



بدیل  
المركز الفلسطيني  
لمصادر حقوق المواطنه واللاجئين



BADIL

Resource Center

for Palestinian Residency & Refugee Rights

BADIL Annual Report

**2016**

**ADVANCING A RIGHTS-BASED SOLUTION:**  
**EMPOWERING RIGHTS HOLDERS AND INFLUENCING DUTY BEARERS**

BADIL Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights is an independent, non-profit human rights organization working to protect and promote the rights of Palestinian refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). Our vision, mission, programs and relationships are defined by our Palestinian identity and the principles of international humanitarian and human rights law. We seek to advance the individual and collective rights of the Palestinian people on this basis. BADIL's latest General Assembly convened on 29 April 2016.

Cover Photo: Refugee children in the streets of Dheisha Camp, Bethlehem. May 2016  
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**BADIL Resource Center**  
for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights

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# BADIL's

## 2016 Highlights

This year saw a balanced approach between influencing duty-bearers and empowering rights holders through international advocacy and community interventions

### Education and Empowerment



Our research papers and periodicals were viewed over 9,000 times through both print and online productions



Over 65,000 copies of dozens tools including posters, educational brochures, and t-shirts were produced and sent around the world to educate and raise awareness



Over 1,500 members of local and international civil society benefited from our training, workshops, and lectures



## Working in Partnership

- BADIL participated in releasing 24 joint statements with our member coalitions and community partners
- BADIL partnered with other Palestinian and International organizations to deliver 25 international interventions

## International Interventions

- Submission to the ICC
- Submission to the UN Special Rapporteur
- 3 UNHRC Sessions
- Joint submission to the Committee against Torture

## Popular Commemorations Around the World

On May 15th, many of our partners, networks, and individual activists took part in organizing Nakba Day events around the world.

These events help to raise awareness about the Nakba and the ongoing displacement of Palestinian people.



Clockwise from top right: Glasgow, London, Spain, Canada, Belgium

## A Message from BADIL

Any respectable and accountable organization asks itself the same question periodically: what impact did our organization have? Not within the context of internationally imposed NGO jargon but in the context of a visible improved change on the lives of Palestinians. The answer is always the same: many changes have occurred including “micro” success stories (as we have been trained to identify and report on), but changes in the overall political will of powerful states towards the rights-based approach and solution has yet to occur. The truth is, Palestinian refugees are still unable to practice their rights and they still lack the critical international protection to which they are entitled. The Palestinian people’s inalienable rights and the credibility of international law remain conditional on the will of powerful states.

The current stagnant condition is not a mere failure to act in response to a suddenly emerging situation, as the ‘Question of Palestine’ (according to UN wording) has existed since 1947, or even before the establishment of the League of Nations after the first World War. The experience of the Palestinian people as a result of the stagnant political will of states is much more than mere frustration from injustice, absence of accountability, and the double standard Israel enjoys; it features humiliation. In our context, this humiliation exceeds the longstanding denial or ongoing violations of fundamental rights; it entails complicity and intentional negligence.

Thus, the struggle of Palestinian and international civil society movements, in particular the efforts of human rights organizations, is still required. As such, BADIL’s strategy of empowering rights holders and influencing duty bearers, irrespective of the level of success yet achieved, is still appropriate, not because there are no other options, but because real change(s) requires a bottom-up approach.

By looking at what has been achieved, BADIL’s 2016 Annual Report shows that the 2016 action plan was completely implemented, and in some cases, BADIL exceeded expected outputs and outcomes of the plan despite both internal and external challenges. BADIL would like to extend its heartfelt thanks and appreciation to its staff, Board of Directors, and General Assembly and its national and international supporters and partners without whom we would not have achieved the successes of 2016. We are not satisfied yet, and are always learning from our experiences and challenges and exploring new ways to enhance our effectiveness and impact. The challenges to come will require even more effort on our part; we remain thoroughly committed to the Palestinian people and the human rights based approach.

# About Us

BADIL Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights was established in 1998 to defend and promote the rights of Palestinian refugees and displaced persons regardless of where they reside or when they were displaced. BADIL believes the only feasible and durable solution is a rights-based solution; one derived from and built upon the international law, mainly; international human rights law, international humanitarian law, and international refugee law.

Our vision, mission, programs, and relationships are defined by our Palestinian identity and the principles of international humanitarian and human rights law. We seek to advance the individual and collective rights of the Palestinian people on this basis.

BADIL is registered with the Palestinian Authority and legally owned by the refugee community represented by a General Assembly composed of human rights defenders and activists in Palestinian civil society, national institutions, and refugee community organizations.

BADIL has special consultative status with UN ECOSOC (a framework partnership agreement with UNHCR), a member of the PHROC (Palestinian Human Rights Organizations Council), PNGO (Palestinian NGO Network), GPRN (Global Palestinian Refugee Network), ICVA (International Council of Voluntary Agencies), and the ECCP (the European Coordination of Committees and Associations for Palestine).

To advance a human rights-based solution, BADIL employs a variety of mechanisms. We believe that it is necessary utilize the combination of empowering rights holders and influencing decision makers to encourage a rights-based solution. Empowerment of rights holders is carried out through awareness raising, training, educational, cultural, and mobilization actions and programs. Influencing duty bearers is conducted through networking, campaigning, and legal advocacy activities. BADIL implements its own rights-based campaigns and participates in joint campaigns with its partners and through its memberships in various coalitions and networks.

In addition, BADIL legally advocates in the international

arena with duty bearers to defend the rights of the Palestinian forcibly displaced population, particularly calling for adherence to the rights of reparation (return, property restitution, and compensation) and self-determination. BADIL has non-profit (charity) status under local (Palestinian Authority) law. Membership in the organization and the respective roles of governance and management bodies are regulated by BADIL's Basic Law.

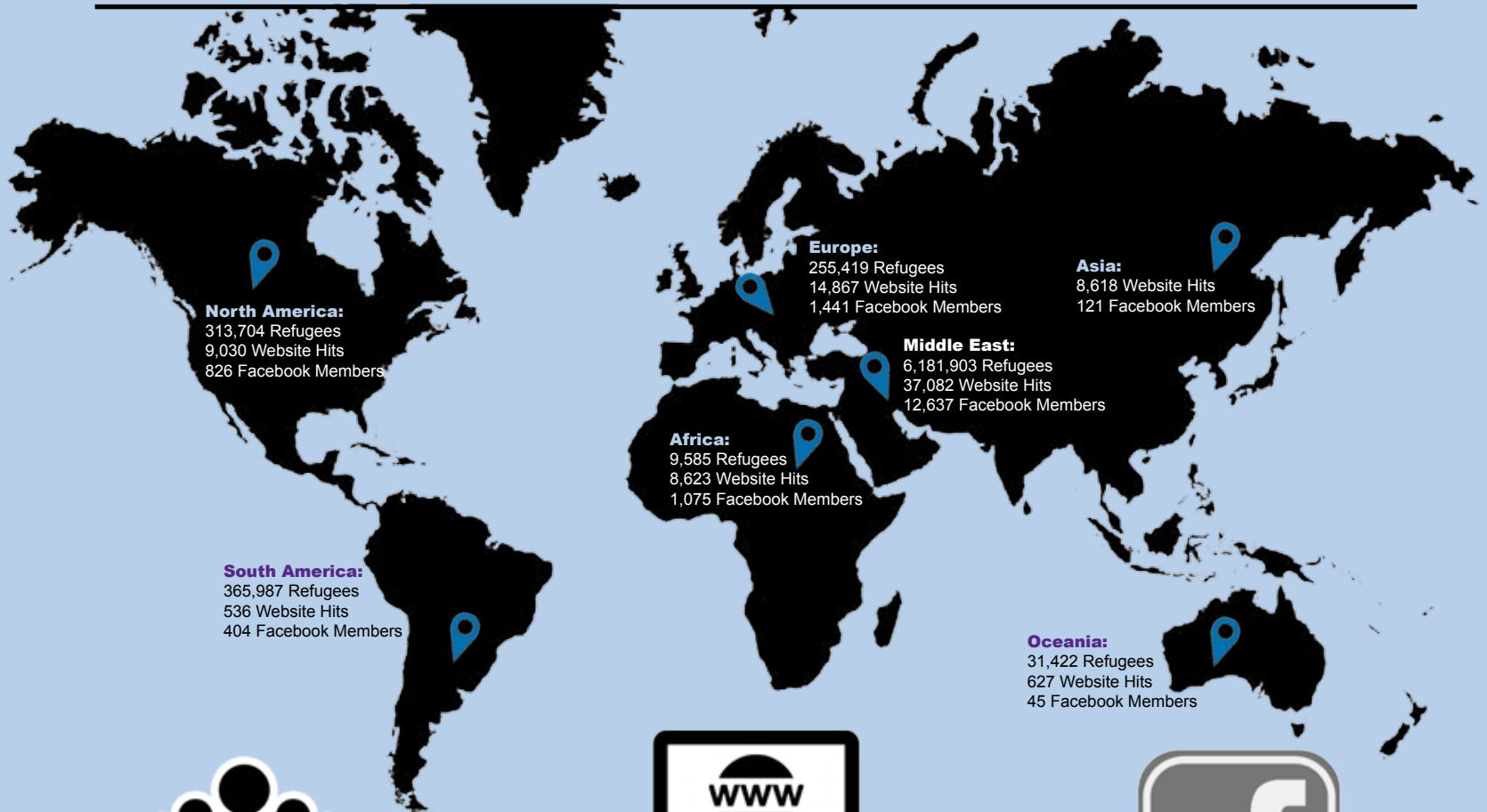
BADIL is guided by a firm belief in the principles of equality, justice and human rights as enshrined in international law and in the role of collective action by civil society in bringing about social and political change through:

- ↘↘ A participatory and inclusive approach: BADIL as an organization has been developed to work with Palestinian refugees/IDPs for their rights, based on the assumption that an NGO with strong partnerships with community partners would be to the mutual benefit of BADIL and its partners/beneficiaries, have more credibility, and be better placed to recruit support and public influence than a stand-alone NGO. If experience has shown us anything, it is that participation of refugees is crucial in every aspect of refugee assistance, protection, and advocacy. This is more than simply conducting "sample surveys", but actively involving refugee representation at every stage, from planning to implementation and evaluation.
- ↘↘ Conceptualization of a rights-based approach to ongoing Palestinian displacement, which is relevant for both community-based campaigning and work with the professional, academic, and international groups. This combination allows BADIL to present a combination of quality research and activism.
- ↘↘ A bottom-up strategy for policy change: We are convinced that only collective civil society action can create pressure and political will for a rights-based approach to the Palestinian refugee question. BADIL sees its role mainly as a moving actor and catalyst of advocacy initiatives and campaigns.



# BADIL's Global Outreach

## OUR MEMBERSHIP AND ONLINE ENGAGEMENT SPANS EVERY CONTINENT



**7,158,020**  
Palestinian Refugees  
World Wide



**79,630**  
Visits to the BADIL  
Website in 2016



**16,564**  
Facebook Users  
from 55 Countries



## Organizational Updates

During this past year, we have welcomed 2 new employees; the Media and Advocacy Officer and the Community Mobilization Officer. We have been challenged to fill the vacancy for Head of Research and were unable to secure a suitable employee beyond the probationary period. We recruited a consultant to assist with organizational development and to support the Administration and Finance Unit in their work.

The Media and Communications Manual was revisited and re-written to reflect more detailed processes and protocols for internal communications. In addition to the work on the Media and Communications Manual, BADIL created and implemented a complaint/feedback mechanism and manual. This new tool can be completed and submitted online or by phone in Arabic or in English.

BADIL also changed its organizational currency from Euro to Shekel and is in the process of revisiting its salary scale in order to adapt it to the challenges of the National Social Security Law. Due to the implications of the proposed law, the organizational hierarchy will be revisited in the coming months.

BADIL is privileged to attract energetic and educated interns to assist in our programs and research whilst providing them with the opportunity to learn and develop their skills in a supportive environment. We thank our 2016 Interns for their hard work and dedication. BADIL's hosted a total of 15 Palestinian and international interns in 2016

"BADIL was the organization that I always looked to be working in, due to their great work on the Palestinian refugee cause. As a BADIL staff member, I found BADIL as a generator of hope and knowledge. Hope, by seeing the positive impact of our work on the Palestinian community as well as on the international communities and duty bearers. Knowledge, by the ongoing learning process that we are exposed to through BADIL's staff and resources, real challenges, and local and international partners."

- Community Mobilization Officer



Staff and Board Dinner, December 2016

# The 2014-2018 Strategic Plan

BADIL formulated the 2014-2018 strategic plan entitled ‘**Advancing a Rights-Based Solution: Empowering Rights Holders and Influencing Duty Bearers**’ in close cooperation with beneficiaries, partners, and stakeholders.

BADIL has firmly established itself as a human rights organization, specializing in the refugee issue, committed to international law. Our overall objective; ‘To contribute to the achievement of a situation where International Humanitarian Law (IHL), and International Human Rights Law (IHRL) are respected and implemented with regards to the Palestinian people, particularly the forcibly displaced’ is the cornerstone of our past three strategic plans. Where this plan diverged from the others, however, is that the first two were rooted in the hopes of an imminent just solution or improvement of the status quo, whereas this one reflects the current reality of Israeli impunity and its continued systematic violations of international law. This strategic plan takes into serious consideration the current political realities of Palestine post-Oslo and has such has been better able to plan and measure results and impact.

The overall objective of the 2014-2018 strategic plan is divided into two specific objectives: Empowering Rights Holders to act collectively through campaigning and networking in order to influence public opinion for a rights-based solution, and Influencing Duty Bearers to address the protection gap faced by Palestinians in general and the forcibly displaced in particular through legal advocacy based on accurate and timely research.

## Pillar 1: Empowering Rights Holders

This pillar focuses on providing the training, skill, venues, opportunities, tools, and means for Palestinian youth, women, and CBOs that operate in marginalized areas (such as Area C, Jerusalem, and refugee camps) to raise their voices and concerns and engage in their communities and with coalitions, networks, and stakeholders to demand and achieve their rights.

### Global Palestinian Refugee Network



2<sup>nd</sup> GPRN Annual Meeting, Bethlehem, December 2016

As a founding member of the Global Palestinian Refugee Network (GPRN), BADIL organized the second annual meeting in late 2016 which took place in Dheisheh Refugee Camp. The meeting resulted in the development of an action plan and statement (in Arabic) announcing the launch of a multiyear campaign under the slogan “Implementation of 194 Resolution = Dignity, Justice and Sustainable Peace” in preparation for the upcoming centennial commemoration of the Balfour Declaration and the 70-year commemoration of the Nakba. This development is a culmination of a successful year for the GPRN, whose membership grew from 17 to 33 in 2016. The renewed enthusiasm and energy of new members will undoubtedly drive its success in 2017.

## Monitoring Progress in Pillar 1

Empowering Rights Holders Pillar objective	Indicators	Where we are now	Coming up in 2017
To enhance the capacity of Palestinian rights holders, communities, refugee groups, CBOs, and coalitions to act collectively	Establishment of regional and international coalitions and networks to support the Palestinian refugee issue	Developed, solidified, and worked in partnership with over 30 Palestinian CBOs across the West Bank following the signing of 7 MOUs	Continued activation and promotion of the GPRN campaign Enhanced promotion and organization of the Nakba commemoration
	Palestinian rights holders, refugee groups, CBOs, and coalitions are aware of the human rights-based approach, skilled and capable of taking collective actions to advocate and promote their rights	Reaching thousands of Palestinians worldwide with brochures, multimedia tools, media and engagement in campaigns.	Ongoing development and dissemination of educational and informational tools for global consumption Provision of platforms for Palestinian engagement and participation
	New generation of (women and youth) human rights defenders/leaders are active locally, nationally, and internationally	The Youth Camp was implemented in partnership with 10 CBO partners on both sides of the Green Line. As part of the Women's Empowerment Project, BADIL delivered two lectures at Bethlehem University on forcible transfer	2017 Youth Camp and Visualizing Jerusalem projects to reach and empower more youth Ongoing lectures and courses in local Universities in partnership with law departments
	Improved institutional agency of BADIL's management, operations, and human resources.	Workshops with staff Media and Communications Manual Development and implementation of a complaint mechanism	More workshops with staff Creation of a Monitoring and Evaluation Manual Security Manual Revisiting the organogram, financial manual and human resources manual

## Outcomes 1 - 3

In order to ensure we reach our long term targets set forth in the strategic plan, while remaining flexible enough to respond to emerging issues, BADIL produces an annual action plan to guide its work. Below are the 2016 outcomes and how we've succeeded in meeting our goals.

**OUTCOME 1:** Palestinian rights holders, particularly women and youth have the means and opportunities to influence public opinion

- 111 students enrolled in the BADIL course entitled “Palestinian Refugees and International Law”
- 98 people attended 2 workshops and a field visit as part of the Women's Empowerment Program
- 30 youth participated in the Visualizing Jerusalem project and collectively decided to reach beyond their targets and created a 5th multimedia production
- 45 Youth participated in BADIL's summer school – a number of whom are now working on preparing the next summer school with the support of BADIL

**OUTCOME 2:** Palestinian individuals, communities, and networks are active on multiple levels promoting human rights and international law

**INTERMEDIATE OUTCOME 2.1:** Palestinian civil society is provided with the opportunity/platforms to raise their voices

- 34 community initiatives were made in 2016 with partner CBOs and coalitions
- BADIL produced and released eight short documentaries in 2016
- Al Awda Award:
  - o Nakba Commemoration poster contest had 85 submissions
  - o The Online contest had over 700 participants
  - o Three out of the top five winners of the online contest were women

**INTERMEDIATE OUTCOME 2.2:** Networks and coalitions that take up the cause of Palestinian refugees and their rights exist, attract new members, and are implementing activities at local, national, and international levels

- GPRN membership grew from 17-33, held two meetings, and launched a multi-year campaign: *“Implementation of 194 Resolution = Dignity, Justice and Sustainable Peace”*
- GPRN was actively involved in the Online Contest “We are from There”
- GPRN played a key role in National Nakba Commemoration

**INTERMEDIATE OUTCOME 2.3:** Palestinian (and international) civil society is provided with and accesses the tools to understand the root causes of the conflict

- Al Majdal’s spring issue and the articles within were viewed more than 4,500 times
- 4 issues of Haq Al-Awda were produced and these issues and the articles within them were viewed over 3,200 times
- 5,000 Nakba Commemoration t-shirts were produced and disseminated
- 11,000 Nakba Commemoration posters were printed and distributed
- 3,045 Brochures were designed, printed and distributed
- 16,000 Fact-filled post cards were printed
- The 2017 BADIL Calendar was printed and distributed
- 1,000 campaign hoodies were produced and disseminated

**INTERMEDIATE OUTCOME 2.4:** Reflections of Palestinian civil society are incorporated into BADIL’s publications

- 3 Articles and 1 poem were written for Al-Majdal by Palestinians and all the articles in Haq Al Awda except for 1 were written by Palestinians in 2016.
- 51 Interviews collected and utilized in research
- 85 submissions to the Al Awda poster contest

### *First Online Contest: We are from there*

“The questions were provocative enough for me to search and form discussions with family and friends in order to get the right answers, I didn’t expect it to incentivize me to read more.”– Contest Winner

BADIL succeeded in recruiting over 700 participants in its first online contest. The contest included 3 stages; each stage had 10 questions with a specific time limit for each stage. Participants expressed their excitement since the announcement of the contest, and helped to promote it in the community. Contacting BADIL through the website, participants expressed the importance of the contest for Palestinians due to its challenging questions that raise awareness in a new exciting way. Registration in the contest was open for any Arabic speaking person; therefore, we received participation from different countries around the world.





**OUTCOME 3:** BADIL becomes a more transparent, accountable and effective human rights organization

**INTERMEDIATE OUTCOME 3.1:** Organizational procedures and policies are institutionalized in manuals and activated

- The Media and Communications Manual was revisited and revised to reflect more detailed processes and protocols for internal and external communications
- Created and implemented a complaint/feedback mechanism and manual

**INTERMEDIATE OUTCOME 3.2:** BADIL addresses its organizational weaknesses and monopolizes on its strengths, and the number of BADIL's outputs is maintained or increased within the available financial resources. BADIL focused on supporting capacity building among current employees, as well as increasing our human resources to meet and exceed our targets:

- All of BADIL's reports, newsletters, and the annual audit were conducted and approved on time
- 2 staff from the Administrative and Financial Affairs (AFA) Unit completed training in digital security and anti-corruption
- 1 staff member from the AFA Unit Completed a 60 hour online training course in organizational security
- Two workshops were implemented with BADIL staff one concerning project cycle management and one on peer- and self-evaluation
- Provided training for staff on the implications of the proposed Social Security Law
- 2 new employees were recruited to the Campaign Unit; the Media and Advocacy Officer and the Community Mobilization Officer
- One consultant was recruited to assist with organizational development and to support the Administration and Finance Unit in their work.
- 2 Palestinian and 4 international research interns were recruited for the year 2016 at the headquarter office in Bethlehem
- BADIL's Geneva office supported the mentoring of 6 interns and 3 legal advocacy assistants

### BADIL's Annual "Return" Youth Camp

The Youth Camp is one of BADIL's projects that respond to the expressed needs of Palestinian youth. Participants of the youth camp successfully met their peers coming from all over Mandate Palestine, formed relationships, and worked together in an intensive program, challenging the segregation imposed by Israeli policies. As one participant stated; "the youth camp provided the opportunity to address the division among the Palestinian community". Furthermore, a group of participants contacted BADIL to facilitate and support another youth organized camp to engage more youth in social cohesion activities. The youth camp presents a unique and rare empowerment experience for the Palestinian youth on both sides of the Green Line.



## CONNECTING EMPOWERMENT AND INFLUENCE

### Campaign highlighting Israeli Suppression of the Palestinian People



In light of the escalating aggression against the Palestinian people by the Israeli military, BADIL has embarked on a campaign to highlight the excessive use of force as a component of the Israeli policy of Suppression.

On 23 August 2016, BADIL released a report highlighting the systematic targeting of Palestinian youth by Israeli military forces throughout the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt), emphasizing the situation in Dheisheh where 18 youth were shot in the legs, at least 8 of them directly in the knee, between the end of July and mid-August 2016. This policy was coupled with threats such as “I will make all the youth of the camp disabled”, or “I will have all of you walking with crutches and in wheelchairs”, made by a notorious officer in the Israeli military. In 2016 alone, a total of over 80 Palestinians have been targeted and injured as the result of this campaign.

This report, based on the testimony and evidence provided by members of the community sparked a significant reaction from media around the world. At least 67 media outlets cited our report in articles about the kneecapping campaign, and the Arab news outlet Almayadeen created a documentary film entitled “Harb Al-eaqa (Kneecapping War)” where they utilized BADIL’s research and interviewed BADIL’s staff for the film.

Working with rights holders to collect and share their experiences and sharing these stories of resilience against grave breaches of international law with duty bearers has had a significant impact on public opinion.

### Forced Population Transfer Working Paper Series

In 2016, BADIL published another paper in the Forced Population Transfer series on the Suppression of Resistance which addresses the issue of Israeli suppression as a policy of forced displacement and transfer. Additionally, as a supplement to the series on Israeli policies of forcible transfer, BADIL embarked on the research and production of a case study, aimed at highlighting how all nine of Israel’s main policies of forced population transfer are at work in the Old City of Hebron. This case study, along with a brief and a video of our findings



helped to showcase how the day to day lives of Palestinians are shaped by the occupation and where these policies lead to direct population transfer or create a coercive environment that leads to forcible transfer in Hebron’s Old City.

Both the research paper and the case study relied heavily upon the testimonials and experiences of Palestinians who have been or are at risk of forcible transfer. These testimonials have led BADIL to believe that there is a strong case to be made to the International Criminal Court for a second submission which will undoubtedly lead to influencing duty bearers to act in accordance with international law.

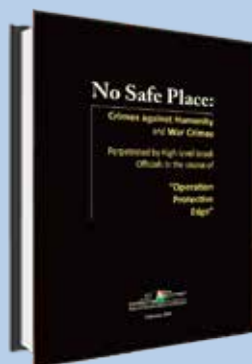
This work has helped guide us in developing and improving our inter-unit communication and coordination. We will further streamline these processes in order to improve the timelines and efficiency of our work.

## Pillar 2: Influencing Duty Bearers

This pillar is characterized by the production of research and legal analysis which is relevant, timely, and accurate, utilizing two essential elements: first hand documentation of human rights violations and crimes, coupled with the frameworks of international humanitarian, human rights, and refugee law. The research and legal analysis is then utilized in all of BADIL's programs to raise awareness and acknowledgment of the root causes of the conflict, the protection gap faced by the Palestinian people, and to provide remedies within the aforementioned frameworks for a just and durable solution created with the participation and engagement of the rights holders. To this end, BADIL has special consultative status with the United Nations, through a framework partnership agreement via ECOSOC (Economic and Social Council). Further, BADIL leverages its partnerships and membership in coalitions and networks to reach and advocate with wider target groups.

### The ICC Submission

BADIL submitted its report, "No Safe Place: Crimes against Humanity and War Crimes perpetrated by High Level Israeli officials in the course of Operation Protective Edge" to the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC) in February 2016. The report was launched publicly at a side event during the 31st session of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC). BADIL has also continued to support the work of the ICC through the provision of additional information as part of the Court's ongoing preliminary examination.



Following up with the ICC, BADIL responded to the update issued by the Office of the Prosecutor (OTP) in late November calling for a formal investigation into the crimes committed by Israel during the 2014 war on the Gaza Strip.

## Monitoring Progress in Pillar 2

Influencing Duty Bearers Pillar objective	Indicators	Where we are now	Coming up in 2017
To influence duty bearers to address the protection gap faced by Palestinians	Development of the UNRWA humanitarian and legal mandate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitated discussion with members of Palestinian popular committees, academics, representatives of community-based organizations operating in refugee communities, and UNRWA staff on UNRWA challenges</li> <li>Participation in the annual Academic Friends of UNRWA Workshop in the United Kingdom, hosted by Exeter University. This year's workshop addressed the role of UNRWA as a stabilizing actor in the Middle East, its strengths and weaknesses, as well as potential solutions and alternatives regarding the chronic budget deficit.</li> </ul>	BADIL will continue its efforts to support, coordinate with, and assist UNRWA in their roles and responsibilities towards Palestinian refugees and is working on producing a working paper on the challenges and opportunities facing UNRWA
	Incorporation of Article 1D in domestic state laws	BADIL has provided legal consultations to dozens of asylum/refugee lawyers addressing Palestinian secondary displacement from multiple countries. The Handbook on Article 1 D has proved an invaluable resource for lawyers, courts and states on the issue of refugee protection	The winter issue of al-Majdal will cover the issue of Palestinian refugees in Europe (specifically new refugees from Syria) as a follow up to last year's issue. Accurate research on this topic provides a vehicle for international advocacy on incorporating Article 1D
	Recognition of the importance of rights to a just peace; recognition of the inapplicability of the 'peace process'; recognition of the limited nature of only supporting a humanitarian and/or politically driven approach to the refugee issue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supplementary case study to the Forced Population Transfer series</li> <li>Summary of the case study to make it more accessible to a wider audience</li> <li>Working Paper No.19 Forced Population Transfer Series entitled: Suppression of Resistance</li> <li>UNHRC sessions (March, June, and September 2016) influencing three UN Resolutions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing work on the Forced Population Transfer Working Paper Series</li> <li>Research and publication of case studies related to the Working Paper Series</li> <li>Continued participation in UNHCR sessions</li> <li>Submissions to relevant UN bodies and a second submission to the ICC</li> <li>Ongoing joint statements with our member coalitions</li> </ul>



## Outcomes 4 - 6

**Outcome 4:** Accurate and timely research that analyses human rights violations and war crimes against the Palestinian people is made available to rights holders and duty bearers

**Intermediate Outcome 4.1:** Production and provision of accurate research and legal analysis is provided to stakeholders

- ↘↘ The 2013-2015 Survey of Palestinian Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons was translated and published in Arabic
- ↘↘ 2 Working Papers were produced (one in Arabic, other Arabic translation in process); Installment of a Permit Regime (English and Arabic), and Suppression of Resistance (English)
- ↘↘ Supplementary Case Study to the Working Paper Series on policies of forcible transfer in the Old City of Hebron, with a Brief of the case study and a short documentary on the same issue

**Intermediate Outcome 4.2:** BADIL's research and legal analysis contains primary sources and comprehensive data

- ↘↘ BADIL collected over 50 testimonies, of which at least 15 were from women
- ↘↘ 3,000 Palestinian refugees completed the Survey
- ↘↘ 1 investigation into sharp increase in excessive use of force against Palestinian youth resulting in the publishing of 3 statements which received significant press coverage around the world

**Outcome 5:** Focused Interventions with legal analysis of the protection gap targeting UN and political actors will influence them to take steps to fulfill their obligations towards Palestinians

**Intermediate Outcome 5.1:** UN Bodies and special procedures have access to information on HRV's and crimes perpetrated against Palestinian people

- ↘↘ Participation in 3 UNHCR Sessions (12 interventions which include 2 written statements, 7 oral statements, and 3 side events)
- ↘↘ Submission to UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian Territory occupied since 1967 in partnership with PHROC which highlights the repressive environment within which human rights defenders (HRDs) work in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT), including East Jerusalem
- ↘↘ Engagement with the UNHRC and briefing its Standing Committee (Ex-Comm)
- ↘↘ Multiple consultations with the Committee on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination (CERD)
- ↘↘ Submission of Shadow Report to the Committee against Torture in partnership with other Palestinian human rights organizations
- ↘↘ Briefing the UN Special Committee to Investigate Israeli practices in the occupied territories
- ↘↘ Briefing to the newly appointed SR on the Palestinian territory occupied in 1967
- ↘↘ Submission to the ICC, including bilateral meeting with the Office of the Prosecutor and press release in response to the status report published by the ICC

**Intermediate Outcome 5.2:** A shift in the discourse of duty bearers specifically recognizing and adopting BADIL's analysis that Israeli policies constitute forcible transfer, an international crime, and occur as part of widespread policy





Source	Quote
UN Secretary General	"Displacement and relocation to alternative residential areas, as a result of demolition orders, and a coercive environment could amount to individual and mass forcible transfer and forced evictions, contrary to the obligations of Israel under international humanitarian and human rights law." (Report to GA, January 2016)
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	"Many Palestinian families and communities throughout the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem, are at risk of forcible transfer because Israeli practices have created a coercive environment that puts pressure on them to move, mainly through the unavailability of building permits, which are almost impossible to acquire." (Monthly Humanitarian Bulletin, May 2016)
UNRWA	Recognized that executing demolition orders, for Palestinian Bedouins specifically, "exacerbates an already coercive environment, driving Bedouin communities off the land they have inhabited for decades."
Diakonia	Publishing of legal analysis highlighting: a) that a range of Israeli policies throughout the West Bank underpin forcible transfer, b) that in certain cases this forcible transfer appears to satisfy the requirements for a crime against humanity, and c) outlines third state responsibility for such abuses (January, 2016)
UN-led Legal Advisory Group (LAG)	A final draft of the legal framework on forcible transfer was adopted by all the members of the LAG
UN Humanitarian Coordinator	"Jabal al Baba, located to the east of Jerusalem in an area planned for the expansion of the Ma'ale Adumim settlement (the E1 plan), is one of 46 communities in the central West Bank considered at high risk of forcible transfer. The destruction of homes and of livelihoods creates pressures on households to move, exacerbating the risk of forcible transfer which would be considered a grave breach of the Fourth Geneva Convention. Over 600 structures have been demolished or confiscated across the West Bank already in 2016, far exceeding the total for all of 2015. In their wake, over 900 people have been displaced from their homes and a further 2,500 have seen their livelihoods affected." (Press release, May 2016)

**Intermediate Outcome 5.3:** Actions taken by Duty Bearers address their obligations toward Palestinians

- 3 UN Resolutions were passed in 2016 that specifically address the effects of Israeli policies on Palestinian people:

- The UN General Assembly adopted Resolution A/HRC/31/L.38 which seeks to ensure accountability for 'all violations of international law in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem' and calls on the High Commissioner to conduct a 'comprehensive review detailing the status of implementation of the recommendations addressed to all parties since 2009'
- The UN General Assembly adopted Resolution A/HRC/31/L.39 calls on the Human Rights Commissioner to 'produce a database of all business enterprises involved in the activities detailed in paragraph 96 of the aforementioned report' which details construction activities, and to present it to the General Assembly on an annual basis.
- The UN Security Council adopted Resolution no. 2334 with regards to the illegality of Israeli settlements

**Outcome 6:** International civil society promotes the rights-based approach and solution in statements

**Intermediate Outcome 6.1:** International civil society becomes aware of and continues to seek BADIL's rights-based approach.

- 55 groups, totaling 1,055 attendees were hosted by BADIL
- Speaking tours in Ireland, the US, and Spain reaching 100s of people, including government officials and politicians
- Accountability panel with EU Parliamentarians
- Significant engagement with partners and groups informing and advocating on corporate complicity in human rights violations in Palestine
- Participation in 3 international conferences
- Engagement with Jewish Voice for Peace in 3 international webinars on Palestine issues



**Intermediate Outcome 6.2:** BADIL's terminology permeates and influences Palestinian and international civil society's statements.

While BADIL reports and press releases were quoted 155 times throughout 2016, our investigation into the excessive use of force by Israeli military against Palestinians was quoted in over 65 media sources.

Some examples include:

- ↘↘ Electronic Intifada: "According to Badil, a human rights group based in Bethlehem, Captain Nidal has threatened youth "before, during and after the raids, and during interrogations and arrests." (1 September 2016)
- ↘↘ Middle East Monitor: "According to BADIL, 30 Palestinians have been shot with live ammunition in the camp since the beginning of the year, the majority in their legs and knees." (26 August 2016) – this article was shared over 5,000 times online
- ↘↘ Other international media outlets who reported on our work includes; World Bulletin, Huffington Post, Mondoweiss, Argentine Today, and Hispan TV to name a few

↘↘ BADIL-produced articles and research dating back to the year 2000 are used by reporters and journalists to address current issues

- o The intention of the US to move the embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, "Jerusalem of Trump: Where the president-elect might put the US embassy"



**Issue 58 of al-Majdal Magazine:** "*Oslo is Dead: Alternative Approaches to Achieve Durable Solutions.*" This issue developed further the results obtained in BADIL's survey of 3,000 Palestinian refugees in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, Jordan and Lebanon on durable solutions. By analyzing collectively and individually the most preferred pathways to a sustainable solution chosen by the refugees and with contributions from renown experts, Issue 58 of al-Majdal brought back to the fore the long-neglected refugee voices and offered an

in-depth overview of the possible alternatives to Oslo available to and chosen by Palestinians.



## Looking Back, Looking Ahead

### Challenges

One of the main challenges in our work with Palestinian civil society is the effect of the political situation and resulting violence and turmoil in the region. The increase of instability and the resulting destruction – not to mention dire humanitarian and protection needs from secondary displacement – has required a shift in our advocacy initiatives to address these issues. Specifically in this quarter was the alarming rate at which young men in a number of camps in the southern part of the West Bank were being targeted and shot in the knee by Israeli forces. We included in our priorities the examination of the use of excessive force and collective punishment by Israel against the Palestinian people in general and against youth in particular, in addition to the other commitments in the 2016 Action Plan.

In the meantime, human rights violations and war crimes continue to be perpetrated by Israel unabated. Israel's lack of cooperation with the UN and its mechanisms, particularly the denial of access to the special rapporteurs (the SRs on the oPt and violence against women) and special missions (such as the Commission of Inquiry) is disturbing and in contravention with its obligations as a member of the United Nations and as signatory to many international treaties. Such actions require the appropriate response from the international community as dictated by the obligations of third party states under international law. We are working on advocating for international response through our networks and our consultative status with the UN as well as the possibility of a second submission to the ICC on the use of excessive force.

Human rights defenders operating in Palestine use a variety of methods to call attention to Israeli human rights violations and to seek accountability. Each of these methods, however, is met with acts of suppression and intimidation by Israel. Weekly peaceful protests throughout the West Bank are routinely met with excessive and deadly force by the Israeli military. Hashem Khader Abu Maria, 45, coordinator of Defense for Children International – Palestine's community mobilization unit, was shot dead by Israeli forces while

peacefully participating in a weekly protest in July 2014. Human rights defenders seeking to monitor and document human rights violations, including lawyers seeking to represent their clients, have their freedom of movement and access obstructed, and are further at risk of arrest and detention because of their work. Palestinian human rights organizations providing submissions to the International Criminal Court (ICC) during its preliminary examination have faced even more extreme targeting. Palestinian organizations have had staff members receive death threats, and have also been the targets of a wider campaign that attempts to discredit their work and destabilize the organizations. These campaigns have included the hacking of emails, intimidating phone calls to staff, and efforts to alarm donors; all of which seek to distract organizations from their primary human rights work. While the ICC's Office of the Prosecutor and other authorities have recognized these threats, acts of intimidation have persisted.

Human rights defenders advocating on issues related to Palestine in the United States and Europe are also facing intensifying pressure for bringing attention to Israeli human rights violations. Israel has treated the Palestinian call to engage in nonviolent boycott, divestment and sanctions (BDS) campaigns as a "strategic threat," and has countered it with increasingly coercive and punitive measures, both in Palestine and globally. In the United States, individuals and institutions engaged in advocacy for Palestinian rights, including BDS campaigns, have been targeted with online harassment, surveillance, threats to their physical safety, lawsuits, intimidation campaigns maligning them as terrorist supporters and anti-Semitic activities, and even disciplinary and criminal investigations and sanctions for their protest activities. Legislative measures in the US aim to penalize advocacy for Palestinian rights and engagement in BDS.

Many Palestinian and international NGOs and CBOs, who are active in the BDS movement, have been targeted by the Israeli government and lobby groups in an attempt to both smear their reputation and attempt to cut funding to these organizations. Many funding bodies have responded to these demands with increased limitations and restrictions on funding provided to Palestinian NGOs. Further





funding shortages have resulted from a shift in priorities to the humanitarian crisis in Syria. While Palestinian-Syrian refugees are among the most vulnerable groups of the conflict, our ability to be effective advocates for their rights to safety, security, and asylum are limited when funding is not available.

Internally, we faced a number of challenges that required significant effort on our part to understand the new social security law proposed by the Palestinian Authority. We had to adjust our priorities, activities, and timelines to make time for analyzing the law, understanding the implications on both employee salaries, and BADIL's overall financial operations and then lobbying the PA to make changes to enhance the legislation in favor of Palestinian workers.

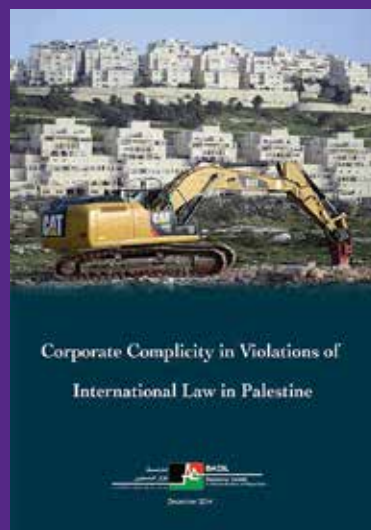
We also went through the process of changing the currency with which we operate in as an organization from Euro to Shekel. While there will be a number of benefits to the switch, it took time from our financial and administrative staff to make the adjustments, inform other staff about these changes, and support them through the transition.

Our work for the next year will focus on calling on the international community to support human rights defenders and hold Israel accountable for its human rights violations and crimes. We will continue to engage our partner CBOs and networks through bilateral and multilateral initiatives. As an organization, we will exert further efforts to streamline our work, enhance upward and downward accountability and transparency, increasing our effectiveness and impact. Continuing to grow in this area not only helps to attract new funding opportunities, it combats the lobbyists dedicated to delegitimizing our efforts.

## International Advocacy: Influencing the dialog on business and human rights

BADIL began to engage in business and human rights in 2014 and 2015 with two working papers on the issue of corporate complicity in violation of international law in the oPt. Afterwards, through its partnerships with Palestinian and international human rights organizations BADIL jointly contributed to advocacy initiatives in the UN Forum on Business and Human Rights and the Working Group on transnational corporations.

At the most recent UN Forum on Business and Human Rights, BADIL



raised several issues though a joint side event: business responsibilities in the occupied territory based on the United Nations Guiding Principles on how corporations are expected to conduct themselves in occupied territories; business obligations to respect particular elements of international humanitarian law related to the situation of occupation; exploitation of natural resources; and Israeli colonies with respect to the 4<sup>th</sup> Geneva Convention which prohibits an occupying power from transferring its nationals into the territory it occupies and its relation to complicity for businesses operating in

colonies. In attendance were UN Representatives as well as a number of international NGOs.

BADIL engaged in a number of bilateral and multilateral discussions particularly focused on accountability and the role in corporations to respect human rights both in Geneva and Brussels. BADIL believes that this work is reflected in UN Resolution A/HRC/31/L.39 which calls for the development of a data base of corporations complicit in human rights violations in the oPt.



## Looking Forward

BADIL has a number of major milestones that will become the focus of our work over the next year.

For the Research Unit, this will be the second to last year for producing the complete working paper series on Forced Population Transfer: The Case of Palestine. The 2017 target is to complete 2 working papers and continue with supplementary case studies, briefs, and in focus research papers to respond to any new developments that affect Palestinian people.

Additionally, 2017 brings about planning, coordinating, and data collection for the next installment of the Survey of Palestinian Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons. This is a major undertaking and will require significant human resources and coordination. The data from these surveys provide invaluable and unique information to advocate for Palestinian refugee rights and educate the public around the world.

In addition to implementing the Visualizing Jerusalem, Youth Camp, Al Awda Award, and annual commemoration initiatives, the Campaign Unit is the driver of community mobilization projects and partnerships with CBO partners. They will be working closely with the GPRN to implement their newly launched campaign; ***‘Implementation of 194 Resolution = Dignity, Justice and Sustainable Peace’***.

The Administration and Financial Affairs Unit will continue to seek new funding opportunities to support BADIL’s work and provide financial stability for the organization. The development of a Monitoring and Evaluation Manual is another major activity for the year 2017 as well as revisiting and updating some of the existing manuals. The unit will continue to support staff capacity and skills development through training and workshops. Finally, 2017 will signal the initial planning stages for the next strategic plan and with it the following activities; Staff and Board of Directors retreat, our next external evaluation, and workshops, focus groups, and discussions with our main stakeholders and beneficiaries.

### Influencing Duty Bearers - Report of the UN Secretary General Highlights Israeli Policies Which Underpin Forcible Transfer of Palestinians

The report of the UN Secretary General, Ban Ki Moon, made welcome progress with respect to the language used to reference forcible transfer of Palestinians. This new language is as a result of our advocacy efforts through UN Submissions and our consultative status, as it specifically utilizes words unique to BADIL’s research. For instance, the report notes:

“Displacement and relocation to alternative residential areas, as a result of demolition orders, and a coercive environment could amount to individual and mass forcible transfer and forced evictions, contrary to the obligations of Israel under international humanitarian and human rights law.”(para. 68)

The report, then, makes significant headway in identifying contemporary instances of Israeli-perpetrated forcible transfer inside the oPt, yet such progress in the analytical space - however valuable - affords no guarantees to affected persons on the ground. This reinforces that while we are making progress, we still have a ways to go to enforce and activate responsibility of third party states to act in accordance with international law.

On 23 December 2016, the **UN Security Council passed Resolution 2334** on Israel's continuing construction and expansion of settlements in the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967. This resolution expresses the international community's increasing concerns over Israel's ongoing violations of international law and international legitimacy.

This resolution added very little to the previous resolutions, particularly the UN Security Council's resolutions no. (237) of 1967; (446) of 1979 and (465) of 1980. However, issuing the 2334 resolution after two decades of international disregard for Israeli violations and crimes is a turning point in the international political will and restores hope for the enforcement of international law. Thus, we believe that the Security Council's resolution no. (2334) constitutes the basis for activating various international mechanisms, especially that powerful countries voted in favor of the resolution while the USA abstained.

“We lost our homes at the hands of Israel, we lost Palestine in the course of waiting for the actualization of Arab States’ promises, our hope has almost disappeared at the hands of our weak Palestinian leaders, we became beggars receiving nothing from the agency [UNRWA], and now we are losing ourselves as human beings at the hands of powerful western states.”

Umm Khalil, 91-year old Palestinian refugee displaced from her home village of Ajjor in 1948.