#) from the press conference. The case was reported on in at least 22 media articles, including the New York Times, the Guardian, Al Jazeera English, Haaretz, +972, Electronic Intifada, Times of Israel, Free Haifa Blog, and Mideast Peace. The case was so widely reported as it raised issues of freedom of movement, the right to culture between Palestinians and the Arab nation, draconian measures of incommunicado detention, the state's discriminatory treatment of Palestinian journalists as compared with Israeli Jewish journalists, among others.

For the full list of articles, see the April 2014 section of [Adalah in the News](#). The case was featured for ten minutes on one of the most popular Israeli TV news shows, "London and Kirshenbaum," in which Attorney Sawsan Zaher, Director of Adalah's Economic and Social Rights Unit, participated. In addition, with 10,800 views and 1,500 engagements, the posts about the case were the most popular posts on Adalah's Facebook page in 2014.

Meeting with the NY Times Editorial Board and The Nation



Together with the IMEU – the Institute for Middle East Understanding, Adalah met with a key Foreign Affairs editor at the NY Times in NYC in 2/14. The meeting focused on Palestinian citizens of Israel and their critical place in understanding the situation in Israel/Palestine. The editor was very engaged in the hour-long meeting and welcomed information directly from Adalah.

Also in 2/14, around 20 editors, staff members, and interns joined an in-depth briefing on key human rights concerns facing Palestinian citizens of Israel at *The Nation*. *The Nation* expressed a strong interest in working with Adalah. The Nation has subsequently published 2 articles by Adalah staff: Nadia Ben Youssef, ["How Chomsky Obscures Israel's True Nature,"](#) in 7/14 and Hassan Jabareen, ["The Real Debate Over Israel's 'Jewish-Nation State' Bill",](#) in 1/15.

Hebrew Bloggers Tours in the Naqab

Adalah and NCF organized 2 tours in the Naqab for Hebrew bloggers and journalists, with the aim of increasing the visibility of the human rights situation of the Arab Bedouin in the Hebrew media. The first tour hosted 10 journalists and bloggers from Ha'aretz, Hamakom and TV Channel 1. 9 bloggers from Siha Mekomit (Local Call) participated in the second tour.

Key Statistics

Website & Facebook Pages

In 2014, [Adalah's website](#) received 80,000 unique visitors, who viewed 250,000 pages. Adalah's newsletter had 15,000 subscribers as of 12/14. Adalah's Arabic and Hebrew Facebook pages have 13,800 followers, and received 2,200 new likes in 2014 alone. [Adalah's Facebook page for English speakers](#) has 1,800 likes. Two of Adalah's most popular and shared Facebook posts in Arabic were

about Majd Kayyal's detention with 40,000 views and 27,000 engagements; and Adalah's 9th Annual Arab Law Student Camp, which received 45,000 views and 31,000 engagements.

Summary of Media Coverage

Adalah's work received widespread media coverage both locally and internationally in Arabic, Hebrew, and English in 2014. Adalah's work was featured on hundreds of local websites and newspapers and more than 250 Arab and international newspapers. Adalah staff and Board members also appeared on TV and in radio interviews about Adalah's work. News sources gave extensive coverage to Adalah's work on 6 main issues this year:



Adalah's Media Director, Salah Mohsen, appears on Israeli TV.

- Securing the release of journalist and Adalah web editor Majd Kayyal after his arrest;
- Protecting the rights of Palestinian hunger striking detainees & opposing the Force-feeding bill;
- Challenging the 2011 Anti-Boycott Law before the Supreme Court;
- Numerous human rights violations around the war on Gaza including Adalah's representations of protestors; letters asking for investigations into suspected war crimes; and a petition before the SCT to allow Gazan civilians to access Israeli courts for tort cases against the military;
- Defending the Arab Bedouin residents of the unrecognized village Atir-Umm al-Hiran against the state's attempts to evict them and demolish their homes.
- Challenging the "Admissions Committees Law" before the SCT.

1) The incommunicado detention of Majd Kayyal for traveling to Beirut

Adalah's most widely covered case in 2014 was that of Majd Kayyal, a 23 year-old Palestinian citizen of Israel. Stories included:

- Arabic: [BBC](#), [Al-araby](#), [Al-quds](#), [Alwasat](#), [Bokra](#)
- Hebrew: [Ha'aretz](#) (Hebrew Edition), [YNet](#), [Mako](#), [Walla](#)
- English: NY Times (1), (2), [Jerusalem Post](#), [Ha'aretz English](#) (1), (2), (3), (4), (5), [Al Jazeera](#)
- Interviews: with Gideon Levy, [Ha'aretz](#) in [Hebrew](#) and [English](#)

2) Hunger strikes and Force-feeding bill

The 60+ day hunger strike by Palestinian administrative detainees began in 4/14. In response, the government pushed forward with a Force-feeding bill, in an attempt to stop the strike. Adalah and its partners did extensive media and international work around these issues, which was covered in the following news sources:

- Arabic: [Al Jazeera](#), [Al Araby](#), [Al Quds](#), [Maan News](#)
- Hebrew: [Reshet Bet](#) and all the Hebrew media
- English: [Ha'aretz](#), [Middle East Monitor](#), [Jerusalem Post](#), [Times of Israel](#)

3) Anti-Boycott Law

This law, enacted in 2011, defines public boycotts and/or calling for a boycott of Israeli institutions, within Israel or in the OPT, as a civil wrong. Adalah and ACRI continued to challenge the law before the SCT in 2014 (petition dismissed in 4/15). This issue was covered in news sources in 2014 such as:

- Arabic: [Bokra](#), [Al-quds](#), [Al-quds UK](#), [Al-Jazeera](#)
- Hebrew: [Ynet](#), [Ha'aretz](#), [Israel Social TV](#)
- English: [Ha'aretz](#) (1), (2), [Jerusalem Post](#) (1), (2), [+972](#) and [Editorial in Ha'aretz](#)
- Op-ed: [Ynet \(in Hebrew\)](#)

4) Gaza War

Adalah's work on several related issues was covered by a variety of news sources, including:

War Crimes:

- Arabic: [Al Quds](#), [Maan](#), [Panet](#)
- Hebrew: [Haaretz](#), [YNet](#)
- English: [Al Akhbar](#), [Daily Star](#), [The Jerusalem Post](#), [Electronic Intifada](#)

Protests and racial incitement/Arab citizens of Israel:

- English: [The New York Times](#), [Ha'aretz Weekend Supplement](#)

Access to Courts:

- Arabic: [Maan](#), [Arabs 48](#), [Al Quds \(1\),\(2\)](#), [Palestinian Press Agency](#)
- Hebrew: [Ha'aretz \(1\)](#), [\(2\)](#), [\(3\)](#)
- English: [Kibush](#), [Ha'aretz \(1\) \(2\)](#)

5) Atir/Umm al-Hiran

Adalah continued to work to save the unrecognized Bedouin villages of Atir-Umm al-Hiran (1,000 residents). News sources that covered the story included:

- Arabic: [Maan](#), [Al Arab](#), [Arabs 48](#),
- Hebrew: [+972](#), [The Marker](#), [Walla](#)
- English: [Maan](#), [Mondoweiss](#)

6) Admissions Committees

In 9/14, the SCT rejected petitions brought by Adalah, ACRI and others against the "Admissions Committee Law." Adalah's work on the case was publicized by, among others:

- Arabic: [Panet](#), [Arabs 48](#), [Al Jazeera](#), [Al Hyat](#)
- Hebrew: [NRG](#), [Ha'aretz](#), [Maariv](#), [Mako](#)
- English: [Al Jazeera](#), [Middle East Eye](#), [Middle East Monitor](#), [Ha'aretz](#)

Op-Eds by Adalah staff members

- Op-Ed by Media Director Salah Mohsen on the Majd Kayyal case: "[How one Palestinian citizen challenged Israel's 'enemy state' policy](#)," +972 Magazine, 19 April 2014.
- Op-Ed by Board Chair Attorney Hussein Abu Hussein about "price tag" crimes against Arabs in Israel: "[Price tag terror: Is Israel facing a war between religions?](#)" Ha'aretz, 5 May 2014.
- Op-Ed by IA Coordinator Amjad Iraqi about the successful case of Alsira: "[Bedouin village wins major ruling as court blocks state's demolition plans](#)," +972 Magazine, 6 May 2014.
- Op-Ed by Attorney Fady Houry about the arrest and ill-treatment of Palestinian children: "[Palestinian kids detail abusive interrogations, arrests](#)," +972 Magazine, 8 June 2014.
- Op-Ed by USA Representative Nadia Ben-Youssef responding to Noam Chomsky's article on Israel/Palestine & BDS: "[How Chomsky obscures Israel's true nature](#)," The Nation, 10 Jul 2014.
- Op-Ed by IA Coordinator Amjad Iraqi on the Israeli military's use of "roof-knocking" bombs: "[The Humanitarian Myths of Israel's 'Roof-Knocking' Policy in Gaza](#)," 9 September 2014.
- Two Op-Eds by IA Coordinator Amjad Iraqi about the Admissions Committees Law case: "[Contradicting its own ruling, Israel's Supreme Court legalizes segregated communities](#)," +972 Magazine, 18 September 2014; and "[Israeli Supreme Court made unjust decision in upholding 'Segregation Law'](#)," Huffington Post, 30 September 2014.
- Op-Ed by Attorney Sawsan Zaher on Israel's military investigations into Operation Protective Edge: "[The Gaza op cover-up](#)," Ynet English, 21 September 2014; also in [Ynet Hebrew](#).
- Op-Ed by Attorney Nadeem Shehadeh & IA Coordinator Amjad Iraqi on Israel's use of torture: "[U.S. torture report shows dangers of Israel's legal loopholes](#)," +972 Magazine, 13 Dec 2014.

IV. Institutional Development

During 2014, Adalah conducted the following institutional development activities:

Strategic planning: Adalah conducted strategic planning processes in order to set forth our Strategic Plan for 2015-2019. These processes included 2 Board-staff workshops, a gender audit, and numerous staff meetings.

US presence: Adalah engaged in a wide range of advocacy and awareness-raising activities in the US, and to further institutionalize Adalah's presence in the US.

Institutional meetings: Adalah held 2 General Assembly meetings; confirmed new Board members and elected a new Chairperson of the Board of Directors; held 6 Board meetings and finance committee meetings.

Staff capacity: Adalah continued to build the skills, knowledge and capacity of staff, by convening trainings and supporting staff participation in relevant courses and workshops locally and abroad.

Fundraising: Adalah worked to secure the necessary financial resources for its work from a diversified group of donors, and also to explore new funding sources and partnerships.

1. Strategic Planning, 2015-2019



In 2014, Adalah continued with its strategic planning processes for the years 2015-2019. This process has been a period of deep organizational reflection, evaluation, and learning. Adalah expects to complete its strategic plan during the first half of 2015.

The strategic planning process began in 2013, when Adalah underwent an independent External Evaluation. The evaluation set forth constructive recommendations which spanned many aspects of Adalah's work. Adalah worked

on incorporating the key recommendations into its future plans, and as such, in 2014, Adalah held two strategic planning workshops, a gender audit, and several staff meetings to develop the plan.

In 3/14, Adalah's organizational consultant, Fathi Marshoud of Shatil, distributed questionnaires and met with all staff members to help them to begin to identify the strategic objectives of each unit and department. In 6/14, Adalah held a two-day Board-staff workshop in Ramallah. Several external academics and practitioners based in Israel and the West Bank presented at this workshop, which focused, on day 1, on context analysis of the changing political, social and legal environment of Adalah's work. On day 2, the Board and the staff attempted to integrate this analysis into the strategic objectives.



In the summer of 2014, in line with the evaluators' recommendations, Adalah worked with an expert consultant from the Women's Studies Center in Jerusalem to conduct a gender audit, and to develop a gender mainstreaming plan. Ms. Sama Aweideh facilitated a series of workshops with Adalah's staff, and conducted interviews with staff, Board members and partner organizations. The workshops were designed to promote learning and a reflection on gender issues, personally and institutionally, and for developing a gender mainstreaming plan with a set of

recommendations. Adalah incorporated the longer term recommendations as part of its Strategic Plan 2015-2019, and the shorter term recommendations, which include capacity building of staff on gender mainstreaming and gender sensitive programming and budgets, into its 2015 workplan.

Throughout the fall, Adalah's staff worked intensively on clarifying and agreeing upon its overall strategic objective – to increase impact – and on the particular strategic objectives of each unit and department. These processes culminated in a second Board-staff workshop, held in 12/14 in Jerusalem. Here the strategic objectives were presented and discussed for each department, and changes noted. At this meeting, Adalah's USA Representative, Nadia Ben-Youssef, presented on the highlights of her work in the US over the last year, and led further discussions on establishing a 501(c)(3) organization, and the new advocacy and fundraising opportunities in the US. The Board formed a Steering Committee to follow-up on these US processes.

2. US Advocacy and Institution-Building



Ms. Nadia Ben-Youssef, Adalah's USA Representative, worked throughout 2014 to develop Adalah's strategic presence in the US. Adalah aims to conduct advocacy/awareness-raising on the rights of Palestinian citizens of Israel, and to fundraise for the work of the organization from a wide range of US supporters.

Adalah's main target groups in the US are: Palestinian-American and Jewish-American community leaders; law school faculty and students, academics, researchers at institutes and

think-tanks with expertise on Israel/Palestine and the Middle East; advocates with human rights organizations; journalists with mainstream and social media outlets; and decision-makers.

Highlights of Adalah's work in the US in 2014 included:

- **Fundraising and institution-building:** Secured seed-funding from the Rockefeller Brothers Fund for Adalah's institution-building efforts in the US; identified key donors in Israel/Palestine as well as those interested in legal strategies and democracy building based in the US.
- **Community Outreach:** Gave several talks at New Israel Fund-convened or supported events with top NIF-leadership; participated on a panel at the first national Open Hillel conference on

the human rights framework for protecting Palestinian rights; and participated in the National Students for Justice in Palestine conference on equality in a “Jewish and democratic state.”

- **Academic Outreach:** Organized two workshops with the Center for Palestine Studies at Columbia University: the first on “The Nakba and the Law” and the second on highlights of key new legal developments at the Israeli Supreme Court; established a relationship with the Boston Consortium of Arab Regional Studies; met with key academics on Palestinian rights at leading universities in the US; worked closely with students in the NYU Human Rights Legal Clinic on legal research projects for Adalah; participated in Middle East Studies Association (MESA) National Conference in Washington, DC.
- **Lawyers’ Associations and Human Rights Organizations’ Outreach:** Participated on panels at the National Lawyers’ Guild (NLG) conference on mass incarceration from the US to Israel/Palestine; proposed panel for regional conference on litigating equality in Spring 2015; built relationships with key civil society actors on Israel/Palestine including the Institute for Middle East Understanding (IMEU), B’Tselem-USA, Jewish Voice for Peace, Just Vision, and the US Campaign to End the Occupation.
- **Media and Opinion-shapers:** Began building US media contacts; monitored mainstream media coverage of Israel/Palestine; and identified and began building relationships with key DC-based think-tanks including Brookings Institute, New America Foundation, Foundation for Middle East Peace, Al-Shabaka, and the Institute for Policy Studies.
- **Decision-makers:** Identified key decision-makers in the US Congress, US State Department and in the White House to keep informed about Adalah’s efforts and priorities; participated in an emergency summit on Gaza targeting key DC decision-makers with Arab-American leaders hosted by the Arab American Institute; and formalized Adalah's relationship with the UN Division for Palestinian Rights becoming an accredited member.

3. Institutional Meetings: General Assembly, Board of Directors

Adalah held a range of institutional meetings in 2014: two General Assembly (GA) meetings, 5 meetings of the Board of Directors, and 2 meetings of the Finance Committee.

The first GA meeting was held in 2/14 (postponed from 2013), at which four new members of the Board of Directors and two new members of the Audit Control Committee were elected. The GA discussed and approved the Annual Report of Activities and the Audited Financial Report for 2012.

The new Board held its first meeting in 3/14 and elected a new Chairman, Attorney Hussein Abu Hussein who served as a board member at Adalah since 2011. Attorney Abu Hussein has worked as a human rights lawyer since 1976, specializing in land, compensation, and torture/prisoners’ rights issues. He is a founder of the Arab Association for Human Rights, and has been active in human rights as well as art NGOs for many years.



Upon becoming Chairman of the Board of Directors of Adalah, Attorney Abu Hussein stated that, “In the coming period...we will face an Israeli Zionist discourse that puts the Jewish state at the center and discriminatory laws as the priority...The biggest challenge for us is how to face these projects legally and professionally, and also together, popularly, with the rest of the Palestinian community.”

Adalah held its second GA meeting in 12/14, immediately following its Strategic Planning meetings in Jerusalem. At this meeting, Adalah staff presented their activities in 2013 and 2014, and the GA approved the external auditor's 2013 financial report; the control committee's report covering 2013; and the oral report on updates concerning the Registrar of Associations. The GA appointed Nazeeh Bocaie, CPA, as Adalah's external auditor, and elected Attorney Abd el Aziz Ibrahim as a new Board member.

The Board of Directors held 5 meetings during this year. At these meetings, they received updates on Adalah's work, discussed case dilemmas, public events, media opportunities and organizational challenges, and reviewed fundraising, finance and administrative issues.

The Finance Committee held 2 meetings in 2014. The Committee is comprised of 3 Board members, including the Chairman of the Board, and four staff members. At these meetings, the committee reviewed the budget and reports of spending, discussed any large expenditures, new grants, and upcoming fundraising initiatives, and conferred about the salaries range and other work rules and procedures regarding staff benefits.

4. Staff Capacity Building

During 2014, Adalah staff members attended a variety of training courses in Israel and abroad to further build their capacities and skills.

Legal Training



Adalah Attorneys Nadeem Shehadeh and Aram Mahameed participated in a 10-week course on "Criminal Law, Procedure and Evidence" given by the **Israel Bar Association**, from 3/14 to 7/14.

Former Chair of the Board of Directors, Dr. Hala Khoury-Bisharat, an **international law expert**, provided a 1-day training to all staff on IHRL, IHL, and international criminal law in 9/14.

Adalah's International Advocacy Coordinators Amjad Iraqi and Aya Hijazi and Adalah Attorney Muna Haddad participated in a course on

Palestinian refugees and internally displaced persons organised by Zochrot, an Israeli NGO working to promote acknowledgement and accountability for the ongoing injustices of the Nakba, in 11/14 and 12/14. The four-session course focused on Israel's policies of forced displacement during 1948 and 1967, including massive land confiscation, residency revocations, restrictions on child registration, and home demolitions, and a range of remedies that refugees should be offered.

Leadership and Management

In 2/14, Adalah's Office Manager, Fathiyya Hussein, and Naqab Field Researcher, Khalil El-Amour attended a training by Christian Aid on the Humanitarian Accountability Partnership (HAP). The HAP Standard is designed for organizations that work on behalf of people affected by disasters, conflict, poverty or other crises to design, implement, assess, improve and recognize accountable programs.

In 3/14, Adalah's Media Director, Salah Mohsen, participated in a one-week intensive program at Columbia University Business School in New York entitled, "Developing Leaders Program for Non

Profit Professionals.” Salah was chosen to attend the course in a highly competitive, application process. The program aimed to prepare managers to support the overarching goals of the organizations with which they work by exposing them to key management concepts such as strategic thinking and planning, negotiation, branding, conflict management, and self-management.

In 4/14, Amjad Iraqi and Adalah’s Finance Director, Ghassan Kharouba, attended workshops conducted by the European Commission in Tel Aviv on the management of EU funded projects.

Staff Honors



Adalah Attorney Suhad Bishara, the Director of the Land and Planning Rights Unit, was awarded the first Palestine and Law Fellowship from Columbia University Law School. Suhad will be in residence at CU conducting research on Arab Bedouin land rights during the 2014-2015 academic year.

Former Adalah Attorney Fady Khoury was awarded a full scholarship for Masters of Law (LLM) study at Harvard Law School. He was at Harvard during the 2014-2015 academic year, and has just received his LLM.

Adalah's General Director, Hassan Jabareen, was appointed as a Senior Visiting Human Rights Fellow at Yale Law School in 2014. Jabareen spent two months conducting research for academic articles relating to the rights of Palestinian citizens of Israel. Rina Rosenberg (Jabareen), Adalah’s International Advocacy Director, was appointed as a Schell Fellow at Yale Law School in 2014.

5. Finances and Fundraising

Financial policies

Adalah updated its "Work Rules and Procedures" for staff in 2014. This clear and concise document contains information on a wide-range of employee issues such as holidays, sick days, travel and reimbursements, benefits, among others.

Resource Development

In line with Adalah’s fundraising and reporting needs and projections, Adalah hired two new staff members to work on resource development in 2014. This team joined the International Advocacy Department, which works on fundraising, international advocacy, and English-language media and publications. The resource development team managed all grants, reporting and donor relations, and proposed fundraising strategies in order to further diversify and secure sufficient funds for Adalah’s work. Adalah’s budget for the year 2014 was US \$1.45 million.

Major projects/grants for 2014 included:

- *EU Torture 2*: This is a second-cycle grant was awarded for another 3-year period by the EU to Adalah, Al Mezan (Gaza) and Physicians for Human Rights-Israel to combat torture and ill-treatment of Palestinian prisoners in Israeli prisons and civilians.
- *EU Naqab*: This EU-funded project, conducted jointly with the Negev Co-existence Forum, seeks to promote the human rights of the Arab Bedouin living in the Naqab.
- *The Gaza War Accountability Project*: Adalah secured funds from two donors to pursue domestic investigations into alleged war crimes committed by the Israeli military in Gaza, and to conduct international advocacy for accountability.
- *Adalah's US Advocacy and Institution-Building Program*: Adalah secured a grant from a new donor, the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, for this new strategic initiative.
- Adalah secured 3 new multi-year contracts for its work in 2014 and beyond from the following donors: Sigrid Rausing Trust (July 2014 – June 2017); the Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Switzerland (2014-2015); and Bread for the World (2015-2018).

Donors and Contributors

Foundations and donors to Adalah in 2014 were:

- Ford-Israel Fund (USA)
- New Israel Fund (USA and Israel)
- OxfamNOVIB (The Netherlands)
- Bread for the World (previously EED) (Germany)
- The European Commission
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs - Switzerland
- Open Society Development Foundation (Switzerland)
- Christian Aid (Great Britain)
- Broederlijk Delen (Belgium)
- Sigrid Rausing Trust (Great Britain)
- UN Development Programme (UNDP)
- Medico (Germany)
- HR & IHL Secretariat (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).
- Rockefeller Brothers Fund (USA)

We sincerely appreciate and thank all contributors – foundations and individuals – for their generous support to the work of Adalah.

Board and Staff



Board of Directors – 2014

Chairman: Advocate Hussein Abu Hussein.

Members of the Board: Dr. Eman Abu Hanna; Odeh Bisharat; Professor Ahmed Natour; and Advocates Naseem Shaqr, Salma Wakeem, and Abd Al Aziz Ibrahim.

Audit Control Committee: Dr. Hala Khoury-Bisharat, Advocate and Professor Mahmoud Yazbak.

Staff

Founder and General/Legal Director: Attorney Hassan Jabareen.

Legal Department

Land & Planning Rights Unit: Director, Attorney Suhad Bishara; Attorney Mysanna Moranny; Attorney Mohammed Bassam; Attorney Fady Khoury (until 8/14); Weeam Baloum, legal apprentice (until 8/14).

Economic & Social Rights Unit: Director, Attorney Sawsan Zaher; Attorney Muna Haddad (NIF Fellow); Mohammed Bassam, legal apprentice (until 8/14); Rabea Eghbariah, legal apprentice.

Civil & Political Rights Unit: Director, Hassan Jabareen; Attorney Nadeem Shehadeh; Attorney Aram Mahameed; Khalil Elamour, legal apprentice; Maria Zahran, law student.

Media and Public Relations Department

Director, Salah Mohsen; Arabic Media Coordinator, Majd Kayyal; Hebrew Media Coordinator, Tom Mehager.

International Advocacy Department

Director, Rina Rosenberg (Jabareen); USA Representative, Nadia Ben-Youssef; Projects and International Advocacy Coordinator, Amjad Iraqi; International Advocacy & Resource Development Coordinator, Aya Hijazi; International Advocacy Assistant, Jana Boulus; Publications Coordinator, Katie Hesketh (maternity leave until 11/14).

Administration and Finance Department

Finance Director, Ghassan Kharouba, CPA; Office Manager, Fathiyya Hussein; Accountant, Basheer El Saleh; Administrative Assistant, Amal Shoufany; Housekeeper, Alia Saadi.

Naqab Office

Director, Dr. Thabet Abu Rass (until 4/14); Field Researcher, Khalil Elamour; Secretary, Eman Alkamlat.

International interns

In 2014, five international interns worked with Adalah:



- Robina Wilson, Exeter University, UK, Human Rights & Advocacy Intern;
- Julia Caligiorne Santos, Brazil, Human Rights & Advocacy Intern;
- (Simona) Shimeng Xu, Yale University, USA, Human Rights & Advocacy Intern;
- Danara Dourdoussova, Osgoode Hall Law School, Canada, Legal Intern;
- Torrance Castellano, Harvard Law School, USA, Legal Intern.

We are very thankful to all our interns for their valuable work and contribution to Adalah.