

Adalah's Annual Report of Activities 2015

Issued June 2016



Three generations of the Abu al-Qian family fighting to save Atir-Umm al-Hiran in the Naqab desert from imminent demolition and evacuation



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Introduction

What's Inside

This report highlights Adalah's successes and the main outcomes of activities conducted in 2015. As the report reflects, Adalah had numerous achievements 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 Palestinians living under occupation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT). Adalah also achieved successes through our international advocacy before the UN, the EU and in the US. In addition, Adalah trained lawyers and law students, issued new publications and position papers, and engaged in extensive outreach to Arabic, Hebrew and English audiences via mainstream and social 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 in four areas: Legal Action, International Advocacy, Legal Education, and Institutional Development. We hope that it 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 We Are

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. We are also in the process of establishing a new, strategic presence in the United States. Established almost 20 years ago 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 in Hebrew, Arabic and English;
- Trains legal apprentices, law students, and new lawyers in the field of human rights.

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Context

An extreme right-wing government led by Prime Minister Netanyahu, which was elected in March 2015, adopted a hostile stance towards the human rights of Palestinian citizens of Israel and Palestinians living under occupation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT). The Knesset continued to enact racist, discriminatory and otherwise anti-democratic legislation and more new bills were proposed that violate fundamental human rights, especially in the security field. Harsh new measures in 2015 include the banning of the Islamic Movement in Israel, the attempted closure of the Arab Al-Midan Theatre in Haifa, the crackdown on peaceful protestors, the enactment of the Forced Feeding law, among many others. Palestinian human rights are under attack from all sides, which both increased Adalah's workload and created a less favourable political environment for the achievement of human rights. Adalah continued its work to challenge human rights violations against Palestinians before the Israeli courts, and to widely publicise violations to end them, locally and internationally, by stepping up our advocacy and media outreach work with local partners and in Europe and the US to counteract this challenge.

Further, in 2015 the Israeli Supreme Court issued a [series of negative decisions](#) including upholding: the Electoral Threshold Law, the Anti-Boycott Law, the applicability of the Absentees' Property Law in East Jerusalem, a ban on higher education for Palestinian prisoners classified as 'security prisoners', and the state's plan to demolish Umm al-Hiran-Atir, in order to build the Jewish town of "Hiran" and to expand the "Yatir Forest", respectively, over their ruins. These decisions compelled Adalah to re-think its case filing policies and practices, as human rights organizations also faced an increasingly antagonistic Court. The Court's decision in the Umm al-Hiran-Atir case led Adalah to initiate a public campaign to #SaveUmalHiran.

A wave of violent events began in Israel/Palestine in mid-September 2015, including extra-judicial executions of alleged Palestinian knife attackers against Israelis and police brutality against Palestinian protestors against a backdrop of almost complete impunity. These events represented a challenge to Adalah's work in that many resources had to be channeled towards those events, with the organization shifting into emergency mode for significant periods of time. A great deal of Adalah's work was therefore defensive, rather than proactive or based on making positive demands for rights. Adalah tried to balance its work to achieve accountability, transparency and end impunity with also promoting human rights by continuing to bring education and health rights cases. Other positive steps that Adalah took to meet these challenges included convening legal education programs for young lawyers and law students.

During 2015 the state renewed its threats against the work of human rights organizations through new proposed legislation. Indeed, bad NGO laws were enacted in several countries throughout the world, including Egypt, Hungary, India, Ecuador, Russia and China. In Israel, newly-proposed legislation - adopted by the Ministerial Committee on Legislation on 27 December - attempts to increase bureaucratic burdens and place additional restrictions on human rights organizations that receive significant funding from governmental sources abroad (e.g., wearing tags in the Knesset and revealing in all correspondence with state agencies that the NGO receives foreign government support), including Adalah. Adalah is working closely with partner NGOs to fight against and publicize these laws internationally.

I. Legal Action

During 2015, Adalah submitted **15 new cases and appeals** and **50+ legal interventions**, represented about **30 protestors** at detention hearings, and continued to follow up on all pending cases before Israeli courts and land planning committees. Adalah achieved **10 wins** and had **7 losses**.

Achievements

1. Disqualification of MK Zoabi overturned by Supreme Court (SCT).



In an 8-1 ruling delivered in February 2015, the SCT overturned the Central Elections Committee's (CEC) decision to disqualify Arab MK Haneen Zoabi (Tajammu/Balad) from running in the 17 March elections. Adalah represented MK Zoabi before the Attorney General (AG), the CEC and the SCT. The AG decided to recommend to the CEC that MK Zoabi be permitted to run for election, following comprehensive submissions by Adalah and an affidavit by MK Zoabi. This recommendation paved the way for a positive outcome by the SCT.

This case is the latest in a long line of attempts by right-wing MKs to keep Arab politicians from sitting in the parliament. Adalah also represented the Joint (Arab) List before the CEC; the CEC did not disqualify the List. [Press release](#); [Press release](#)

> [Israel's AG: Arab lawmaker shouldn't be barred from Knesset run](#), Ha'aretz, 11 February 2015

> Yonah Jeremy Bob, [Zoabi, Marzel back in election race, High Court rules](#), Jerusalem Post, 18 February 2015

> Revital Hovel, [High Court overturns decision: Zoabi and Marzel can run in election](#), Ha'aretz, 18 February 2015

2. MK Barakeh cleared of all protest-related criminal charges.



After years of trial, on 10 May 2015, the Tel Aviv District Court overturned the fourth and last criminal charge against MK Mohammed Barakeh. This ruling cleared him of all charges relating to his protest activities against the Second Lebanon War, the Separation Wall, and the dismissal of all cases against police officers for the October 2000 killings. [Press release](#)

> Yonah Jeremy Bob, [On appeal, District Court cancels conviction of former MK Barakei for alleged tussle](#), Jerusalem Post, 10 May 2015

> Jack Khoury, [Tel Aviv Court overturns assault conviction of ex-Hadash head](#), Ha'aretz, 11 May 2015

3. Indictment against Sheikh Sayyah, leader of the unrecognized village of Al Araqib, dismissed.



The last of 14 indictments against individuals arrested during demonstrations against home demolitions in the unrecognized Bedouin village of Al Araqib in the Naqab was dismissed by the Beer Sheva Magistrates' Court in February 2015. Adalah had represented all 10 individuals charged over the last years. This final case concerned charges against the head of the village, Sheikh Sayyah, for forcibly taking control of land and failure to obey orders to leave the land. [Press release](#)

4. Promotion of Bentzi Sau to Chief of Israeli Police blocked. In June 2015, Adalah learned that the Minister of Public Security was set to appoint Tel Aviv Police Chief Bentzi Sau to the position of Chief of the Israel Police. Adalah sent an urgent letter to the AG and the Minister demanding that Sau not be appointed, noting that, "as a legal center that assisted the [13] bereaved families who lost their sons in October 2000, and that also represents the Arab leadership, we can assert that there is a clear consensus against the promotion of Bentzi Sau. Sau holds the lowest level of confidence among the Arab public ..." According to the Or Commission, Bentzi Sau bears responsibility for three killings in the Wadi Ara area. The Border Police in the area were under his leadership and command in October 2000. In addition to the legal letter sent, Adalah worked closely with the High Follow-up Committee for Arab Citizens of Israel and the victims' families to block Sau's appointment. While Sau served as Acting Police Chief for several months, finally he was not appointed to the post and he retired from the force.

> Yaniv Kubovich and Jack Khoury, [Officer Involved in Suppression of October 2000 Riots Mustn't Be Police Chief, Arab Leaders Say](#), Ha'aretz, 26 June 2015

> [Hadash and Adalah protest Bentzi Sau's promotion to Chief of Police](#), Maki, 20 August 2015

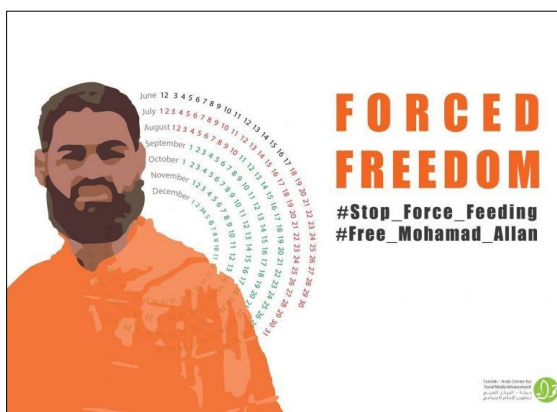
5. Arabic Radio Ashams permitted to broadcast on Yom Kippur. In July 2015, the SCT approved a



change to the regulations made by the Second Television and Radio Authority (STRA) to allow Radio Ashams, the most popular Arabic radio station in Israel with 300,000 listeners, to broadcast on Yom Kippur. The court delivered the ruling on a petition filed by Adalah and the l'lam Media Center in 2014 on behalf of Radio Ashams. Adalah argued that the rules of Jewish religious holidays should not be imposed on Arab

communities in Israel as it violates their rights to freedom of expression and human dignity. In August, the SCT ordered the STRA to pay the petitioners NIS 5,000 (US \$1,250) in expenses.

6. Administrative detention order (ADO) against Palestinian hunger striker Mohammed Allan suspended by Israeli SCT. The SCT issued this decision in August 2015, following a petition submitted by Adalah and private attorney Jamil el-Khatib, and the rapid deterioration of Allan's medical condition. Allan, who was being held at Barzilai Hospital, had been on a 65-day hunger strike in protest of his administrative detention without charge or trial since 11/2014. Adalah argued that the only consideration for releasing Allan or not, should be whether or not he poses a security risk and the fact that Allan's health situation deteriorated as a result of his personal decision to hunger strike should not be a negative consideration against him. In its final judgment, the SCT decided not to release Allan but to *suspend* the ADO. This is the first time that the Court chose the track of "suspension" of the order in an emergency regulation case.



This case came in the context of the Knesset's enactment of the new "Forced-Feeding Law" in July, which Adalah and an array of human rights organizations vehemently opposed. Adalah also sent a letter to Barzilai Hospital and the AG demanding that the hospital refrain from force-feeding Allan, after he was moved there due to Soroka Hospital's refusal to force-feed him. Adalah argued that the use of force-feeding not only violated the wishes and basic rights of the hunger-striking Allan, as well as Israeli and international medical ethics, but also constituted a form of

torture and/or ill-treatment. Subsequently, Allan was re-arrested and then released from administrative detention in 11/2015. [Press release](#)

- > Diaan Hadid, [Israeli Court approves release of fasting Palestinian](#), New York Times, 19 August 2015
- > Jonathan Lis, Shirly Seidler, Jack Houry and Ido Efrati, [Israeli Court Freezes Administrative Detention Order for Hunger-striking Palestinian Prisoner](#), Ha'aretz, 19 August 2015
- > Telem Yahav and Matan Tzuir, [Court suspends hunger striking Palestinian's administrative detention](#), Ynet News, 19 August 2015

7. Protecting the right to protest (from September 2015 onwards). During the recent violent



events, which took place throughout Israel and the OPT, the Israeli police, backed by the courts, tried to prevent the legitimate protest of Palestinian citizens of Israel against the government's policies by means of brutal and illegal acts. The primary purpose of these acts is to oppress and intimidate citizens into silencing their dissent. Adalah represented 23 detainees in courts throughout the country and gathered testimonies from those individuals whose rights were violated by the police. Adalah worked closely with Mezan (Nazareth), the Human Rights

Defenders Fund and volunteer lawyers to represent the more than 100 detainees. Adalah also sent letters to the Attorney General calling for an investigation into the illegal acts undertaken by the police including the arbitrary arrests of minors; 'preventive arrests' of protest organizers to thwart demonstrations; arrests of activists' family members to pressure them; and severe physical violence against protestors. [Press release](#)

- > Noam Sheizaf Interview with Adalah General Director Hassan Jabareen, ['The problem isn't Arab protesters, it's the society that sees them as an enemy'](#), +972 Magazine, 6 October 2015
- > Jack Houry, [Israeli Arab Protesters Clash With Police in Nazareth](#), Ha'aretz, 8 October 2015
- > Mya Guarnieri, [How does Israel stop Palestinians from protesting?](#) Al Jazeera English, 19 October 2015
- > Patrick Strickland, [Arrests of Palestinians in Israel soar amid crackdown](#), Al Jazeera English, 19 October 2015
- > Adalah Attorney Sawsan Zaher, [From October 2000 to October 2015](#), Ha'aretz, 20 October 2015

8. Defending cultural freedom against state interference: Haifa Municipality ordered to reinstate



funding to Arab Al-Midan Theatre. The new government has opened “culture wars” against Arab theatres and Arab actors in Israel. In June 2015, Adalah sent letters on behalf of the Al Midan theatre in Haifa to the new Israeli Culture Minister Miri Regev against her decision to freeze the theatre’s funding, as well as to the Minister of Education, Naftali Bennet, in relation to his withdrawal of Al-Midan’s play, “Parallel Time,” from the list of approved cultural performances for students in Israel. [Press release 1](#); [Press release 2](#)

In November 2015, the Haifa District Court ordered the Haifa Municipality to reinstate funding to Al-Midan for the year 2015. In doing so, the court accepted Adalah’s petition brought on behalf of the theatre. Months ago the municipality announced the freezing of support due to incitement by right-wing groups against the theatre’s performance of a play entitled “A Parallel Time”. Adalah argued that providing funding for the arts produced and consumed by the Arab national minority (approximately 20,000 theater-goers to Al-Midan) is not a matter of choice or grace; rather, it is an obligation on the state. The court accepted Adalah’s legal argument that the freezing of the funding was unlawful because no hearing had been held beforehand and the theatre was not given the right to respond to the allegations made against it. Further, the decision lacked a sound factual basis.

In October 2015, Adalah filed a petition to the SCT on behalf of the Al Midan Theater against the Culture Ministry to reinstate funding. *Update:* In March 2016, Adalah and the State Prosecutor informed the SCT that Al-Midan Theater reached an agreement with the Culture Ministry to resume the transfer of public funds to the theater in the aftermath of the petition. [Press release](#)

> [No one to oppose Culture Ministry's Stalinist spirit](#), Ha’aretz Editorial, 17 June 2015

9. Six Arab Bedouin schools in the Naqab connected to electricity. As of November 2015, 6 schools – 3 in Umm Batin and 3 in Al Sayyid (two newly-recognized Bedouin villages) – were connected to the electricity grid. The schools previously had to manage on unreliable generators. Adalah petitioned the SCT in 2013 regarding the lack of electricity in seven schools in three newly-recognized Arab Bedouin villages (Umm Batim, Al-Sayyid, and Kohleh), with a combined total of around 3,000 pupils. The remaining school in Kohleh is in the process of being connected to the electricity grid. [Press release](#)

> Shirly Seidler, [After 40 Years, Bedouin Village's School Finally Linked to the Power Grid](#), Ha’aretz, 28 July 2015

10. Mother and Child clinic in Arab Bedouin village in the Naqab re-opened. In December 2015, the Ministry of Health (MOH) informed Adalah that the “Mother and Child” clinic in the Bedouin village of Abu Tulul in the Naqab had been reopened and connected to the electricity grid, following Adalah’s intervention. Adalah sent a letter to the MOH in October 2015 demanding that the clinic be reopened. The clinic, which serves around 130 families (estimated at 1,040 people), was closed due to a broken generator, which the MOH failed to repair or replace. The clinic was first opened in 2000 following an Adalah petition to the Supreme Court (SCT).

> Almog Ben Zikri, [Baby Clinic in Bedouin Village Closed Because of Lack of Electricity](#), Ha’aretz, 4 November 2015

Litigation and Major Legal Representations

I. Land and Planning Rights

Unrecognized Villages



1. SCT upholds state plan to demolish Atir-Umm al-Hiran. On 5 May 2015, the SCT in a 2-1 decision ruled that the demolition of the village and eviction of its 1,000 Bedouin residents could proceed. The sole reason given by the state to demolish the village is to build the Jewish town of “Hiran” in its place. If it is allowed to stand, the ruling will set a dangerous precedent for future, potential demolitions and evacuations of the unrecognized villages in the Naqab. [Press release; Campaign page for #Save_UmAlHiran](#)

- > Amira Hass, [Israeli colonialism, plain and simple](#), 11 May 2015
- > Daa Hadid, [Village of Bedouins faces eviction as Israel envisions a village of Jews](#), NY Times, 16 May 2015
- > Jonathan Cook, [Israeli court says Arab village must make way for Jewish town](#), Middle East Eye, 15 May 2015
- > Myssana Morany, [Israeli authorities hide behind law, ignoring discrimination against Arabs](#), Ha’aretz, 14 May 2015
- > [Court-approved dispossession of Israeli Bedouin](#), Ha’aretz Editorial, 13 May 2015
- > Aeyal Gross, [Israel's discrimination gets high court stamp of approval](#), Ha’aretz, 11 May 2015
- > Amjad Iraqi, [High Court okays plan to raze Arab village, build Jewish one in its place](#), +972 Magazine, 11 May 2015
- > Shirly Seidler, [Supreme Court allows state to replace a Bedouin village with a Jewish one](#), Ha’aretz, 6 May 2015

2. Extraordinary motion for second hearing to the SCT filed in Atir-Umm al-Hiran case. On 7 June 2015, following the negative decision noted above, Adalah filed an extraordinary motion for a second hearing before an expanded panel of SCT Justices. Adalah relied on the minority opinion of Justice Barak-Erez, which asserted that the majority ruling, “infringes existing laws,” as well as on the opinions of top Israeli legal scholars who unanimously agreed that the ruling violated constitutional rights of Atir-Umm al-Hiran residents. [Press release](#)

- > Jack Khoury and Shirly Seidler, [Bedouin facing eviction submit new appeal to Israel's Supreme Court](#), Ha’aretz, 9 June 2015

UPDATE: On 17 January 2016, the SCT rejected Adalah's motion. The Court's refusal to reconsider [its 5 May 2015 ruling](#) effectively means that the evictions and the demolition of village can proceed. Adalah is considering various legal options to try to continue to block this decision. [Press release](#)

- > Yonah Jeremy Bob, [“High Court rejects final appeal to stop demolition of Umm-al-Hiran Beduin village.”](#) Jerusalem Post, 18 January 2016

3. Motions to freeze home demolition and evictions orders in Atir-Umm al-Hiran.



Adalah filed numerous motions and appeals to the Kiryat Gat Magistrates' Court and Beer Sheva District Court to stay the matters of home demolition and eviction orders in Atir-Umm al-Hiran throughout 2015, while the case was pending before the Supreme Court. One of the conditions imposed by the lower court to freeze and/or postpone the orders was the payment of NIS 5,000 per family; the villagers paid over NIS 100,000 (US \$25,000), obliging them to maintain the status quo in the village. *Update: As the SCT dismissed the request for a second hearing in January 2016, the state can implement these home demolition and eviction orders.*

> Shirley Seidler, [Bedouin to ask court to postpone demolition of their southern Israel village](#), Ha'aretz 25 May 2015

4. Challenging the illegality of tenders for new construction in "Hiran". Adalah also sent a letter to the ILA in August 2015 regarding the illegality of the planned tenders ("bids") in the "Hiran" settlement while the cases are still pending. Adalah did not receive a response.

Ala'wejan

5. Afforestation of land in an unrecognized village. Adalah sent a letter in August to the Israel Land Authority (ILA) demanding that it stop the afforestation works near the unrecognized Arab Bedouin village of Ala'wejan, as it violate the residents' constitutional right to property. This process establishes irreversible facts on the ground that will make it difficult for residents to claim ownership of the land. Adalah did not receive any response.

Right to Housing

6. Petition against refusal to sell apartments to Arab citizens in Afula. In 2013, Adalah filed a petition to the SCT demanding that the ILA and a construction company be ordered to [sell an apartment to an Arab citizen in a new neighbourhood in Afula](#), located in the centre of Israel. The company refused to sell the man an apartment, arguing that the area was not a "mixed neighbourhood." Adalah argued that the apartments were built on state lands that belong to the JNF and is managed by the ILA, and thus the state could not "sub-contract" these discriminatory practices. 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. In 7/15, Adalah submitted closing arguments and the SCT held a hearing, at which it asked the petitioner and the company to negotiate and find a fair solution to sell an apartment to the petitioner. After the negotiation failed, Adalah asked the SCT to hold another hearing. *Update: The SCT heard the case again in 2/16. At the hearing, the company suggested a new apartment in another housing project, the court asked for more information and Adalah's response. Adalah's client rejected the offer, and now, we are waiting for the final court decision.*

7. Government must market construction tenders for housing in Galilee village. In March 2015, Adalah demanded that the Ministry of Housing and Construction together with the ILA begin marketing construction tenders for housing in the Arab village of Al Kamanneh (pop: >1100). Despite the approval of a master plan in 2013 after years of legal battles, the ILA has failed to put out the 100 tenders that are ready for marketing. The delay contributes to the housing crisis and prevents the development of the village. [Press release](#)

8. Reconsideration of discriminatory housing program sought. In March 2015, Adalah wrote to the Housing Minister, ILA and AG to seek reconsideration of the proposed "Target Price" housing

program. The program aims to reduce the cost of housing in certain Jewish and mixed towns (including West Bank settlements) by as much as 20% of the average national price; but it excludes Arab towns from this benefit. The state responded that there is no Arab town that fits the program's terms. The Housing Minister further claimed that the housing problems would be solved through the "120 days committee" recommendations. The committee finished its work, the government adopted the recommendations, but no budget was dedicated for this purpose. [Press release](#)

9. Housing discrimination in Ma'alot-Tarshiha must end. In June 2015, Adalah wrote to the ILA upon learning that the association that won the tender to market new apartments in the Oranim neighbourhood in Ma'alot-Tarshiha (pop. 20,000, estimated 20% Arab or 4000) is refusing to sell any of them to Arab citizens, despite having committed to non-discrimination as part of its contract with ILA. Adalah demanded an immediate cessation of apartment sales, and termination of the contract with the association for breach of the non-discrimination condition. In 12/15, the ILA informed Adalah that this act was one of "human error" and not a policy, and that actions were taken by the association to prevent the recurrence of such cases, however, no sanction was imposed on the company for the harm that it caused.

10. Seeking to cancel discriminatory land swap agreement between ILA and JNF. In December



2015, Adalah and ACRI sent a letter on 30 December 2015 to the Finance Minister, the ILA and the AG demanding the cancellation of an agreement of principles for the exchange of land between the government and Jewish National Fund (JNF) in 2009. The letter comes in the context of the signing of a comprehensive contract between the Israeli government and the JNF in November 2015, pursuant to the 2009 agreement. According to the agreement, the JNF would cede control of developed land in the center of the country, and in exchange, the ILA would give the JNF ownership of lands in the Naqab and the

Galilee. The agreement provides that the Israeli government is committed to, "preserving the principles of the JNF, including the ownership of land." The JNF, by its principles, prevent the transfer of land rights to non-Jewish people. These principles substantially contradict the duty of the ILA, which as a state agency, is to work for equality for all citizens of the state in the distribution of land resources and without racial discrimination. [Press release](#)

UPDATE 2016: In 2004, Adalah and ACRI filed petitions to the SCT challenging an ILA policy preventing Palestinian citizens of Israel from participating in bids to purchase land owned by the JNF. These petitions have been pending for 12 years. Following the new agreement in 11/15, the JNF and the AG claimed that the issues were resolved, and de-facto Arab citizens would be able to participate in all bids (although the state keeps 'compensating' the JNF with other land if an Arab family wins the bid). The SCT then suggested that Adalah and ACRI withdraw from the petitions, and after consultations, the organizations' agreed. In response to the SCT, Adalah and ACRI clarified their reservations to the agreement, and reserved the right to take future legal actions against it.

Infrastructure – Roads

11. Closing an entrance to Road 31, north of Beer el-Sabe. Adalah sent a letter in March 2015 on behalf of the Abu Rumanah family (about 350 people) to the Israel National Roads Company ("Netivei") and the Minister of Transportation. Adalah asked the authorities not to close the current entrance, as it would block the way of the family, or alternatively, to connect the family to a nearby junction. As a third option, Adalah suggested no changes to the planned route of the agricultural road planned today, as long the road will be laid with asphalt, so that would be safe and suitable.

12. Demanding safe road to school in Al Fura village. In July, Adalah sent a letter to the Ministries of Transportation and Education and the Al Kassoum Regional Council demanding to connect the primary school in Al Fura (pop.: 5000), a recently recognized village in the Naqab, to Road 31. Adalah filed a petition to the SCT in 2005 concerning this issue, which was accepted and a safe road was paved. However, recently the road was blocked due to planning changes that occurred along Road 31. In response, the state argued that the former petition was irrelevant, and highlighted that a temporary "rural" road was paved, and that they are working on a proper solution for the future.

II. Economic and Social Rights

Education Rights



13. State must provide education to 3-4 year old children. In February and August 2015, Adalah wrote to the Ministry of Education (MOE) and the Regional Councils in the Naqab to demand that they provide access to education to 3 and 4 year old Bedouin children, 75% of whom are currently without an educational framework – as compared to only 5% of Jewish children at that age – according to Adalah’s research. Implementation of the Compulsory Education Law for this age group will go into effect in the 2015-2016 academic year. Adalah also [produced a position paper](#) on this subject in May

2015. *Update:* In May 2016, Adalah, on behalf of families of 21 children in Alsira, filed a petition to the Administrative Court in Beer Sheva to compel the MOE and the al-Qasoum Regional Council to provide preschool settings for the children, either in the village itself, or in the town of Kseiffe (12 kilometers away) via state-funded transportation. Case pending with a hearing scheduled July 2016.

14. Seeking better transport to school for Arab Bedouin children in the Naqab. In August 2015, Adalah sent a letter to the MOE and Al-Qassoum and Neve Medbar Regional Councils demanding the establishment of safe and adequate transport stations for school children in seven villages in the Naqab. The Regional Councils claimed that the lack of budgets, infrastructure, roads and sidewalks stand in the way of establishing these stations, as well as the fact that some of the land is privately owned. In November 2015, Adalah checked with the landowners that they had no objection to transport stations being built on their land, at the regional councils’ request, and in April 2016 sent a reminder to the ministry asking for its response.

15. Arab Bedouin children with special needs require special educational frameworks. On the International Day for Persons with Disabilities (3 December), Adalah sent a letter to the MOE demanding that the MOE provide an appropriate educational framework for 13 Arab Bedouin students with special needs in Segev Shalom, a government-planned Arab Bedouin town in the Naqab. [Press release](#) *Update:* Adalah received no responses to the letter, and after meeting with parents, it is currently considering submitting a court petition.

16. Universities must set exam dates appropriate for Arab students. In March 2015 and April 2015, Adalah wrote to the Israeli universities and the Higher Education Council to ask them to reconsider their decision not to add an April date for a psychometric exam in medicine, suitable for Arab students. As a result, an appropriate date for the exam was added for 2015.

17. Budget inequalities in funding of church schools for Arab students must end. In May 2015, Adalah sent a letter to the MOE and the Finance Minister demanding full state funding for Arab church schools on par with that provided to their equivalent, Jewish religious schools. The 47 church schools, which are attended by 33,000 Arab children, have seen their funding severely cut and MOE-imposed ceiling on tuition fees, while the Jewish religious schools receive nearly full

funding. *Update:* On 1 September 2015, Arab church-run schools launched an open-ended strike in protest of the state's reduction of funding. By the end of September, the strike ended with an agreement with the MOE for a one-time budgetary supplement of about NIS 20 million, and the



establishment of a committee to discuss the schools' problems. [Press release](#)

> Areej Hazboun, [Church-run schools in Israel say state budget cuts an affront to the Christian minority](#), Associated Press, 28 May 2015

> Yarden Skop and Jack Khoury, [Christian school students in Israel protest for more funding](#), Ha'aretz, 29 May 2015

> Jonathan Cook, [Church-run Schools in Israel Face Death Sentence](#), AJE, 29 June 2015.

Economic Rights

18. Economic benefits to NPA-classified villages. In November 2015, Adalah sent a letter to the Construction Ministry (CM) regarding the discrimination against Arab "rural" villages concerning National Priority Area designation on the ministry's list. According to the list published on the CM's website, only 30 Arab villages were included of 558 villages on the list (or 5.4%). Of the 362 villages that actually received economic benefits, there were no Arab villages at all. *Update: The CM replied in February 2016 stating that the governmental decision that governed the classification of rural villages as NPAs had expired, adding that "at least three" Arab villages were receiving the economic benefits. In April 2016, Adalah sent a further letter asking what criteria the CM was using to allocate benefits given the expiration of the government decision.*

III. Civil and Political Rights

Political Participation

19. SCT upholds discriminatory Electoral Threshold Law. Adalah and ACRI submitted an expert opinion, as *amicus curiae*, in a petition challenging an amendment to the Electoral Threshold Law. The law raised the percentage of votes needed to gain seats in the Knesset from 2% to 3.25% - a direct assault on the small Arab parties, which individually almost never attain 3.25% of the vote. The SCT dismissed the petition on 14 January 2015 by an 8 to 1 majority. As a result, the Arab parties ran together in the election and won 13 seats as the Joint List (2-3 more seats than in past elections). [Press release](#)



> Itamar Sharon, [High Court rejects bid to annul 3.25% Knesset threshold](#), TOI, 14 January 2015

> Revital Hovel, [Israel's Supreme Court rejects petition against increasing electoral threshold](#), Ha'aretz, 15 January 2015

20. No transport to polling stations on Election Day for Bedouin citizens. Adalah sent a letter in January 2015 to the CEC Chairman asking him to provide public transportation necessary to allow residents of Arab Bedouin unrecognized villages in the Naqab to vote on Election Day. Around 35,000 citizens live in these 13 villages; they are eligible to vote but unable to, due to lack of transport to polling stations 10-40 km away. The Chairman's response failed to address the underlying merits of the matter, and instead cited fictitious "traditional constraints on joint

travelling between men and women” as reasons for refusing Adalah’s demand on the grounds that the Bedouin villagers would not use the buses provided. [Press release](#)

> Khalil Alamour and Amjad Iraqi, [How many cars does it take for a Bedouin village to vote?](#), (Adalah article) +972 Magazine, 13 March 2015

21. SUCCESS: Petition for criminal prosecution of MK Zoabi withdrawn. On 9 June 2015, right-wing MK Danny Danon withdrew his petition to the SCT against the AG demanding the criminal prosecution of MK Haneen Zoabi for a statement in which she refused to call the people who kidnapped three Israeli teenagers in the West Bank “terrorists” (the statement was made before it was known that the teenagers were killed). The petition was withdrawn one day before a SCT hearing on the case. Adalah represented MK Zoabi in this matter.

22. SUCCESS: MK Haneen Zoabi reached plea bargain with state prosecutors for “insulting a public servant”, and not incitement to violence. Adalah represented Arab MK Haneen Zoabi (Tajammu’/Balad) in reaching this agreement in September 2015. The agreement included a plea of guilty to a reduced final charge of insulting a public servant rather than incitement to violence, and an apology for the events and the payment of a minimal fine. The case concerned angry, heated remarks that MK Zoabi made against Arab police officers during court proceedings in Nazareth concerning the detentions of Arab citizen protestors in Israel against the 2014 Gaza War. Adalah and MK Zoabi decided to forgo a lengthy trial on questions of freedom of expression and MK Zoabi’s parliamentary immunity from prosecution for these alleged offenses.

> Jack Khoury, [Firebrand MK Zoabi to pay fine for calling Israeli Arab policemen traitors](#), Ha’aretz, 11 July 2015

> Jack Khoury, [MK Zoabi Reaches Plea Deal, Will Not Be Charged With Incitement](#), Ha’aretz, 10 December 2015

> Sharon Pulwer, [Reduced Charges to Be Filed Against MK Hanin Zoabi Under Plea Bargain](#), Ha’aretz 22 December 2015

23. SCT rejects appeal against conviction of former MK Said Naffaa. The SCT rejected the appeal



against former MK Naffaa’s (Balad) conviction by the Nazareth District Court for travelling to an “enemy state” (Syria), assisting in organizing a travel to an enemy state, and contact with a foreign agent in August 2015. The SCT decided that MK Naffaa’s one-year prison sentence would begin in October 2015. Adalah represented MK Naffaa before the SCT together with a private attorney. Adalah emphasized that the court’s decision ignored the fact that the charges against Naffaa are for activity within the context of an MK’s parliamentary immunity; an MK, according

to law, is permitted to leave and enter the country freely. In addition, the ban on travel to Arab countries is discriminatory and repressive as they prevent a national minority from having cultural, political and social connections with the people of their nation in the region. This ban contradicts the norms of international human rights law regarding the rights of minorities. [Press release](#)

> Mel Frykberg, [Palestinian ex-MK to begin jail term over Syria visit](#), Al Jazeera Eng., 31 October 2015

> Jack Khoury, [High Court upholds former Arab MK’s conviction for visiting Syria](#), Ha'aretz, Aug 2015

> Yonah Jeremy Bob, [Supreme Court rejects former Balad MK appeal of 1-year jail sentence](#), Jerusalem Post, 31 August 2015

24. Demanding halt to selection of new AG due to no Arab representation. On behalf of Joint List MK Dr. Yousef Jabareen, Adalah sent a letter to the AG in August 2015 to demand that the AG prevent the convening of the selection committee charged with appointing a new AG, until Arab representation on the committee is ensured. Adalah highlighted that on the two previous selection committees, not a single Arab was appointed, and argued that the committee must ensure the Arab minority’s substantial representation and visibility in various aspects of public life in order to facilitate a fair decision-making process. Despite this intervention, unfortunately, no Arab candidate participated in the selection process for AG. [Press release](#)

Freedom of expression / Freedom from racial incitement

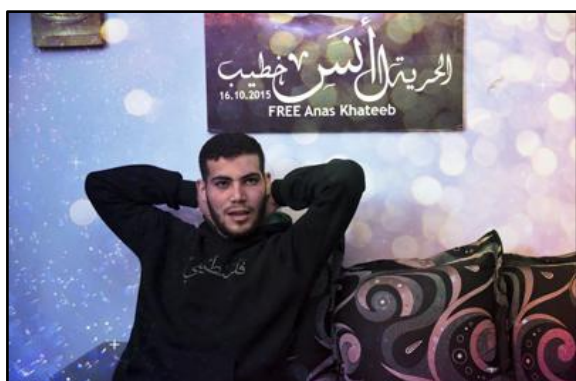


Activestills.org

25. SCT upheld Anti-Boycott Law. On 15 April 2015, the SCT dismissed a petition brought by Adalah and ACRI, together with other human rights groups, which challenged the constitutionality of the Boycott Law. Enacted in July 2011, the law creates a “civil tort”, giving a right to a private party to seek damages against individuals or entities calling for a boycott of Israel or the Israeli settlements in the West Bank. The law imposes a severe infringement on freedom of expression rights, and deters public debate. [Press release](#)

- > Dalia Hatuqa, [Israel's anti-boycott law to 'muzzle' Palestinians](#), Al Jazeera Eng, 12 May 2015
- > (Adalah Attorney) Sawsan Zaher, [Supreme Court decision in Anti-Boycott Law case and the suppression of internal dissent](#), Jerusalem Post, 3 May 2015
- > Yonah Jeremy Bob, [High Court upholds part of Anti-Boycott Law, strikes part and splits on '1967 Israel'](#), The Jerusalem Post, 15 April 2015
- > [High Court takes compromised stand on freedom of expression](#), Ha’aretz Editorial, 17 April 2015

26. Representing Facebook protestor on charges of incitement. Since October 2015, Adalah has represented 19-year-old Palestinian citizen of Israel, Anas Khateeb, against his arrest and detention by the police, based on comments that he published on his Facebook page that the police claimed constituted “incitement to violence and terrorism”. The Akka Magistrates’ Court extended his detention in October, and he was moved to house arrest in November. *Update: Following a hearing in April 2016, the court agreed to relax Mr. Khateeb’s detention conditions somewhat to allow him leave the house for several hours a day.* [Press release](#)



- > Jack Khoury, [Israeli Arab teen charged with incitement over Facebook posts](#), Ha’aretz, 23 Oct 2015
- > Patrick Strickland, [Israel arrests Palestinian teenager over Facebook posts](#), AJE, 5 November 2015
- > Sharon Pulwer, [More Arabs Than Jews Indicted for Online Incitement Amid Crackdown](#), Ha’aretz, 14 December 2015

27. State Attorney refused to investigate former Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman for incitement. In May 2015, the State Attorney’s Office (SA) rejected Adalah’s request made in March 2015 to investigate Lieberman’s inflammatory remarks against Arab citizens in the run-up to the elections. Lieberman encouraged the public to “raise the axe and cut off [the] heads” of those “who

are against us” – Arab citizens. Remarkably, the SA found it difficult to understand this statement as a call to violence; apparently he chose to see the former minister’s remarks as meaning that the Israeli authorities should fight against the phenomenon of disloyalty against the state, not necessarily with violence. [Press release](#); [Press release](#)

> Orly Noy, [State Atty. says Liberman's 'cut off their heads' not violent](#), +972 Magazine, 1 June 2015

28. Demand for criminal investigation into Lehava director for incitement to racism. In August 2015, Adalah sent a letter to the AG demanding a criminal investigation against the General Director of the right-wing group Lehava, Bentzi Gopstein, on suspicion of racial incitement and incitement to violence, based on comments he made in support of the burning of churches. Adalah has since sent two reminder letters and has so far received only a procedural response from the AG’s office stating that the case is being dealt with. [Press release](#)

Criminal (In)Justice / Lack of Accountability for Police Violence

29. Captured on video: No indictment for officers who killed Kheir El-Din Hamdan. In May 2015, the Justice Ministry’s Police Investigation Unit (“Mahash”) announced that it had closed its investigation requested by Adalah and other Arab human organizations into the police killing of Kheir El-Din Hamdan, a young Palestinian citizen of Israel. Mahash intends to file no charges against the officers involved, despite the fact that they shot the young man at point blank range and presented a false preliminary account of his



killing, later disproved by video footage. The family has hired a private attorney, who has appealed this decision. [Press release](#)

> Jack Khoury and Yaniv Kubovich, [Police officers won't be charged in November death of Israeli Arab](#), Ha’aretz, 5 May 2015

30. Challenging mandatory minimum prison sentences for stone-throwing. In October 2015, Adalah sent a letter to the Knesset’s Constitution, Law and Justice Committee, the AG and the State Prosecutor to demand that they oppose two proposed amendments to the Israeli Penal Code, National Insurance Act and the Youth (Care and Supervision) Law, that seek to impose new, unconstitutional criminal and civil sanctions on stone-throwers and their parents. The new legislation imposes mandatory minimum prison sentences for stone-throwing, imposes fines on the parents of convicted minors, and strips them of social security benefits. The legislation [passed into law](#) in November 2015. [Press release](#)

Update: In April 2016, Adalah, in cooperation with HaMoked, Addameer and DCI-Palestine [filed a petition](#) to the SCT challenging the constitutionality of the new law that denies social welfare benefits (e.g., child allowances, income support and child support) to parents of minors who were convicted and imprisoned for security offenses. As of February 2016, 431 out of 437 minors in prison are Palestinians detained or convicted of security offenses; only 6 are Jewish Israelis. [Press Release](#)

Freedom from Religion / Language Rights

31. Challenge to hospital policy of imposing Kosher food restrictions on Arab citizens. In April 2015, Adalah sent a letter to the AG, the Health Ministry and the HaEmek Hospital in Afula demanding that they take immediate action to end the hospital’s policy of preventing Arab families from bringing bread to relative patients during the Jewish holiday of Passover. These acts effectively imposed Jewish religious norms, and are contrary to the laws that prohibit discrimination based on religious affiliation and ethnicity. To date, no reply to Adalah’s letter has been received (a follow up letter was sent in July). [Press release](#)

32. Beer El-Sabe Municipality removes Arabic from street signs. In August 2015, Adalah sent a letter to the mayor of Beer el-Sabe (Be'er Sheva) and the Attorney General (AG) demanding the return of street names in Arabic to informational signs in the city. The municipality recently changed the old signs that bore the names of streets in Arabic and put up signs only in Hebrew and English. Arab residents comprise about 10% of the population of Beer el-Sabe, and tens of thousands of Arab citizens live in surrounding villages and towns. The city is a vital center for them, especially due to the shortage essential services in the Bedouin villages. In 2002, in a [landmark judgment](#), the Israeli SCT accepted a petition filed by Adalah and ACRI demanding that mixed cities in Israel use Arabic on their street signs. [Press release](#) In August 2015, the municipality replied that Be'er Sheva is not a mixed city (with less than the minimum of 4% officially-registered Arab residents) and is therefore not bound by the ruling. While at least 10% of the actual residents of the city are Arab citizens, many of their registered places of residence are not Be'er Sheva and therefore they are not counted in the official figures. Adalah is considering whether and how to proceed with the case.

IV. Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT)

The Gaza Strip

33. Lack of domestic investigations and accountability, Gaza War complaints. Adalah continued to



monitor developments throughout 2015 concerning complaints and demands for independent, criminal investigations into 22 incidents of killing and injury of civilians and the destruction of civilian infrastructure (hospitals, schools, mosques, water networks) that Adalah filed together with Al Mezan against the Israeli military during the Gaza War in the summer of 2014. While the Military Advocate General (MAG) has announced that no investigation was needed in almost all of the complaints filed, investigations were opened and are ongoing in

cases involving 5 UNRWA facilities (See [Summary of UN Board of Inquiry on Gaza](#)).

On 12 June 2015, the MAG closed the investigation into the killing of four boys in a rocket attack on a beach on 16 July 2014, clearing itself of any responsibility. Adalah and Al Mezan filed a further appeal to the MAG in 8/15 demanding a reconsideration of the decision on the case. The decision and the case garnered extensive media coverage locally and internationally. The appeal is still pending, and Adalah has written several reminder letters demanding a response.

> Gili Cohen, [NGOs Want Probe Into Killing of 4 Children on Gaza Beach](#), Ha'aretz, 25 Aug 2015

The UN COI-Gaza (June 2015 report) issued findings of possible war crimes by the Israeli military in 14 incidents raised by Adalah and Al Mezan in our complaints. Adalah used these recent international findings in its responses to the MAG. [Press release](#); See also: [Adalah's report to the UN Commission of Inquiry on Gaza](#)

Here is a [chart of all of the criminal complaints submitted](#), as well as their status as of January 2016. Adalah is continuing to follow-up closely on these cases with the MAG, sending letters in 7/15, 9/15, 11/15, and 01/16. The chart also includes specific letters and cases seeking urgent remedies from the Israeli military during the War (evacuation of the wounded, habeas corpus) and joint letters and statements made by Adalah together with other human rights organizations.

34. Torture of Palestinian minor from Gaza with a dog: In December 2015, Adalah, in cooperation with Al Mezan, filed a complaint to the Israeli MAG and the AG demanding an investigation into the circumstances of the arrest of YT. Israeli authorities arrested YT, a 16-year-old Palestinian from Gaza, together with his 17-year old friend HS, while trying to leave Gaza to Beer Sheva in September

2015. After separating the two boys, one of the soldiers unleashed a dog, which ran to YT, and bit his right arm and his left arm. The soldiers were laughing from a distance. YT was then taken to a military base, where he signed a document in Hebrew without understanding its contents. During his detention he was not allowed to eat or drink, and a soldier kicked him. YT was taken for medical treatment at Barzilai Hospital, and then to a local hospital in Gaza. YT is still suffering from physical and mental injuries as a result of the events. These cruel, inhumane practices amount to torture and ill-treatment in violation of Israeli and international law. [Press release](#)

East Jerusalem

35. SCT approved applicability of Absentee Property Law in East Jerusalem: In April 2015, the SCT dismissed an appeal, supported by Adalah as *amicus curiae*, which challenged the applicability of the Absentee Property Law to properties in East Jerusalem, thus allowing the state to continue arbitrarily expropriating property belonging to Palestinians in the West Bank. The decision was ameliorated only slightly by the SCT's ruling, which requires any future expropriation to proceed only with the consent of both the AG and a ministerial committee. [Press release](#)



> Nir Hasson, [High Court: Israel can confiscate Palestinian property in J'lem](#), Haaretz, 16 April 2015

> Yonah Jeremy Bob, [High Court asks state not to confiscate land in east Jerusalem](#), 15 April 2015

36. Jerusalem Planning Committee rejected objections to planned national park on Al-'Issawiya and At-Tur land: Adalah represented the residents of the villages of Al-'Issawiya and At-Tur in the Jerusalem District Planning and Building Committee on their objection to the planned confiscation of their land for the purpose of constructing a "national park." The Committee dismissed the objection in May 2015, failing to address the issues of international humanitarian law raised by the matter, which prohibits harm to private property on territory subject to belligerent occupation.

37. Jerusalem Planning Committee rejected objections to planned landfill on 'Anata and Al-'Issawiya: In February 2015, the Committee also rejected an objection, submitted by Adalah on behalf of the Anata local council, to the planned confiscation of land belonging to the above villages in order to construct a landfill serving a nearby illegal Jewish Israeli settlement. [Press release](#)

38. SCT held hearing on revocation of Jerusalem residency rights of 4 Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) members: In May 2015, an expanded panel of SCT justices heard the appeal by 4 members of the PLC against the decision of the Israeli Interior Minister in June 2006 to cancel their permanent residency status in Jerusalem. Adalah and ACRI, as *amicus curiae*, argued that the Interior Minister has no authority to revoke permanent residency for "breach of trust" due to membership in a foreign parliament, particularly as the residency rights concern East Jerusalem, which is occupied territory under international law. The case is ongoing.

39. Challenging closures and curfews in East Jerusalem: In October 2015, Adalah [sent a letter](#) to the AG demanding that the authorities refrain from imposing closures, curfews, or similar restrictions on Palestinian neighborhoods in East Jerusalem. Adalah argued that they constituted collective punishment in violation of Israeli and international law.

40. Seeking reconsideration of cancelled Jerusalem residency based on "breach of loyalty". In October 2015, Adalah and ACRI [sent a letter](#) to the Israeli Interior Minister demanding that he

reconsider his decision to cancel the permanent residency status of two East Jerusalem residents on the grounds of breach of loyalty for their suspected involvement in security-related events.

> Ahmed Melhem, [What it means when Israel threatens to revoke citizenship](#), Al-Monitor, 27 October 2015

Prisoners' and Detainees' Rights

Torture and Ill-Treatment

41. Challenging the continued exemption of audio-video recordings for security suspects. In July 2015, Adalah filed a petition to the SCT together with Al Mezan, PHR-I, ACRI, PCATI, HaMoked and Yesh Din, demanding the cancellation of a temporary law (which was extended again in June 2015) exempting Israeli security agencies and the police from making audio-visual recordings of interrogations of 'security suspects', who are overwhelmingly Palestinians. Among other arguments, the petitioners stated that the law, which had been continually renewed since its enactment in 2010, was incompatible with basic principles of criminal law, such as the principle of revealing the truth, oversight and integrity of investigations, and preventing torture and wrongful convictions by eliciting false confessions from detainees. Notably, both the UN Committee Against Torture and the UN Human Rights Committee in their 2009 and 2014 concluding observations respectively, expressed sharp criticism of this sweeping exemption. At a hearing in December, the SCT rejected the state's demand to withdraw the petition and decided that the case should be heard again in July 2016 for a review and update regarding the order. Essentially, however, the SCT has agreed to leave the legislation intact. [Press release](#)

> Yonah Jeremy Bob, [Knesset: Select police interrogations can continue without being videotaped](#), Jerusalem Post, 24 June 2015

42. Demanding compliance with IPS commitment to improve harsh transport conditions for prisoners. In April 2015, Adalah, PHR-I, and PCATI sent a joint letter to the AG and the IPS director



emphasizing the repeated violations by the IPS of its commitment to improve conditions of court and medical transport for Palestinian prisoners classified as "security prisoners" by the IPS. The IPS made this commitment pursuant to SCT litigation in 2009. The letter demanded an immediate end to cruel and degrading practices, which include failure to provide food, water and restroom facilities to prisoners, and artificially extending the time of their transport in difficult conditions by hours, if not days. In June 2015, the

IPS responded that it had replied to previous letters sent in 2013. Adalah further sought responses to new testimonies of prisoners that showed no change in the IPS's treatment. [Press release](#)

43. Demanding that telephone calls be reinstated for Palestinian prisoners. In July, Adalah sent a letter demanding that the IPS cancel its decision to deny telephone calls for Palestinians classified by the IPS as security prisoners. An amendment to the Israeli law regarding the rights of prisoners and detainees was introduced under the instructions of the Public Security Minister to institute this ban on telephone calls for these prisoners. The practice of denying telephone calls, however, has been in place for several years as an IPS policy. Adalah argued that the ban was making a wrongful distinction in the basic rights of security prisoners versus criminal prisoners, which constituted discrimination and overwhelmingly affected Palestinians. No response was received.

Extrajudicial Executions

44. Opposing “shoot to kill” policies of the police against Palestinians; demanding publication of open-fire regulations.



that he issue clear instructions to the Israeli police and security forces not to use live ammunition or sniper fire against stone-throwers. According to media reports, the government planned to approve a major change in firing regulations, which would allow officers to use deadly fire to disperse demonstrators or respond to people who threw stones. In 10/15, Adalah also sent a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the police requesting a copy of the new regulations. Adalah raised concern that these new rules of engagement violated Israeli law and led to the extrajudicial

executions (EJEs) of Palestinians, which would further be in violation of Articles 1 and 10 of the UN Convention Against Torture (CAT). After the police refused the FOIA request, claiming that the regulations are confidential although they never were in the past, and that publishing them could risk national security and public safety, Adalah filed a petition to the Lod District Court in 12/15 asking that it order the police to release the details of the regulations. Case pending. [Press release](#)

45. Demanding investigations into police shootings and killings of Palestinians. In October 2015, Adalah sent a letter to the AG demanding that he order investigations into the killings and injuries of Palestinians in violation of the police rules of engagement, and to order the police to immediately cease the use of lethal fire. Adalah's requests come in response to a highly publicized series of cases in which videos show how the police opened fire on Palestinians, pursuing "shoot-to-kill" actions in circumstances that appear not to have posed an imminent danger to them or to others. Adalah views many of these cases as part of a growing trend of possible extrajudicial executions (EJEs), in violation of Israeli law and Articles 1 and 10 of the UN Convention Against Torture. [Press release](#)

46. Demanding investigation into the killing of 19-year old Fadi Alloun.



and Addameer filed a complaint to the Police Investigation Unit (Mahash) demanding an investigation into the police shooting and killing of Fadi Alloun in East Jerusalem. The shooting occurred following calls by a mob of right-wing Israeli Jewish citizens urging the police to shoot him on sight, after he allegedly tried to stab another person. The events were recorded on video and clearly showed that Alloun did not pose an immediate threat to any civilian or policeman, and therefore there was no justification for the shooting and killing. The complaint also noted that the police refused to

conduct an autopsy of Alloun's body in order to clarify and more closely examine the causes of his death. The organizations argued that the police's rejection raises the concern of a clear conflict of interest, which further raises suspicion that the police were attempting to tamper with the evidence and disrupt the investigation in advance, as well as damage essential factual findings. [Press release](#)

> Nir Hasson, [Israel police refused to release body of killed Palestinian to family for autopsy before burial](#), Ha'aretz, 11 October 2015

> Aeyal Gross, [Israeli police and politicians firing up trigger-happy public](#), Haaretz, 19 October 2015

48. Demanding an investigation into the police killing of Mu'taz Ewisat, a 16-year old Palestinian from the Jabal al-Mukaber neighborhood of East Jerusalem. Ewisat was killed by police gunfire on 17 October 2015 in the Jewish settlement of Armon HaNatziv in East Jerusalem. The killing was not filmed, and the family only learned of his death from the media. In November 2015, Adalah and Addameer sent an urgent request to Mahash for a criminal investigation into a police officer implicated in the killing, and an autopsy of his body to be conducted with the presence of a medical examiner commissioned by his family. The Israeli police had refused to perform an autopsy on the body, and the Jerusalem Magistrates' Court had refused to order them to do so. The examination file has simply been closed based on accounts given by police officers. The human rights organizations view this case as a possible extrajudicial execution. [Press release](#)

Update: In 2016, Adalah filed two petitions to the SCT concerning this case: first, to demand an autopsy, which was eventually granted, and second, to demand that the Israel authorities release the body of the deceased to his family. The authorities had been unlawfully withholding Ewisat's body for seven months; there is no authority in Israeli law for them to do so. The authorities release Ewisat in May 2016, following this litigation.

> Nir Hasson, [Family of Shot Palestinian Petitions High Court for Autopsy](#), Ha'aretz, 15 March 2016

> Yonah Jeremy Bob, [Rights Group asks High Court to return body of alleged terrorist for burial](#), Jerusalem Post, 18 April 2016

Education

49. SCT upheld Prison Services' ban on higher education for Palestinian prisoners: In April 2015, an expanded panel of the SCT (on an extraordinary 2nd hearing granted by the SCT) dismissed the challenge brought by Adalah, ACRI and the Haifa University Prisoners' Rights Clinic against the discriminatory policy of the Israel Prison Service (IPS) that denies access to higher education to those classified as "security prisoners", overwhelmingly Palestinians from the OPT and citizens of Israel. This case overturns past SCT precedent. [Press release](#)

> [High Court: Palestinian prisoners have no basic right to pursue studies in prison](#), TLV 1 (podcast), 15 April 2015

II. International Advocacy

Adalah conducted the following international advocacy activities in 2015:

New reports and interventions: Adalah submitted 10 new reports/interventions to UN, European Union (EU) and US human rights bodies;

Advocacy missions abroad: Adalah participated in 12 advocacy missions abroad and held frequent meetings with embassy representatives in Israel;

Study tours: Adalah conducted 35 study tours in the Naqab for 650 visitors including diplomats, journalists, academics, donors, and activists;

International human rights events: Adalah participated in 7 international human rights workshops, conferences, and meetings convened by our partners. Adalah also gave presentations at 20 events in the US.

Adalah's international advocacy work focused on **3 main advocacy themes** in 2015:

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

Achievements

I. Fighting discrimination, ensuring equality for Palestinian citizens of Israel and protecting the human rights of Bedouin in the Naqab

In 2015, Adalah's anti-discrimination and equality work focused on ending police violence and impunity against Palestinian citizens of Israel, and protecting their land and housing rights, including those of the Bedouin. Adalah also conducted extensive outreach to Arab/Palestinian and Jewish American communities in the US stressing the historical and current parallels between advocating for equality in the US and in Israel/Palestine.

Police Violence and Impunity



SUCCESS: UN HRC side event highlights linkages of police brutality against minorities between Israel/Palestine and the US

In March, Adalah organized a side event at the UN Human Rights Council (HRC) in conjunction with human rights organizations from Israel and the US entitled "[From the Galilee to Ferguson: Ending Police Violence Against Minorities](#)". The event built on the efforts of Adalah, NGOs and other grassroots groups to link the social justice struggles between the two countries and

highlight the parallels between police brutality against minorities and impunity in an international context. The well-attended event brought together representatives of minorities from Israel, Palestine and the US, along with lawyers and human rights advocates, to urge the international community to take effective steps to address the oppression of marginalized communities by law enforcement authorities around the world. Adalah also gave an oral intervention to the HRC under

Item 9 on Racial Discrimination, highlighting instances of Israeli state-sanctioned violence and incitement against Palestinian citizens of Israel, as well as Israel's wider system of racial inequality.

> See Status Hour segment "[Report Back from the 28th Session of the Human Rights Council](#)" with host, Noura Erakat, interviewing Adalah US Representative Nadia Ben Yousef.

These events at the UN were one of the results of Adalah's growing engagement in transnational advocacy with new partners in the US. Further, prior to the UN events, Adalah initiated an expert roundtable in February with about 20 lawyers and HR activists, including Adalah staff from Israel, at the Center for Constitutional Rights (CCR) to exchange legal and advocacy strategies to challenge police violence and impunity.

Complaint to UN Special Rapporteurs, meetings with diplomats on police killing of Kheir Hamdan

In February 2015, Adalah and Meezan (Nazareth) [submitted a complaint](#) to the UN Special Rapporteur on Extrajudicial Executions, and the UN Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues, regarding the killing of Palestinian youth Kheir Hamdan (a citizens of Israel) by the Israeli police in the town of Kufr Kanna. The complaint, which was also filed together with Kheir Hamdan's father, included the video footage of the incident that showed that the police's initial account of events was false, and that the police had unjustifiably used their weapons against Hamdan. The organizations asked the SRs to monitor the case and launch its own independent investigation into the killing of Hamdan.

Adalah also held meetings for the permanent missions of the EU and of Ireland, as well as for the UN SRs for Extrajudicial Killings, Right to Health, Independence of Judges and Lawyers, Arbitrary Detention, Human Rights Defenders, and Minority Rights in Geneva in March.

Notably, Kheir Hamdan's [investigation file was closed by the Ministry of Justice Police Investigation Unit "Mahash" in May 2015](#) despite video evidence showing that the police shot Hamdan in violation of the law and police protocol. The Hamdan family is appealing this decision.

Awareness-raising on police violence against minorities, solidarity



In July, Adalah organized and moderated a panel discussion for the CCR #Law4BlackLives in New York entitled, "Global Solidarity: Racism & Police/State Violence Around the World," with human rights advocates from Palestine, Colombia, Haiti, Europe who provided a global frame and offered lessons learned in confronting structural racism.

In the fall of 2015, Adalah travelled to St. Louis and Ferguson to build relationships between advocates, create opportunities for co-education, and develop joint-strategies for influencing US policy towards a human rights approach. In September, Adalah's Arabic media coordinator joined our US Representative on a multi-state visit to St. Louis, Chicago and Atlanta that focused on Black-Palestine solidarity around human rights issues of shared concern, specifically police violence and suppression of protest.

Transnational movement building against police violence against minorities, racial equality and justice, and an end to discrimination and occupation was a central theme of Adalah's participation in conferences such as the US Campaign to End the Israeli Occupation (September), Arab American Institute (October), and Mass Peace Action (November).

Land and Housing Rights

Adalah continued to raise awareness about the land and housing rights of Arab citizens of Israel, including Bedouins in the Naqab, and to mobilize the international community to oppose Israel's attempts to forcibly displace and dispossess Palestinians on both sides of the Green Line.



Study Tours in the Naqab

In 2015, Adalah led about 35 study tours in the Naqab for approximately 650 diplomats, journalists, artists, interfaith groups, representatives of development agencies, and students. The study tours provide participants with an opportunity to “walk the land”, to talk with local Bedouin community leaders about their needs and immediate concerns, and to see first-hand the sites of Adalah's casework.

SUCCESS: EU ENP raises concerns over Bedouin human rights' issues

In March 2015, the EU [released its European Neighbourhood Policy \(ENP\) Progress Report on Israel](#) covering the year 2014. Adalah submitted three reports of key concerns of Palestinian citizens of Israel to the EU in 2014. Favorable texts in the report indicated that the EU's concerns “persist” regarding “the discrimination of minorities, especially those of Bedouins.” The report reflected a close monitoring of the Praver Plan, noting that authority for the plan had been transferred from the Prime Minister's Office to the Agriculture Ministry, and that the legislation for the plan remained frozen. The report also highlighted Adalah's successful cancellation of demolition orders against the Bedouin village of Alsira in May 2014. [Read our submission](#)

SUCCESS: UK Parliament questions on Umm al-Hiran, forced displacement.

In 2015, British citizens submitted at least 3 written questions to the UK Parliament regarding the case of Atir-Umm al-Hiran. The questions were directed to the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, asking UK officials to make representations to the Israeli government for the cancellation of plans to demolish the village. Members of the UK-based Palestine Solidarity Campaign presented the questions. FCO representatives responded to the questions iterating their “deep concern” and close monitoring of the demolition plans, and stated that they had brought up the issue with Israeli officials, including the Ministry of Justice. The FCO cited Adalah as a source of information regarding the case. See the questions and responses in [March](#), [October](#), and [December](#).

> Further the [UK FCO's Annual Human Rights Report for 2014](#), issued in March 2015, notes in the section on “Minority Rights” that: “The UK closely followed the debate around the issue of unresolved Bedouin land claims and unrecognised Bedouin villages in the Negev. We encouraged the equal treatment of all of Israel's citizens under the law.”

SUCCESS: US State Department Report highlights government efforts to displace Bedouin.

In 2015, the US State Department issued its [Country Report](#) on Human Rights Practices in Israel and the OPT, covering the year 2014. The report was notable for providing a detailed analysis of the government's land and planning policies toward Bedouin citizens in the Naqab, including in the unrecognized villages. The report stated that one of its key structural concerns was the “institutional and societal discrimination against Arab citizens of Israel...including the Bedouin”. In its section on minorities, the report highlighted various issues including the continued home demolitions in both recognized and unrecognized villages; the pressures on Bedouin families to demolish their own homes or pay fines to the state; as well as the Bedouins' arguments in defence of their land claims in

the Naqab, and in opposition to the government's plan for relocation to the urban townships. Adalah contributed reports towards the US State Department report.

Lecture tour in France on land and housing rights

In April 2015, Adalah participated in a week-long lecture tour in France organized by the Collective for Palestine in La Rochelle, with a lecture on "The Arab Minority and the Land Regime in Israel." The talk was preceded on two occasions by screening of Adalah's short film, "From Al-Araqib to Susiya."

Presentations in UK on Bedouin citizens' human rights in the Naqab



In June 2015, Adalah participated in an advocacy mission to six cities in the UK, which featured a presentation on the violations of land and housing of Bedouin citizens of Israel, to a combined audience of approximately 330 people. One of the events was a conference organized by the Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions (ICAHD). Adalah also participated in a meeting with 10 Members of Parliament, and gave radio interviews.

Israel/Palestine NGO Working Group to the UN against state plan to relocate Atir-Umm al-Hiran residents: In 2015, Adalah sought to deepen relationships with UN bodies/agencies/missions in New York. In May 2015 Adalah held meetings with the UN Division on Palestinian Rights and the Israel/Palestine NGO Working Group to the UN. Following the talks, the Working Group - a coalition of prominent faith-based groups - issued an [extremely positive statement](#) regarding forced displacement on both sides of the Green Line:

"We call on the Permanent Representatives of Member State missions to the UN to urge the immediate cancellation of plans to relocate the Indigenous Bedouin population of [Atir] Umm al-Hiran in Israel and plans to forcibly transfer Bedouins from the village of Susiya and other Bedouin communities in the West Bank such as those targeted by the E-1 Development Plan, the Nuweimeh Plan and the Fasiyal plan, in order to expand illegal Israeli settlements. These actions, ultimately, undermine the trust and confidence necessary to move towards peace."

Report to UN SR on Housing highlighting key concerns of Arab citizens' rights

In June 2015, Adalah submitted a report to the UN Special Rapporteur on Housing raising key topics regarding the land and housing rights of Arab citizens of Israel, in particular Bedouin citizens in the Naqab. The report drew attention to the continued practice of home demolitions in the Naqab under the context of the Praver Plan, as well as the latest statistics on the severe housing crisis in Arab communities in Israel due to discriminatory planning and government negligence.

Briefings for US decision-makers: In June, together with partner B'Tselem-USA, Adalah organized an advocacy visit to Washington, DC following the SCT's negative decisions regarding the forced displacement of Bedouin residents from the villages of Susiya in the West Bank and Atir-Umm al-Hiran in the Naqab. Meetings were held with US government officials, and the Open Society Foundations hosted an experts' roundtable in its DC office. Adalah called on US decision-makers to support efforts to protect Palestinians from forced displacement on both sides of the Green Line, and to find effective ways to intervene. The meetings with decision-makers marked the first attempt to highlight Israel's single policy of displacement on both sides of the Green Line in the US.

US Congressional Briefing: In October 2015, Adalah participated in a meeting on forced displacement, "Iqrit and the Illusion of Law and Democracy" with the US Campaign to End the Israeli Occupation and the Iqrit Association.

II. Defending prisoners' and detainees' rights and combating torture/ill-treatment

SUCCESS: EU ENP raises concerns over Palestinian prisoners, torture/CIDT against children

In March, the EU [released its European Neighborhood Policy \(ENP\) Progress Report of Israel](#) covering the year 2014. Adalah, Al Mezan and PHR-I submitted a joint report to the ENP ahead of its review, highlighting issues of Palestinian prisoners'/detainees' rights and the use of torture/CIDT.

One of the EU report's main recommendations was its call on Israel to "intensify efforts to address the issue of children in military detention and minimizing the use of administrative detention without trial". The ENP highlighted Israel's "marked increase" in administrative detainees in 2014, as well as the two-month hunger strike by detainees from April to June 2014. The ENP also raised concerns about the "continued reports of the ill-treatment of children under arrest, transfer, interrogation and detention, particularly in the first 48 hours after arrest, including blindfolding, painful hand ties, physical violence, lack of adequate notification of legal rights, verbal abuse, strip searches and solitary confinement while under interrogation". [Read the ENP Progress Report](#) | [Read the partners' joint report](#)

SUCCESS: UN Special Rapporteurs (SR) on Torture and Health oppose Force-Feeding Law



In July 2015, the UN SRs on Torture, Health, and the OPT, issued a new statement calling on the Knesset not to enact the Force-Feeding Law. The SRs stated that the force-feeding of hunger striking prisoners and detainees against their will was "tantamount to cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment", and that "Under no circumstance will force-feeding of prisoners and detainees on hunger strike comply with human rights standards". The SRs added that "The way to end the hunger strikes is not to force feed hunger strikers but to address the underlying human rights violations that

they are protesting against, namely, the practice of administrative detention. The partners maintained close ties with the UN SRs, and conducted an advocacy visit to representatives of the SR on Torture on the issue in June. The Knesset enacted the law in July 2015. [OHCHR press release](#)

Joint statements draw attention to Palestinian prisoners, use of torture

In April 2015, on Palestinian Prisoners' Day, Adalah and its partners [issued a joint statement](#) calling on the international community to urge Israel to abide by international law regarding the human rights of Palestinian prisoners and detainees. The statement highlighted the rising number of cases of torture and ill-treatment in Israel, and the particular need to protect Palestinian children who have been detained, tortured or ill-treated. See [Adalah's newsletter on Prisoners' Day](#)

In June 2015, on the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture, Adalah and its partners [issued a joint statement](#) demanding that Israel end the use of administrative detention, withdraw the proposed Forced-Feeding Bill and the audio/video exemption bill, and end the use of torture and ill-treatment against patients from Gaza seeking medical care in Israel via the Erez crossing.

In April 2015, Adalah [signed a joint statement](#) with Addameer, PHR-I and PCATI condemning the arrest and six-month administrative detention of Palestinian Legislative Council member Khalida Jarrar, and raising grave concern about her health. The organizations argued that Israel's systematic use of administrative detention was a blatant violation of international law that was used a mechanism of deterrence and punishment against Palestinian society, including PLC members, to target and disrupt political and social life in the OPT.

Urgent concerns raised during anti-torture advocacy missions and partners meetings

In June, Adalah, together with Al Mezan and PHR-I, held meetings in Geneva with representatives of the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture, the World Organization Against Torture (OMCT), and the Association for the Prevention of Torture (APT). The partners raised urgent concerns regarding the Force-Feeding bill, the rise of administrative detentions, and the exemption of the General Security Services (Shabak, Shin Bet) from making audio-video recordings of interrogations of alleged security suspects. The international HR organizations in Geneva welcomed the information and stated that they would monitor the developments on these issues.

In June, Adalah, Al Mezan and PHR-I also held a two-day partner meeting in Geneva as part of their joint EU Torture 2 project, which is currently in its second year (project runs from 2013-2016). The partners discussed their work so far in the year. The groups also planned for future, upcoming activities such as our international experts workshop on torture (October 2015), and upcoming EU and UN advocacy reports.

In July, the project's EU Advocacy Coordinator, together with the EuroMed Human Rights Network (EMHRN), conducted an advocacy mission to Brussels to address four urgent issues related to torture and ill-treatment: the Force-Feeding Law, the exemption of audio-video recordings of security interrogations, administrative detentions, and Gaza medical patients seeking access to the West Bank or Israel. The Coordinator held key meetings with EU parliamentarians and EU officials, as well as EU member state representatives. The mission was important to place the partners as foremost NGO contacts on these subjects, and for sustained advocacy and communication.

III. Demanding accountability for international law violations during the 2014 Gaza War

SUCCESS: UN Commission of Inquiry on Gaza (COI) finds strong evidence of war crimes, condemns culture of impunity; report adopted by UN Human Rights Council

In June 2015, the UN COI [released the report](#) of its findings into the conduct of the Israeli military and Palestinian armed groups during Israel's 2014 military offensive on Gaza ("Operation Protective Edge"). The report documents evidence of grave violations of international humanitarian and human rights law, concluding that "impunity prevails" for perpetrators of war crimes.

Numerous issues raised by Adalah in its [submission to the COI](#) regarding the severe flaws in Israel's domestic investigatory mechanisms, as well as the deliberate obstacles erected by Israel to prevent



residents of Gaza from pursuing compensation cases in Israeli civil courts, were addressed by the Commission in its report.

[Eight cases that Adalah and Al Mezan filed to the MAG](#) for investigations were examined by the report, all of which the COI concluded demonstrated strong evidence of war crimes. In particular, the closing of the investigation into [the killing of the four Bakr boys on the beach](#) became a flagship case for the COI, stating it was "disturbed" by the MAG's decision to dismiss the case.

In July 2015, the UN HRC passed a resolution (41 in favor, 5 abstentions, 1 against) adopting and calling for the implementation of the COI's recommendations. Among its clauses, the resolution called for perpetrators to be held to account "through appropriate fair and independent domestic or international criminal justice mechanisms, and to ensure the provision of effective remedy to all

victims, including reparations”. In an unprecedented move, all eight EU member states on the HRC voted in favor of the resolution.

Advocacy missions to the UN, EU Member States and the US on Gaza Accountability

In 2015, Adalah conducted six advocacy missions to Geneva and EU member states with partner human rights groups. Adalah focused on the status of its complaints for independent criminal investigations submitted to the Israeli Military Advocate General, and the lack of accountability in its 22 cases of killings and injuries to civilians and the extensive damage to civilian objects.

Three missions to Geneva were held in February (run-up to the UN Human Rights Council [HRC]), March (HRC, however UN COI report postponed), and June (HRC). Adalah and its partners met with the UN COI in Geneva, representatives of permanent missions, including the EU and Member States, and relevant UN Special Rapporteurs and urged full international support for accountability in Gaza.

In March, Adalah participated in advocacy missions to France and the Netherlands (key EU members of the HRC) with EMHRN, FIDH and other local human rights organization partners. The groups met with French and Dutch government officials, parliamentarians, spokespersons for several Dutch political parties, and various civil society organizations.

In June, Adalah attended the HRC session on Item 7, which focused on the COI report. Adalah submitted a [joint written statement](#); delivered an oral statement; and presented, together with other human rights organizations, at a side event at the UN organized and moderated by Medical Aid for Palestinians entitled “No More Impunity”.

In September, Adalah participated in an advocacy mission to Berlin, Germany with EMHRN and partners, which focused on follow-up to the UN HRC and the COI-Gaza report and recommendations.

Meetings, lectures and talks in the US

Adalah worked closely with partner Defence of Children International (DCI)-Palestine in New York on joint advocacy and awareness raising initiatives.

In February 2015, Adalah representatives participated in a roundtable discussion with OSF Justice Initiative staff in New York, London, and Budapest on the latest efforts to secure accountability for Gaza. Adalah also led a seminar for students, fellows and faculty at the New York University Center for Global Justice and Human Rights (NYU Law School) on the COI, together with DCI-Palestine.



Further in February and March, Adalah met with the EU mission to the UN (NY), UNRWA staff in NY, and UN diplomatic missions in advance of the UN HRC.

In April, Adalah held meetings in Washington, DC with US government representatives, and presented with DCI-P at the Palestine Center in Washington, on Israel’s investigatory mechanisms.

Adalah worked with Washington DC-based partners to develop a Congressional Briefing on “Gaza One Year Later: The Quest for

Accountability” held with the US Campaign and DCI-Palestine in August.

IV. Other networking and reporting activities

Coordination with the Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network (EMHRN)

In May 2015, Adalah participated in an EMHRN Palestine/Israel and Palestinians (PIP) Working Group meeting in Stockholm, Sweden. The meeting focused on formulating new strategies for conducting joint advocacy to the EU and EU member state regarding the human rights of Palestinians in the OPT and in Israel. Adalah's International Advocacy Director, Rina Rosenberg, is the facilitator of the WG. In June 2015, Adalah Board Member Odeh Bisharat participated in the EMHRN General Assembly Meeting in Brussels, Belgium. In November 2015, Adalah's International Advocacy Coordinator, Amjad Iraqi, participated in an EMHRN PIP NGO workshop in Brussels, followed by the PIP Working Group meeting to discuss advocacy on Palestinian human rights.

Report to UN Special Rapporteur on the OPT regarding Supreme Court rulings on OPT cases

In June, Adalah submitted a report to the UN Special Rapporteur on the OPT highlighting recent rulings by the Israeli Supreme Court that negatively affect the human rights of Palestinians in the OPT. The cases included the ban on higher education for prisoners, the application of the Absentee Property Law in occupied East Jerusalem, and the Anti-Boycott Law. The report also noted adverse decisions by Israeli land and planning bodies affecting Palestinian residents of East Jerusalem.

Presentation to the UN Special Committee on the Rights of the Palestinian People

In August 2015, Adalah gave an oral presentation on land and planning rights violations by Israel in occupied East Jerusalem to the UN Special Committee on the Rights of the Palestinian People in Amman, Jordan.

III. Legal Education

In 2015, Adalah conducted the following legal education activities:

1. Training for lawyers and law students: Adalah trained 5 legal apprentices and law students, and 3 international interns in its offices; held one professional legal course for 24 lawyers on representing detainees and prisoners; and convened its 10th Annual Arab Law Students Conference, attended by 50 students.

2. Expert Workshops on Torture and Rehabilitation: Adalah organized 2 workshops with partners on torture and rehabilitation, one in Ramallah for locally based multidisciplinary experts, and the other in Copenhagen, which was attended by 30 international law, medical and health experts, entitled “Psychological Scars of Torture”.

3. Major Public Campaign: In response to the 5 May 2015 Israeli Supreme Court decision to approve the state’s plan to demolish and evacuate the Arab Bedouin village of Atir-Umm al-Hiran, Adalah launched a major, multi-faceted public campaign to try to save the village.

4. Selected lectures at public events: Adalah staff members gave dozens of lectures at universities, conferences and workshops, including 8 highlighted below.

5. Publications: Adalah published 8 reports and position papers, and numerous statements, and published 9 editions of its trilingual electronic newsletter (with 15,000 subscribers).

5. Media & social media outreach: Adalah prepared and distributed 70+ press releases with 10 major cases receiving widespread media coverage; wrote 28 op-eds, which were published by local and international media outlets; updated its trilingual websites; maintained 2 Facebook pages (Arabic and Hebrew; and English) with about 20,000 followers.

1. Training for Lawyers and Law Students

Law students gain experience at Adalah as legal apprentices and interns



In 2015, Adalah trained five legal apprentices and law students: Rabea Eghbariah and Mohammed Bassam from Tel Aviv University; Khalil Alamour from Kiryat Ono College; Haya Abu Warda from Hebrew University; and Janan Abdu from Carmel Academic Institute. 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. Mohammed Bassam became a staff attorney with Adalah in July 2015.

24 Arab lawyers trained to representing detainees and prisoners



In May and June 2015, Adalah organized [a five-week training course](#) for 24 Arab lawyers (14 men and 10 women) on “Representing Detainees and Prisoners: Arrests, Investigations, and Remedies.” The course featured lectures by legal academics and human rights practitioners, delivered over 10 sessions. Topics discussed in the course included secret arrests and the denial of lawyers’ visits, legal and medical aspects of challenging torture and unlawful interrogation methods, police violence and interrogations of detainees, and

treatment and rehabilitation of victims of torture. The course received highly positive feedback from the participants on the quality of the material and the topics covered, with many expressing desirability for similar courses in the near future. Representatives of Adalah, Physicians for Human Rights-Israel, The Treatment and Rehabilitation Center, the Public Committee Against Torture in Israel, Addameer and others led training sessions. [Program](#) | [Photos 1, 2, 3](#)

50 Arab Law Students participate in Adalah’s 10th Annual Law Students Conference:



In October 2015, Adalah held its [10th annual law students’ camp](#), a three-day conference bringing together over 50 Palestinian law students in Israel to discuss key human rights issues facing Palestinians in Israel and the OPT. Most of these human rights concerns are not discussed in Israeli law schools. For the 10th year of this conference, Adalah decided to focus on issues of impunity concerning the killing of civilians during the 2014 Gaza War and in October 2000 (15th Anniversary), and Israel’s “land grab” policies in Jerusalem. The

law students participated in several workshops relevant to cause-lawyers including legal, political and ethical dilemmas, tort damages for discrimination, representing detained protestors, and how to build a case. The conference also brought together several former Adalah staff members and stagiaries to lead sessions with the law students. See [Program](#) and [Photos](#).

2. Expert Workshops on Torture and Rehabilitation

Multidisciplinary Workshop in Ramallah

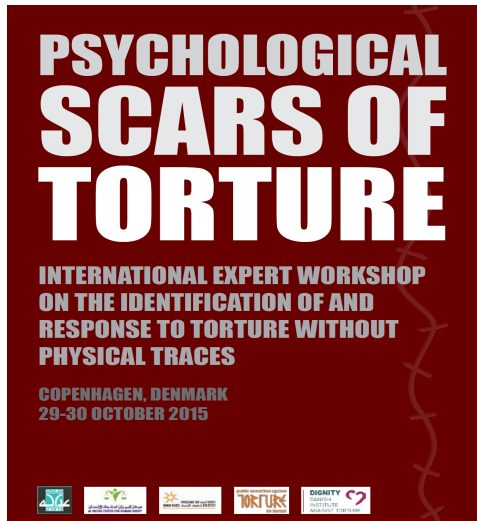
In April 2015, on the occasion of Palestinian Prisoners' Day, the Treatment and Rehabilitation Center (TRC), Adalah and PHR-I convened a workshop in Ramallah entitled "Multidisciplinary Interventions to Combat Torture", bringing together various experts from Israeli and Palestinian organizations to exchange information on legal and medical methods to address torture and CIDT. Representatives from each of the organizations gave presentations about their experiences in Israeli prisons, courts and hospitals, as well as the experiences of their clients and the need to further integrate rehabilitation into a holistic approach for dealing with torture/CIDT. Adalah Attorney Nadeem Shehadeh presented at the workshop on “The Torture of Palestinian Children: Legal Approaches to Accountability of Israeli Security Forces.” The workshop served as preliminary forum for discussion in anticipation of the international experts' workshop in Copenhagen in October. [Read the program](#)

International Workshop in Copenhagen

In October 2015, Adalah, PHR-I and Al Mezan, together with PCATI and Dignity, convened a 2-day international experts’ workshop in Copenhagen, Denmark, entitled “Psychological Scars of Torture”.

The conference focused on psychological torture methods, and on the physical torture that leaves no visible marks on the body. The conference was attended by 30 lawyers and health professionals from Israel/Palestine who are working with Palestinian prisoners and detainees held by Israel, and international experts in the fields of torture, including psychological torture, torture rehabilitation, the human rights of prisoners and detainees, and medical ethics. [Program and participants](#)

The lawyers/human rights actors, health professionals, and medical experts exchanged information on the psychological and physical effects of psychological torture, and how these issues are diagnosed, litigated, advocated, and treated. The participants' pinpointed areas of coordination between the diverse backgrounds by learning from each other's experiences presented through specific case studies, including legal interventions undertaken by participants, and presentations. In particular, the participants' highlighted ways of better identifying, documenting and responding to evidence of psychological torture and its psychological and physical effects, as well as ways of achieving their formal recognition in litigation processes and in the medical community. The participants outlined challenges and opportunities, and identified the needs and constraints for advancing legal work and torture rehabilitation.



The main conclusions reached by the workshop participants, among others, concerned: trying to gain more access to detainees for health professionals; promoting the right for independent doctors for prisoners and detainees; the need to incorporate additional elements of “psychological torture” and its physical and psychological effects into criminal complaints on behalf of torture victims via more dialogue between health professionals and lawyers; challenge secret evidence; and mobilize CAT to convene a meeting with NGOs to discuss the subject in comparative perspective with CAT jurisprudence, as well as case law from the European Court of Human Rights, the Inter-American Commission and a literature review of psychological torture (legal, medical/ psychological).

The workshop served as an excellent opportunity to further deepen the partners' work relationships with each other, to strengthen the sharing of experiences among the professional participants from interdisciplinary fields, and to agree upon strong conclusions. The workshop's conclusion will contribute positively to the partners' and participants' advocacy ahead of the UN CAT's review session of Israel in May 2016.

3. #Save_UmAlHiran Campaign



In May 2015, Adalah launched a public campaign under the title “#Save_UmAlHiran”. The campaign, which is in English, Arabic and Hebrew, was launched following the Supreme Court's decision to allow the state to demolish and evict the Bedouin village of Atir-Umm al-Hiran in the Naqab for the sole purpose of establishing a Jewish town called “Hiran” and to expand the “Yatir Forest” and a grazing pasture over its ruins. Adalah created [a campaign web page](#) and a special Facebook page that collected reports, press releases, multi-media products and other materials about the case. Highlights so far include:

- In total, 18 tours for 338 participants to Umm al-Hiran and other villages threatened with displacement. Participants included diplomats, local and international journalists, Members of Knesset from the Joint List party, university students, legal scholars and social justice activists.
- A '[social media storm](#)' tour in May for 60 journalists, bloggers and photographers, organized together with 7amleh - The Arab Center for Social Media Advancement. The participants provided live intensive coverage of their visit to the village across social networking sites under the campaign hashtag with photographs and videos, including visuals of residents of the village.
- A [short animated video](#) produced together with 7amleh illustrating the Supreme Court's ruling that effectively permits the demolition of Umm al-Hiran. The video was posted on Youtube as well as [on social media pages](#), and reached over 34,000 people on Adalah's Facebook.
- A tour in June for [a Palestine Works delegation of 16 law students](#) from the US and Canada. The group met with village residents and leaders to hear their stories, while gaining a broader legal perspective into Israel's policy of forced displacement on both sides of the Green Line.
- A briefing for British MPs in London to apprise them of the situation, as well as several well-attended public meetings and a radio interview in the UK.
- A supportive ad in Haaretz in Hebrew signed by 29 civil society organizations.
- A [new fundraising campaign on Global Giving](#) inviting donations to support Adalah's litigation, advocacy and awareness-raising to defend the Bedouin villagers' right to remain on their land. Adalah raised US \$13,000 from the online campaign.
- Wide media coverage in local and international media on Umm al-Hiran, including in the New York Times, Haaretz, Middle East Eye and others.
- Widely-shared op-eds by Adalah staff members in Ha'aretz (in [Hebrew](#) and [English](#)) and +972 Magazine (on [Umm al-Hiran](#) and [Atir](#)).

4. Selected Lectures at Public Events

Adalah's staff members gave a number of lectures in Israel and abroad in 2015. Examples include:

- In February and March, Adalah's General Director Hassan Jabareen delivered two well-received lectures for the faculty and students of Columbia Law School and New York Law School, discussing the legal dimensions of Palestinian citizens' political participation in the Israeli elections, and strategic litigation in public interest cases, respectively.
- In February, Adalah Attorney Muna Haddad gave a briefing at a meeting of the EMHRN Working Group on Gender Equality and Women's Rights in Brussels, speaking about the compound discrimination and human rights challenges facing Palestinian women citizens of Israel.
- In March, Adalah's Director of the Economic and Social Rights Unit, Attorney Sawsan Zaher, delivered a lecture on "Litigation as Human Rights Strategy," and led a media and human rights workshop at a training workshop for lawyers in the Middle East and North Africa, organized by PILInet in Amman, Jordan.
- In March, Adalah Attorney Suhad Bishara, the director of the Land and Planning Unit, gave a talk at the Center for Palestine Studies at Columbia University on her paper, "Contested Normality: Bedouin Citizens Under the Supreme Court of Israel".
- In June, Adalah's USA Representative Nadia Ben-Youssef spoke at the 35th annual conference of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) in Washington, DC. Her talk title was "*Updates from the Ground: Law, Advocacy and Transnational Movement Building*".
- In June, Adalah IA Coordinator Amjad Iraqi participated in a panel at a conference for German journalists hosted by the International Journalists Program and Herbert Quandt-Stiftung in Tel Aviv. He presented on the human rights and identity challenges of Palestinian citizens in Israel in the context of the "Jewish and democratic state".
- In October, Adalah Attorney Suhad Bishara gave a presentation on the Israeli land regime at an [international conference](#) entitled, "Settlers and Citizens: A Critical View of Israeli Society," held by the Palestine Society at the School of Oriental and Asian Studies (SOAS) in London, UK.

5. Publications

Reports and Position Papers

Adalah issued 8 reports, position papers, and commentaries 2015.

Accountability for 2014 Gaza War: In January, Adalah [published its submission](#) to the UN Commission of Inquiry on the 2014 Gaza Conflict, which consisted of two main sections examining Israel's domestic investigatory mechanisms into military violations of international law, and the obstacles for Gazans in pursuing compensation cases in Israeli civil courts. The report served as the basis for Adalah's advocacy to demand accountability for alleged war crimes committed by the Israeli military during the war. The report's findings and conclusions were cited and incorporated in the COI's report, with Adalah's legal cases also examined with conclusions that suspected war crimes were committed.

Racist incitement in 2015 elections: In March, Adalah [issued a commentary](#) following the 2015 Israeli general elections entitled "In Israel's Elections, Racism is the Winning Ballot". The commentary discussed the unprecedented levels of racist speech and incitement by Israeli politicians against the Arab minority, which played a critical role in the outcome of the election results. The incitement, which came from across the Israeli political spectrum and including Prime Minister Netanyahu, targeted the participation of Arab MKs, dehumanized and encouraged violence against Palestinians, and delegitimized the voting rights of Arab citizens.

Housing crisis for Arab citizens of Israel: In April, Adalah [published a detailed report](#) in response to



the Israeli State Comptroller's Report on the subject of the housing crisis in Israel. The report, entitled "Deliberate Obstacles, Not Failures" critiqued the State Comptroller's report for ignoring the systematic discrimination faced by Arab citizens in planning and land allocation, which gave preference to the settlement of the Jewish population at the expense of the development of Arab communities. For example, the report found that despite the fact Arab citizens make up approximately 20% of Israel's population, in 2014 only 4.6% of tenders for new

housing units published by the Israel Land Authority were in Arab communities. This paper was sent to the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Adequate Housing, as well as diplomats.

Arab children's inequality in early education: In June, on the International Day of the Child, Adalah [published a position paper](#) entitled "Inequality of Opportunity in Early Childhood Education." Using official statistics, the paper highlighted the gross disparities in the state's allocation of funds and resources for early education between Arab and Jewish children in Israel aged 3-4 years old. For example, in 2014, 75% of 3-4 year old Bedouin children in Israel did not have any educational framework, while the same lack amongst Israeli Jewish 3-4 year olds did not exceed 5%. The paper was one of the most widely shared posts on Adalah's English Facebook in the first half of 2015.

Silencing the Opposition: To commemorate one year on from the Gaza War, Adalah published a report in August entitled, "Silencing the Opposition: Israeli Law Enforcement's Restrictions on Freedom of Expression in Israel during 'Operation Protective Edge' in Gaza, 8 July - 26 August 2014." Israeli authorities "adopted a 'zero tolerance' approach to citizens opposing" aggressive war against 1.8 million Gazans trapped under siege, Adalah argued. [Severe acts against demonstrators included](#) police brutality, mass arrests, persecution for Facebook posts, the firing of workers from their workplaces, the expulsion of students from their universities, and the cutting of vital services in Arab towns, among others. [Read the report](#)

Briefing Paper, “The Dangerous Implications of the Israeli Supreme Court’s Decision on Atir-Umm al-Hiran.” Adalah released and widely disseminated this briefing paper in July in order to further explain the significance of the SCT’s decision in this case. Particular targets of this paper included foreign embassy representatives in Israel, and diplomats based in Brussels, Geneva and the US, as well as donor agencies. [Read the paper](#)

Briefing paper on recent Wave of Violence and Legal Developments. Adalah issued this briefing



paper in November following the breakout of a round of extreme violence in mid-September 2015. The paper documents alarming police policies used to target Palestinians by authorizing police to “shoot to kill”; to use live fire and snipers against demonstrators; the arbitrary arrests of minors; the use of severe physical violence against protestors; “preventive arrests” of protest organizers; and illegal arrests of activists’ family members. It also discusses two new laws that impose mandatory

minimum prison sentences on Palestinians for stone-throwing and similar acts, targeting Palestinian minors and their families. Adalah used this paper at the UN and with other decision-makers in New York during our delegation visit. [Read the paper](#)

Dramatic increase in poverty among Palestinian citizens of Israel. Adalah published a position paper in December in response to a recent poverty report released by the National Insurance Institute (NII). This report claimed that the percentage of Arab citizens living under the poverty line had increased 1%, however, in fact, it showed that the actual increase was 5%. Further the NII report states that the official data on poverty do not include the Arab Bedouin, the poorest Arab community in Israel. Adalah argued that poverty among Arab citizens is the result of four main factors: (1) Social security/welfare transfers do not assist to reduce poverty; (2) The state discriminates against Arab municipalities in its allocation of balance grants, and thus less services are available to Arab residents; (3) Discrimination in employment; and (4) Discrimination in education. [The paper \(in Hebrew\)](#)

Key Statements

Examples of key statements issued by Adalah in 2015 include the following:

Opposing the “Forced Feeding Law”: In July, the Knesset enacted the “**Force-Feeding Law**”, which authorizes courts to permit doctors who treat prisoners on hunger strike to forcibly feed them against their will. Adalah and Al Mezan issued a [joint press release](#) against the passage of the law, arguing that it constitutes a form of torture and CIDT, and violates both Israeli and international laws and medical ethics.

> Ehab Zahriyeh, [Force-feeding Palestinian prisoners pits Israeli doctors against lawmakers](#), Al Jazeera America, 13 August 2015

Challenging the proposed “Anti-Terrorism Law”: Adalah released this statement in September after the Knesset approved the law at its first reading, describing it as legislation that “substantially strengthens and widens the powers of the police and the *Shabak* to suppress any legitimate protest activities against Israeli policies. It also enables the use of 'secret evidence' in order to take preventative measures against these activities, which impedes the possibility of objecting to these repressive decisions based on their merits before the judiciary... [If the law passes, it would] seriously escalate the level of repression and intimidation targeted against the political activity of Palestinian citizens of Israel through the criminalization of political, cultural and social relationships between them and the rest of the Palestinian people.” [Press release](#)

> [Israel passes 'counter-terrorism' bill in first reading](#), IMEMC, 4 September 2015

Commemorating 15 years since the October 2000 killings: In October, Adalah released a statement



calling for accountability for those responsible for the 13 killings and the injury of hundreds. Adalah stated that, “15 years since the events of October 2000, the victims’ cries still resonate against those responsible for their deaths, and the doctrine of violent repression remains ingrained in the Israeli security establishment’s treatment of Palestinians ... 15 years later, however, not a single police officer or official responsible for the killings has been held accountable for their criminal actions ... Adalah and the families of the 13 victims continue to demand that those responsible for the crimes of October 2000 be prosecuted.” [Read in full](#)

> Jack Houry, [Israeli Arabs mark fifteenth anniversary of October 2000 riots](#), Ha’aretz, 1 Oct 2015

Opposing the outlawing of the Islamic Movement in Israel: In November, the Israeli government declared the Islamic Movement in Israel an unlawful association. The Defense Minister signed the order pursuant to his authority under the Defense (Emergency) Regulations dating from the British Mandate. In response, Adalah issued the following statement: “The outlawing of the Islamic Movement is an aggressive, draconian measure. The Israeli government is using the Emergency Regulations, which date back to the British Mandate, to suppress a political movement that represents a large part of the Palestinian public in Israel. The Islamic Movement is part of the national representative bodies and elected local bodies of the Palestinian citizens of Israel ... The order issued by the Defense Minister, without a hearing or trial, is a violation and crackdown on the Islamic Movement’s rights to freedom of association and political expression, and harms the Palestinian Arab minority in Israel as a whole.” [Press release](#)



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> Jonathan Cook, [Israeli ban on Islamic party marks a 'dangerous turning point'](#), Middle East Eye, 17 November 2015

> Batsheva Sobelman, [Israeli officials outlaw chapter of the Islamic Movement, drawing criticism](#), LA Times, 17 November 2015

> Calev Ben-David, [Israel outlaws domestic Islamic group as police raid offices](#), Bloomberg Business, 17 November 2015

> Josef Federman, [Israel bans Islamist Arab party, says it's inciting to violence](#), AFP/Business Insider, 17 November 2015

Opposing politicians’ calls to “shoot to kill” Palestinians. This statement was issued by Adalah and 8 other human rights organizations in December in the context of the recent round of violence in Israel/Palestine. The organizations stated, “Since the beginning of the current wave of violence, there has been a worrying trend to use firearms to kill Palestinians who have attacked Israelis or are suspected of such attacks. Several incidents have been documented and reported, raising concern that the chosen response to such persons is the harshest possible, with lethal or – at the very least – unnecessary consequences. In instances when Jews have been suspected of attacks, none of the suspects has been shot...” [Read the statement in full](#)

Challenging the new NGO funding bill. In December, Israel's Ministerial Committee for Legislation approved a reading of the latest "NGO Bill". According to the text approved by the Committee, an organization that has more than 50% of its budget financed by foreign countries must declare this fact in all official documents with civil servants and states bodies. Any breach of these conditions will result in a fine. In response, Adalah released the following statement: "The Justice Minister should know that all registered associations, including Adalah, provide through reporting under the Law of the Financial Registrar... Financial assistance from international sources is acceptable and necessary in places and regimes where there are serious problems of human rights violations. We therefore believe that the proposal is intended to persecute and incite against human rights organizations, a practice which characteristic of past and present dark regimes." [Press release](#)

> Lahav Harkov, [Shaked proposes bill requiring NGOs to declare foreign government funding](#), Jerusalem Post, 1 November 2015

> Jonathan Lis, [Justice Ministry to introduce bill demanding foreign funded NGOs wear special tag in Knesset](#), Ha'aretz, 1 November 2015

> [Israeli NGOs angry at new proposed law](#), AFP - Sky News, 3 November 2015

Newsletters

Adalah issued 9 newsletters in Arabic, Hebrew and English to over 15,000 subscribers in 2015.

- [Zoabi's Case: An Injustice the Court Did Not Fix](#), 25 February 2015
- [In Israel's Elections, Racism is the Winning Ballot](#), 23 March 2015
- [Palestinian Prisoners' Day: End Torture and Ill-Treatment](#), 16 April 2015
- [#Save_UmAlHiran – Campaign Launch](#), 15 May 2015
- [Oppressing the demonstrators, exonerating the perpetrators](#), 11 August 2015
- [Vote for Adalah for the Human Rights Tulip Award!](#) (The Dutch Foreign Ministry selected Adalah (and B'Tselem) as one of 30 NGO participants for this prestigious human rights award from about 200-applicants. Adalah received approximately 3,300 votes from the public. An NGO in Mauritania won the award on 13 September 2015
- [Human Rights Day: An Anti-Human Rights Year For The Israeli Supreme Court](#), 10 Dec 2015
- [Protect the Protest \(End of Year Campaign\)](#), 1 December 2015
- [Protect the Protest: In 2015, imagination took hold. In 2016, we want justice \(End of Year Campaign\)](#), 30 December 2015

Adalah also issued 3 updates to our #Save_UmAlHiran campaign:

- [#Save_UmAlHiran - Umm al-Hiran may soon fall. But not if you stand with it](#), 2 June 2015
- [#Save_UmAlHiran - An Update](#), 18 June 2015
- [#Save_UmAlHiran - It's as easy as ABC](#), 26 June 2015

6. Media and Social Media Outreach



Adalah prepared and distributed 70+ press releases, with at least 8-10 major cases/events receiving widespread media coverage; wrote 28 op-eds, which were published by media outlets; updated its trilingual websites; maintained 2 Facebook pages (Arabic and Hebrew; and English) with over 20,000 followers. Adalah's work received widespread media coverage both locally and internationally in Arabic, Hebrew, and English in 2015, and was featured on hundreds of local websites and newspapers. Adalah staff and Board members also appeared on TV and radio. For example, in the Arabic international media from 1 October – 31 December 2015, Adalah's work appeared more than 100 times. Adalah had 9 items in Al-Jazeera, 5 items in Al-Ayyam, 5 in Al-Quds, 3 in Al-Araby Al-Jadeed and 2 Op-eds in Assafir. Many other items were published on Sky News Arabia, Asharq Alaqwsat, and Alhayat. In the local Arabic media, Adalah had 14 items on Radio Ashams, 29 items on the Arabs48 website, and on many other local websites. For English media coverage, see [Adalah in the News](#).

SUCCESS: Positioning Adalah as a key resource for international media on the Israeli elections: 30



international journalists from The New York Times, The Washington Post, CNN, Der Spiegel, Al Jazeera, among others, attended a briefing on Arab political participation and the law hosted by Adalah in Jerusalem in the run-up to the Israeli elections. This well-attended event positioned Adalah as a key resource for the international media concerning the elections.

SUCCESS: Extensive media outreach with the community as part of Adalah's #Save_UmAlHiran Campaign.

In 5/15, Adalah launched a public campaign under the title "#Save_UmAlHiran" following the Supreme Court's decision to allow the state to demolish and evict the Bedouin village of Atir-Umm al-Hiran in the Naqab. Adalah created [a campaign web page](#) and a special Facebook page that collected reports, press releases, multi-media products and other materials about the case. Highlights of Adalah's media outreach activities under the campaign included:

- A ['social media storm' tour](#) in for 60 journalists, bloggers and photographers, organized together with 7amleh. The participants provided live intensive coverage of their visit to the village across social networking sites under the campaign hashtag with photographs and videos, including visuals of residents of the village.
- A [short animated video](#) produced with 7amleh illustrating the Supreme Court's ruling that effectively permits the demolition of Umm al-Hiran. The video was posted on Youtube as well as [on social media pages](#), and reached over 34,000 people on Adalah's Facebook.
- A supportive ad in Ha'aretz in Hebrew signed by 29 civil society organizations.
- Wide media coverage and op-eds by Adalah staff (see below)

SUCCESS: Awareness-raising and commemoration of the October 2000 killings. In 10/15, Adalah cooperated with +972 Magazine to produce [Special Coverage](#) on the 15th anniversary of the October 2000 events. The articles in the series included:

- [Thirteen killed, no one punished: Remembering October 2000](#) by IA Coordinator Amjad Iraqi, 4 October 2015
- [15 years on, it seems October 2000 killings weren't an aberration](#) by Attorney Mohammad Bassam, 5 October 2015
- Interview with General Director Hassan Jabareen, '[The problem is not the protesters, it's the society that sees them as an enemy](#)' with Noam Sheizaf, 6 October 2015

This series was among +972 Magazine editors' [Top Picks of 2015](#). Adalah also produced special coverage of the 15th Anniversary of the October 2000 events, with posters and infographics, and an archive of legal and educational materials. See: <http://www.adalah.org/en/content/view/8639>

News sources also gave extensive coverage to Adalah's cases/events. Further examples:

The attempted demolition and evacuation of the village of Atir-Umm al-Hiran

- Arabic: [Al Jazeera](#), [Al-Quds](#), [Assafir Palestine](#), [Al Araby](#), [Safa](#)
- Hebrew: [Haaretz](#), [Ha-Makom](#), [Globes](#), [Local Call](#), [NRG](#)
- English: [New York Times](#), [Haaretz 1](#), [Haaretz 2](#), [Haaretz Editorial](#), [Haaretz op-ed](#), [Electronic Intifada](#), [Middle East Eye](#), [Mondoweiss](#)

Israeli elections, Arab political participation, attempts to disqualify Arab political leaders

- Arabic: [Assafir](#), [Arabs48](#), [Al-Arab](#), [France 24 Arabic](#), [Al Mayadeen](#), [Al-Ayyam](#)
- Hebrew: [Haaretz](#), [Ynet](#), [Walla](#), [Maariv](#), [NRG](#)
- English: [Haaretz](#), [Haaretz Editorial](#), [Times of Israel](#), [Jerusalem Post 1](#), [Jerusalem Post 2](#), [Al Jazeera America](#), [Middle East Eye](#)

The Anti-Boycott Law Case

- Arabic: [Rai AlYoum](#), [Al Araby](#), [i24 News Arabic](#), [Al Arab](#), [Ashams](#)
- Hebrew: [Ynet](#), [Walla](#), [Israel Hayom](#), [NRG](#), [Social TV](#)
- English: [Jerusalem Post](#), [Haaretz op-ed](#), [Haaretz Editorial](#), [Electronic Intifada](#)

Attempts to de-fund the Al-Midan Theatre in Haifa

- Arabic: [Al Jazeera](#), [Al Masdar](#), [Panet](#), [Al Jabha](#), [Al Arab](#)
- Hebrew: [Haaretz](#), [Ynet](#), [Walla](#), [Nana News](#), [NRG](#)
- English: [Haaretz Editorial](#), [The Forward](#), [Ynet](#)

The investigation into the killing of Arab youth, Kheir Hamdan, closed

- Arabic: [Bokra](#), [Al-Quds](#), [Palestine 48](#), [Arabs 48](#), [Baladitna](#), [Rai AlYoum](#)
- Hebrew: [Haaretz](#), [Walla](#), [NRG](#)
- English: [Haaretz](#), [Electronic Intifada](#), [+972 Magazine](#)

Administrative detention, attempted force-feeding of hunger-striker Mohammed Allan

- English: [Haaretz](#), [Ynet](#), [AFP](#), [MEMO](#), [Jerusalem Post](#), [Al Jazeera America](#)
- Hebrew: [Haaretz](#), [Walla](#), [NRG](#), [Israel Hayom](#), [Nana 10](#), [Ynet](#)

Appeal against former MK Said Nafaa's conviction for visiting Syria

- English: [Haaretz](#), [Jerusalem Post](#), [Times of Israel](#), [Al Arabiya](#), [i24 News](#), [Al Jazeera English](#)
- Hebrew: [Social TV](#), [Haaretz](#), [Nana 10](#), [NRG](#), [News1](#)

Op-eds, articles and interviews by Adalah staff members

In 2015, Adalah staff and Board members wrote and published **19 op-eds, interviews in English** in local and international media outlets, with an additional **9 op-eds in Arabic and Hebrew**.

English (19):

- [The real debate over Israel's 'Jewish Nation-State' Bill](#) by General Director Hassan Jabareen – The Nation, 29 January 2015
- [It's time to disqualify Israel's Central Elections Committee](#) by Media Director Salah Mohsen – +972 Magazine, 16 February 2015
- [How many cars does it take for a Bedouin village to vote?](#) by Legal Apprentice Khalil Alamour and IA Coordinator Amjad Iraqi – +972 Magazine, 13 March 2015
- [Supreme Court decision in Anti-Boycott Law case and the suppression of internal dissent](#) by Attorney Sawsan Zaher – Jerusalem Post, 3 May 2015
- [The real reason Netanyahu has the High Court in his crosshairs](#) by IA Coordinator Amjad Iraqi – +972 Magazine, 6 May 2015
- [It's 1948 all over again](#) by Board Member Odeh Bisharat – Haaretz, 11 May 2015
- [High Court okays plan to raze Arab village, build Jewish one in its place](#) by IA Coordinator Amjad Iraqi – +972 Magazine, 11 May 2015
- [Israeli authorities hide behind law, ignoring discrimination against Arabs](#) by Attorney Myssana Morany – Haaretz, 14 May 2015
- [Bedouin village of Atir to be replaced with forest of Yatir](#) by IA Coordinator Amjad Iraqi – +972 Magazine, 16 June 2015
- [Will the UN Gaza report finally push Europe to confront Israel?](#) by IA Coordinator Amjad Iraqi – +972 Magazine, 16 July 2015
- [Permanent victims of war: Who remembers Gaza's children?](#) by IA Coordinator Amjad Iraqi – +972 Magazine, 21 July 2015
- [A warrant for the repression of Israel's Palestinian citizens](#) by IA Coordinator Amjad - +972 Magazine, 9 August 2015
- [PHOTOS: Construction for Jewish town to replace Bedouin village draws ire](#) by IA Coordinator Amjad Iraqi - +972 Magazine, 27 August 2015
- [Arab school strike highlights Israel's discriminatory education policies](#) by IA Coordinator Amjad Iraqi - +972 Magazine, 7 September 2015
- [15 years on, it seems October 2000 killings weren't an aberration](#) by Attorney Mohammad Bassam, 5 October 2015
- Interview with General Director Hassan Jabareen, '[The problem is not the protesters, it's the society that sees them as an enemy](#)' with Noam Sheizaf, 6 October 2015
- '[When the police aren't your protectors, there is no safety](#)' by IA Coordinator Amjad Iraqi - +972 Magazine, 19 October 2015
- [From October 2000 to October 2015](#) by Sawsan Zaher – Ha'aretz, 20 October 2015
- [Returning to the days of military rule in Israel](#) by Attorney Suhad Bishara – Al Jazeera English, 24 December 2015

Arabic and Hebrew (9):

- Media Director Salah Mohsen in Local Call/Sicha Mekomit (Hebrew) on [Haneen Zoabi and the Central Elections Committee](#), 16 February 2015
- Attorney Myssana Morany in Al-Quds newspaper (Arabic) on the application of the Absentee Property Law in East Jerusalem, 6 May 2015
- Attorney Myssana Morany in Haaretz (Hebrew) on [the Supreme Court's decision on Umm al-Hiran](#), 12 May 2015
- Attorney Mohammad Bassam in Walla (Hebrew) on [the Supreme Court's discriminatory views in two rulings](#) between Bedouin and Jewish land rights, 10 September 2015

- Attorneys Fady Khoury and Nadeem Shehadeh in Ynet (Hebrew) on [the absence of accountability](#) for torture against Palestinian security prisoners, 29 September 2015
- Attorney Mohammad Bassam in Haokets (Hebrew) on [the new measures introduced to punish Palestinian stone-throwers](#), 30 September 2015
- Attorney Suhad Bishara in Ynet (Hebrew) on [the Israeli government's decision to outlaw the Islamic Movement](#), 22 November 2015
- Attorney Suhad Bishara in Assafir (Arabic) on [the campaign of arrests against Palestinian citizens of Israel](#), 3 December 2015
- Attorney Myssana Morany in Haaretz (Hebrew) on [the 'Facebook arrest' of Palestinian citizen Anas Khateeb](#), 8 December 2015

Key statistics: Facebook pages and posts, website



In 2015, Adalah avidly updated its Facebook pages. Adalah's [Arabic and Hebrew Facebook page](#) received almost 2,400 new likes, reaching 16,274 likes by the end of December 2015. Adalah's [English Facebook page](#) received almost 1,500 new likes, reaching 3,758 followers by the end of December 2015 (TOTAL = c. 20,000). Adalah's website received 42,760 unique visitors who viewed 137,830 pages.

Five of Adalah's posts on the English page that received the most engagement were:

- [A short video produced with 7amleh](#) on the impending demolition of the Bedouin village of Umm al-Hiran;
- [A joint press release by Adalah and Al Mezan](#) in response to the Israeli MAG's decision to close the investigation file into the killing of the four Bakr boys on the beach in Gaza during the 2014 military offensive;
- [An infographic showing the double standards](#) between incitement by Israeli politicians versus the alleged incitement of Anas Khateeb's Facebook post;
- [A short video of interviews with Adalah's lawyers](#) describing their work to protect the right to protest for Palestinian citizens; and
- [A briefing paper on 10 discriminatory judgments](#) delivered by the Supreme Court in 2015.

IV. Institutional Development

1. Strategic Planning, 2015-2019

Adalah completed its Strategic Plan for the years 2015-2019 in August 2015. The process of preparing our future plan, which began in 2013 following an external evaluation, has been an intensive period of organizational reflection and evaluation.

The overall strategic objective of Adalah's program for the coming five years is to **increase the impact of Adalah's work**. Adalah conceives of impact as encompassing both the effect of its own work and its effect on its stakeholders. The reasons are twofold: (1) Internally, after working intensively over a number of years on increasing institutionalization, building professional expertise and establishing itself as an expert in its field, we have identified impact as an area that still requires improvement; and (2) Externally, the need for Adalah's work remains pressing because of the deteriorating human rights environment. Adalah hopes to be able to generate further remedies to victims of human rights violations, and to secure the organization's long-term sustainability.

The plan opens with an *Institutional Profile*, which provides a detailed synopsis of the vision, mission, and values of the organization, as well as its stages of development over the last two decades and its flagship cases. It continues with *Strategic Objectives – 2015-2019*, which looks to the future, describing Adalah's perspective of the developing context within which it expects to work, setting out our strengths and weaknesses, and our anticipated opportunities and threats (SWOT analysis). The strategic objectives cover Adalah's work both on behalf of Palestinian citizens of Israel and Palestinians in the OPT. They cover our legal work on land and planning, economic and social rights, and civil and political rights; our media and outreach work; our international advocacy; and our institutional development, including in the US. The strategic objectives also prioritize women and girls as a target group, with greater gender sensitivity and increased gender mainstreaming planned to be an integral part of all our work. The plan closes with Adalah's fundraising strategy to secure the necessary resources to undertake our planned programs and activities.

2. US Advocacy and Institution-Building



Ms. Nadia Ben-Youssef, Adalah's USA Representative, worked throughout 2015 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/Arab-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; and decision-makers in Washington, DC and at the UN. The outreach to these groups is highlighted throughout this report.

Nadia maintained close ties with our US-based advisors: former Adalah Attorney and Director of International Programs at the American Civil Liberties Union, Jamil Dakwar; Director of Strategic Engagement at the Institute for Middle East Understanding, Nadia Saah; and former Ford

Foundation officer, Aaron Back. She also continued to identify and meet with potential individual donors, family foundations and charitable institutions to support Adalah's work in general.

US Advocacy and Institution-Building Delegations: Adalah undertook 2 institutional delegation visits to the US in 2015.

In February 2015, Adalah's General Director, International Advocacy Director and the Director of the Land and Planning Unit joined our US Representative on an advocacy mission that served as an introduction to the unique aspects of Adalah's US advocacy strategy. The delegates met with key stakeholders and actors in various target groups, as well as partner organizations, and participated in a roundtable at the Center for Constitutional Rights (CCR) that grounded Adalah's work in 2015 around transnational movement building.

In November 2015, a five-person Adalah Board and staff delegation travelled to NYC. The delegation served to introduce the group to the US advocacy landscape and Adalah's key partners, and to provide on-the-ground updates to US stakeholders.



Highlights of the visit included: meetings with the Center for Palestine Studies (Columbia University) to discuss the next stages of our "The Nakba and the Law" project; presentations on cause-lawyering and Adalah's work at the law schools of Fordham and New York University; and meetings with the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU). Adalah also met with its US advisors about our achievements in 2015 and to further brainstorm plans for 2016 including advocacy on forced displacement of the Arab

Bedouin and linkages with Native American communities; and with US donors.

3. Institutional Meetings: Board of Directors, Finance Committee

Adalah's Board of Directors held 5 meetings. They received updates on Adalah's work, planned upcoming conferences and events, discussed legal dilemmas on ongoing cases, and offered advice on media interventions. They also focused on financial and administrative issues of Adalah including approving the 2015 institutional budget, reviewing the 2014 Audited Financial Report, discussing new grants, and exploring the possibilities of purchasing an office for Adalah in Beer el-Sabe. Adalah's Finance Committee is comprised of 3 Board members, including the Chairman of the Board, and four staff members. The Committee met two times to review income and spending reports, fundraising, and our US program.

At a Board-staff retreat in Ramallah on 4-5 September 2015, Adalah held a detailed discussion with NGO leaders and human rights activists about the position of Arab civil society organizations within the Green Line vis-à-vis the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement. In addition, Dr. Issam Younis, the General Director of Al Mezan (Gaza), gave a presentation on the situation in Gaza and led a discussion on possible legal/advocacy avenues in Gaza human rights cases. Following the discussions, the participants' toured industrial areas in Area C in the West Bank, guided by Al-Haq.

4. Project Evaluation

On 7-15 December 2015, Adalah took a leading role in facilitating an EIDHR Evaluation (EU ROM Monitor) of its joint EU-funded, three-year project to combat torture, together with partners Al Mezan and PHR-I. The EU Evaluator interviewed project staff of the three organizations, as well as the project sub-grantees the Treatment and Rehabilitation Center (West Bank) and the Gaza Community Mental Health Programme, and beneficiaries of the project including trained lawyers, former prisoners and detainees, and ill-treated fishermen and civilians. The Evaluator offered

helpful recommendations for further advanced legal training, networking between local NGOs, rehabilitation treatments, and gender mainstreaming in the project. The final report was released to the organizations in February 2016, and the recommendations will inform the work in 2016, Year 3 of the project.

5. Staff Capacity Building

Adalah's staff continued to build and improve their skills by attending a variety of training courses and workshops in 2015. Senior staff attorneys were also awarded legal fellowships and other honors of which Adalah is very proud.

Legal & Advocacy Training

Land and Planning Laws Trainings: Adalah Attorney Myssana Moranny attended a professional legal training course offered by the Israeli Bar Association on the Israeli land regime, planning and land rights. The course was delivered as a series of lectures from January to March 2015. In June 2015, Adalah Attorney Mohammed Bassam attended a two-day workshop examining the possibilities of altering the master plan for the town of Jisr al-Zarqa, an Arab town located in the north of Israel. In its current form, the Master Plan fails to meet the needs of the local community.

EU Advocacy and Gender: In February 2015, Adalah Attorney Muna Haddad, attended a meeting and training convened by the Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network (EMHRN) Women's Rights and Gender Equality Working Group, of which Adalah is an active member. Held in Brussels, the training included lectures from EU representatives working on women's rights/gender issues, as well as best practices in EU advocacy. Adalah was a member of the Steering Committee and contributed substantial research to a 2014 EMHRN report entitled, "[Palestinian Women's Rights in EU-Israel and EU-PA Relations](#)," a prime source upon which the meetings and workshop were based.

IHL Legal Training: Attorney Moranny also attended a six-session course on "IHL and Israel," jointly convened by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the Association for Civil Rights in Israel (ACRI) from March-May 2015. The training provided an in-depth exploration of the legal principles applicable to war and Occupation, together with the legal tools needed to analyze the reality of human rights/IHL in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Labor Laws Training: In June and November 2015, Adalah's Office Manager Fathiyya Hussein attended received further training in labor laws, including changes in tax laws and national insurance updates, and the administration of staff salaries which is crucial for Adalah's staff.

Media Training

New Media Training: In June 2015, Adalah's Administrative Assistant Amal Shoufany attended a four-day intensive workshop hosted by Eyewitness Palestine, on techniques of effective storytelling in short film and video. The workshop included instruction on interviewing and filming participants, shot composition, file and project management, as well as editing and building a story. Ms. Shoufany assists Adalah in many aspects of photography, producing photo galleries and slideshows, and website updating.

Leadership and Management Training

HR-Based Approach/Strategic Planning: In May 2015, Adalah's Office Manager, Fathiyya Hussein attended a two-day capacity building workshop organized by the HR/IHL Secretariat on the practical application of the Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA) in management systems and processes. She also participated in the Christian Aid Regional Partners' Meeting in Cyprus. At this meeting, partners discussed strategic plans for CA's future critical engagement in the Middle East.

Gender Mainstreaming: Ms. Hussein further participated in a workshop on gender convened by Christian Aid (CA) in Tel Aviv in December for CA's local partner organizations. This workshop

provided an opportunity for the organizations to share knowledge with each other on strategies and challenges to contribute to addressing gender power imbalances within programmes and creating and maintaining gender equality within the workplace. Adalah staff completed surveys and questionnaires initiated by CA, the Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network, and other partners concerning our gender policies and practices, and capacity-building needs.

Transformational Leadership: Attorney Sawsan Zaher, Director of the Economic and Social Unit, attended a course entitled “Transformational Leadership” at the University of Oxford, UK on 5-11 July 2015, as a selected “Young Global Leader”, a position affiliated with the World Economic Forum.

Legal Fellowships and Staff Honors



During the 2014-2015 academic year, Adalah Attorney Suhad Bishara, the director of the Land and Planning Unit, was in residence at Columbia Law School in New York. Ms. Bishara was awarded the first Palestine & Law Fellowship from the Center for Palestine Studies and the law school. During her fellowship, she wrote a paper entitled, “Contested Normality: Bedouin Citizens Under the Supreme Court of Israel”. Suhad delivered the paper in academic forums in the US.

The World Economic Forum named Adalah Attorney Sawsan Zaher, director of the Economic and Social Rights Unit, as one of 2015’s Young Global Leaders. This prestigious grouping is a community of exceptional individuals who are radically transforming their industries, politics and society.



In May 2015, Adalah’s General Director Hassan Jabareen was awarded the Israel Bar Association Prize for 2015 for his “unique legal contribution to advancing the rights of the Arab minority before the Supreme Court and public institutions.” Starting in September 2015 and for the 2015-2016 academic year, Hassan was in residence as a research fellow at the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin.

6. Fundraising

Adalah’s budget for the year 2015 was US \$1.4 million.

Resource Development

Special donations

Adalah received three very special contributions and/or pledges during 2015. They included an NIF-donor advised gift of US \$100,000 from a family foundation in the US; and pledges of GBP 7,500 and NIS 200,000 left to Adalah in wills from British and Israeli supporters of our work.

Online Fundraising

In May 2015, Adalah recruited its first online fundraising manager, Mr. Nasser Rego. Adding this post will help Adalah to secure additional income for the organization from a wide range of individuals both locally and abroad, and will substantially increase Adalah’s engagement with wider audiences. Nasser has a strong background in law and advocacy, NGO fundraising, and online communications,

and is putting in place a multi-faceted strategy to achieve Adalah's online fundraising goals. Through this work, Nasser will be in charge of: leading and implementing online fundraising campaigns; establishing an integrated grant and individual donor tracking system (with developers); training relevant Adalah staff in online fundraising planning, implementation and evaluation and on the new systems; monitoring and updating the appearance of the "donate pages" and payment gateways on Adalah's website; using social media to advertise Adalah's fundraising campaigns; and determining the effectiveness of our fundraising strategies by reviewing and analyzing results.

#Save_UmAlHiran Campaign

On 5 May 2015, the Israeli Supreme Court approved the state's plan to demolish the unrecognized Bedouin village of Atir-Umm al-Hiran, and to evict its 1,000 residents, in order to establish a new Jewish town called 'Hiran' and to expand the 'Yatir Forest' and establish a grazing pasture. The Court's decision follows more than a decade of legal struggle waged by the villagers, and sets a very dangerous precedent for future potential demolitions and evictions of the unrecognized villages.

Soon after this decision, in parallel to legal steps undertaken, Adalah launched a public campaign comprised of public awareness initiatives, including video and photography; targeted media and social media outreach; an ad signed by 29 civil society organizations; study tours for journalists, diplomats, and visiting delegations; and international advocacy at the UN, EU and in the US.

Adalah also undertook emergency fundraising to support this campaign. The New Israel Fund awarded Adalah US \$20,000 toward these initiatives, and Adalah also initiated a online fundraising campaign on Global Giving, which also included a series of email appeals, Facebook ads, and status updates on the campaign. Adalah raised US \$13,000 online for this initiative, with US \$10,000 gifted by the Middle East Children's Alliance. Our Global Giving online fundraising campaign is [here](#).

#ProtectTheProtest Campaign



Adalah launched our #protecttheprotest (PtP) campaign in December, following the upsurge in violence and the violent suppression of protests staged by Palestinians. It was conceived of as our end of year campaign to raise funds for our work to assist demonstrators in the street and online (Facebook and other social media platforms), who sought legal advice and representation in court due to their freedom of expression-related activities. In addition to the methods used for our #Save_UmAlHiran fundraising campaign, Adalah

ran the PtP campaign in three languages, and launched a [stand-alone landing page](#) (using the Wordpress X-Theme template). Adalah also used this opportunity to start a donor appreciation program, 'Allies for Adalah'. Adalah succeeded in raising US\$6,095 from the PtP campaign (through our Global Giving and Facebook pages, and other platforms) thus far, with some monthly recurring donors. See [our Global Giving page](#) for details.

Major projects/grants in 2015

- *EU Freedom of Expression for Arab Youth:* Adalah, together with Baladna - Association for Arab Youth and Tamleh, was awarded a two-year grant from the EU to work on legal, training and media activities to protect the freedom of expression rights of Arab youth in Israel.
- *EU Torture 2:* Adalah completed Year 2 of this second-cycle, 3-year grant awarded 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.
- *HR/IHL Secretariat:* Adalah completed Year 2 of this 3-year grant awarded for our OPT work.

- *Gaza War Accountability Project*: Adalah, together with Al Mezan, began implementation of this OxfamNOVIB grant in 2015. Under this project the organizations are following up on complaints and demands for independent criminal investigations filed to the Israeli military concerning alleged war crimes committed by the Israeli military in Gaza in 2014, and conducting international advocacy for accountability.
- *Rockefeller Brothers Fund*: RBF awarded Adalah this grant to initiate our US advocacy and institution-building processes in the US. Our inaugural year in the US proved extremely successful, and Adalah has made this initiative one of our strategic objectives for 2015-2019.
- Adalah began implementation of a new multi-year grant for civil, political, economic and social rights litigation and media work with Bread for the World (2015-2018).

Donors and Contributors

Foundations and donors to Adalah in 2015 were:

- Social Justice Fund (Ford-Israel Fund) (USA)
- New Israel Fund (USA and Israel)
- OxfamNOVIB (The Netherlands)
- Bread for the World (previously EED) (Germany)
- The European Commission
- Federal Department 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, the Royal Danish Representative Office to the PA, the Swedish International Development Cooperation, and the Netherlands Representative Office to the PA.
- Rockefeller Brothers Fund (USA)
- Middle East Children's Alliance (USA)

Honorable Mention: Adalah was shortlisted for the [Human Rights Tulip Award](#), a €100,000 prize from the Dutch Foreign Ministry. 200 groups applied and only 30 were chosen, including Adalah. While Adalah did not win the award, it is a great honor and a strong show of support for our work to have been chosen as one of the premiere human rights organizations to be eligible for the prize.

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

7. Board of Directors, Staff and Fellows/Interns



Board of Directors – 2015

- Chairman: Advocate Hussein Abu Hussein.
- Members of the Board: Dr. Eman Abu Hanna; Odeh Bisharat; and Advocates Naseem Shaqr, Salma Wakeem, Abd Al Aziz Ibrahim, and Khalid Dagash (from September 2015).
- Audit Control Committee: Dr. Hala Khoury-Bisharat, Advocate and Professor Mahmoud Yazbak.

Staff

- *Founder and General Director:* Attorney Hassan Jabareen

Legal Department

- *Land & Planning Rights Unit:* Director, Attorney Suhad Bishara; Attorney Mysanna Moranny; Attorney Mohammed Bassam.
- *Economic & Social Rights Unit:* Director, Attorney Sawsan Zaher; Attorney Muna Haddad (NIF Fellow); Economics Researcher, Muhammed Zidani (from 7/15).
- *Civil & Political Rights Unit:* Director, Attorney Hassan Jabareen; Attorney Nadeem Shehadeh; Attorney Aram Mahameed; Attorney Fady Khoury (from 6-8/15, 12/15)
- *Legal Apprentices/Students:* Khalil Elamour; Rabea Eghbariah (until 1-3/2015); Haya Abu Warda (from 9/15); Janan Abdu (from 11/15)

Media and Public Relations Department

- Director, Salah Mohsen (1-5/2015); 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 (1-3/2015); Publications Coordinator, Katie Hesketh; Online Fundraiser, Nasser Rego (from 5/2015).

Administration and Finance Department

- Finance Director, Ghassan Kharouba, CPA; Office Manager, Fathiyya Hussein; Accountant, Basheer El Saleh; Administrative Assistant, Amal Shoufany (1-9/15), Maria Zahran (from 10/15); Housekeeper, Sabrine Barbur, Alia Saadi (from 11/15).

Naqab Office

- Field Researcher, Hind Al-Sanaa; Secretary, Eman Alkamlat.

International interns and fellows (Summer 2015)

- Melodi Alopaeus, law school graduate, University of Ottawa Faculty of Law, Canada
- Sarah Gordon, a third year law student at Boston College Law School.
- Monika Bar, practicing barrister in England and Wales for six years, who is currently pursuing an LLM (Masters Degree) in International Human Rights at Lund University, Sweden.

Adalah sincerely appreciates the extremely valuable work of our interns and fellows, and we are also thankful to Palestine Works for its cooperation in this regard.