47th regular session of the Human Rights Council  
Item 7: Human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories  
Joint Oral Intervention¹  
Date: 9 July 2021

Speaker: Ms. Shahd Qaddoura

Israel's apartheid: Dispossession and displacement of Palestinians on both sides of Green Line

Madam President,

The Palestinian people have experienced institutionalised oppression, displacement, and dispossession since the Nakba of 1948.

We welcome the Special Rapporteur’s report that “Israeli settlements are the engine of this forever occupation, and amount to a war crime,” and that settler colonialism infringes “the right of the indigenous population [...] to be free from racial and ethnic discrimination and apartheid”.

Madam President,

In Jabal Sbeih, Israeli settlers established an unlawful outpost, appropriating Palestinian land.

In Sheikh Jarrah, Batn al-Hawa, and al-Bustan, Palestinians are facing imminent expulsion.

In Lifta, Israel plans to demolish the homes of Palestinian refugees, erasing their history from west Jerusalem.

In Humsa, Palestinians are enduring another round of house demolitions, facilitated by Israel’s discriminatory planning regime.

These Palestinian experiences are manifestations of the Palestinian struggle. A struggle against Israel’s settler-colonial and apartheid system imposed over the Palestinian people as a whole. A struggle for self-determination.

Madam President,

The international community must address the root causes of the prolonged denial of Palestinian rights, taking effective measures to end Israel’s settler-colonisation and apartheid.

We urge Member States to support accountability mechanisms, including the ICC investigation, the newly established CoI and annual updates of the UN Database.

Thank you.