



Middle East Notes

Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns

SPECIAL UPDATE

MAY 17, 2018

SPECIAL UPDATES will be available weekly as needed. This update concerns the Gaza Fence protests between the Palestinians of Gaza and the Israeli Defense Forces. Please note: Opinions expressed in the following articles do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns. [Read previous issues of Middle East Notes](#)

- 1) [Higher National Commission of Great March of Return and Breaking of Siege Appeals to International Community to Save Gaza](#), IMEMC News & Agencies May 10, 2018
“The Higher National Commission of the Great March of Return and Breaking of the Gaza Siege appealed the international community, at all levels, to urgently intervene on behalf of the Palestinian people in obtaining their basic human rights...”
- 2) [Palestinians continue quest for freedom after 70 years of dispossession, while U.S. opens embassy in Jerusalem](#), Albilad, May 14, 2018
“The American Muslims for Palestine (AMP), a national education organization, condemns Israel’s massacre of more than 50 and injuring more than 2400 Palestinians peacefully protesting in Gaza.”
- 3) [70 Years On: Seeking a Hopeful Future in a Time of Yearning](#), Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns, May 14, 2018
“Fourteen faith groups who are members of the Faith Forum on Middle East Policy sent the following letter to Congress: ‘Over the past several weeks, the world has witnessed the assertion of rights by the Palestinian people of Gaza—rights as refugees, rights as human beings, and rights as a people living under foreign military control.’”
- 4) [STATEMENT: Pax Christi International urges the international community to commemorate and reflect with Palestinians on the 70th Anniversary of the Nakba](#), Pax Christi International, May 14, 2018
“On 15 May 2018, the 70th anniversary of the Nakba (Arabic for “catastrophe”), the expulsion of more than 750,000 Palestinians from their homes and the destruction of over 400 Palestinian towns and villages to make way for the Israel state is commemorated. Pax Christi members and partners around the world will organize activities in support of the Palestinians...”
- 5) [Palestinian human rights groups to UN Security Council: Protect unarmed Palestinian civilians in Gaza, hold Israel accountable](#), AIDA (Association of International Development Agencies), May 14, 2018
“Leading Palestinian human rights organizations sent an urgent letter to the United Nations Security Council today, decrying the ‘ongoing and imminent escalation of violence across the occupied Palestinian territory, and in the Gaza Strip specifically....’”
- 6) [70 Years of Nakba: Where Can Palestinians Go from Here?](#) Amal Ahmad, Irene Calis, Haidar Eid, Razi Nabulise ,Al-Shabaka, May 15, 2018
“On the Nakba’s 70th anniversary, Al-Shabaka analysts propose visions they contend would resonate with the greatest number of Palestinians – whether one-staters or two, refugees, exiles, citizens of Israel, or those under occupation....”
- 7) [Six Must-reads on Deadly Gaza Protests and U.S. Embassy's Jerusalem Move](#), Haaretz, May 15, 2018
“Get Haaretz correspondents’ top takes on the latest round of battles between Israel and the Palestinians, and – at the same time – on Trump moving the embassy to Jerusalem.”
- 8) [Global protests grow after Israeli killing of Palestinian demonstrators](#), Oliver Holmes and Hazem Balousha in Gaza City, and Peter Beaumont, The Guardian, May 15, 2018
“UN officials condemn ‘outrageous human rights violation’ as Palestinians begin to bury their dead.”
- 9) [After Day of Relative Calm on Gaza Border, Hamas Reassesses Its Tactics](#), Amos Harel, Haaretz, May 16, 2018
“Like with a push of a button, and certainly on orders from on high, almost all of the weapons fire on the border with the Gaza Strip was halted on Tuesday.”