



جمعية المرأة العاملة الفلسطينية للتنمية
Palestinian Working Woman Society for Development



PWWSD welcomes the UN- (ECOSOC) resolution as violations continue in occupied Jerusalem

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In light of the on-going violations and aggressions committed against Palestinian people by the Israeli occupation and its systematic policies of collective punishment and ethnic cleansing targeting women, men and children in the occupied Territories, the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) resolution expressed “concern about the continuing systematic violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people by Israel, the occupying Power, and its impact on women and girls”¹. This resolution coincides with the illegal practices of home demolition in East Jerusalem which led to the displacement of tens of Palestinians by the Israeli occupation forces.

The United Nations’ resolution on the status of Palestinian women, which was approved by 40 countries, considered the Israeli occupation as a major obstacle for Palestinian women, and for achieving their basic rights guaranteed by international law. The resolution also stressed the need to provide protection for the Palestinian people and to provide support to refugees and Palestinians living under Israeli occupation.

The Palestinian Working Woman Society for Development welcomes this step, which reflects a commitment to international humanitarian law. PWWSD highly appreciates the efforts exerted by the Palestine Mission in the United Nations, in particular Mr. Riyad Mansour, as this is the first state-led proposal presented directly to the UN Economic and Social Council. The Society also stresses the importance of intensifying national efforts to confront the occupation measures against Palestinian women by sustaining steadfastness, achieving full equality in accordance with the CEDAW Agreement, passing the Family protection bill and adopting a personal status law that dismantles the patriarchy and the subordination of women.

Such resolution by the ECOSOC coincides with the widespread violations against Palestinian families in the Wad Al-Hummus neighborhood of occupied Jerusalem, where the Israeli occupation forces targeted 16 residential buildings containing more than 100 Palestinian apartments and houses near the Apartheid Wall, in breach of international covenants. According to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Israeli occupation forces demolished 193 Palestinian properties in Jerusalem between January and April 2019, which exceeds the overall number of house demolitions during 2018².

As we are approaching the twentieth anniversary of the UNSCR 1325, PWWSD calls on the Security Council to enforce the international instruments of justice, namely all the resolutions on the right to just security and peace for women. In accordance with international law, we demand that Israel is held accountable for its continuous measurements of collective punishment against Palestinian people and call for filing a lawsuit to the International Criminal Court against Israeli forces after the demolition of Palestinian houses in Wad Al-Hummus in Jerusalem.

¹ <https://unwatch.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/Situation-of-and-assistance-to-Palestinian-women.pdf>

² <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/record-number-demolitions-including-self-demolitions-east-jerusalem-april-2019>