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Action Group For Palestinians of Syria



التقرير اليومي



الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

The situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



Rights Group Deeply Concerned by Financial Crisis of Palestine Refugee Agency

- Palestinians among 54 Migrants Caught onboard Austria-Bound Truck
- Palestinian Refugees in Northern Syria Displacement Camps Rally in Solidarity with Jerusalem
- Child Psychological Support Initiative Held in Yarmouk Camp



Latest Development

Association 302 for Defense of Refugee Rights has raised concerns over the crisis confronted by the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).

Last week, UNRWA Commissioner-General Philippe Lazzarini told the Swedish magazine OmVärlden that the Agency's operations and vital services, most notably education, healthcare, and social protection, are at serious risk as the Agency has almost run out of its financial resources.

Lazzarini warned that the UN agency's funds are shrinking and that the agency is at a very dangerous junction, saying the Agency will not be able to pay the salaries of 28,000 staff workers on time.

Association 302 said the fact that UNRWA is operating in "a vacuum" is particularly distressing. Lazzarini's question "who will fill the vacuum?" implies that plots are being weaved under wraps with the backup of Israel and the U.S. to thwart the Agency's mission and undermine Palestinian refugees' right of return.

The human rights group said UNRWA is created by General Assembly resolution 302 (IV), with the initial mandate to provide "direct relief and works programmes" to Palestine refugees, in order to "prevent conditions of starvation and distress... and to further conditions of peace and stability". UNRWA takes over from the United Nations Relief for Palestine Refugees (UNRPR), established in 1948.



Association 302 said the Ukrainian-Russian war will exacerbate the situation as donor countries are raising funds for Ukraine. It slammed the double standards of the United Nations, saying the 1,200 billion USD raised for Ukrainian refugees could also have been garnered for the Palestine refugees.

The group called on donors to help maintain the vital and irreplaceable role that UNRWA plays for over 6 million Palestine refugees to allow them to live with dignity.

In another development, Austrian police have seized a semi-trailer truck with 54 migrants onboard, including Palestinians and Syrians.

The truck was parked in Lower Austria in the municipality of Bratislava, after a 9-hour continuous journey from Serbia.

On Friday, the 46-year-old Polish driver stopped the truck to buy water. Sometime later, the refugees started to make a fuss as they were left trapped inside the vehicle under scorching sunbeams for over one hour. The driver was arrested while the migrants were transferred to a shaded place pending asylum and international protection procedures.

Preliminary investigation by the criminal police of Lower Austria found out that the migrants paid some 3,000 Euros each to be transferred from a camp in Serbia to Austria after they climbed over the barbed wire along the Serbian-Hungarian border.

Meanwhile, Palestinian refugees sheltered in displacement camps set up in northern Syria held a vigil in protest of Israel's latest



escalation in Jerusalem and violent assaults on worshipers at AlAqsa Mosque.

Palestinians and Syrians lifted banners and chanted slogans condemning Israeli aggressions against peaceful worshipers at AlAqsa Mosque and desecration of the holy Islamic shrine.

Israeli occupation forces broke into AlAqsa Mosque and arrested dozens of worshipers. Over 150 were injured.

In the meantime, the Palestinian Red Crescent Organization held a psychological support initiative for children at AlZaytouna Centre, in Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Damascus.

The warfare in Syria, which has now entered its eleventh year, has had traumatic fallouts on Palestinian refugee children in and outside the Syrian territories.

Post-traumatic stress disorders, mental psychosis, sleeplessness and nightmares, eating disorders, and intense fear have all been among the symptoms with which Palestinian children have been diagnosed.

AGPS renews its calls to the international community, human rights institutions, UNICEF, UNRWA, and all concerned bodies to work on protecting Palestinian children in embattled Syria and provide those who fled the war-torn country with physical and moral protection in the host countries.

AGPS has recorded the death of 252 Palestinian refugee children in war-torn Syria. Hundreds more have gone orphaned after they lost one or both of their parents in the deadly warfare.

