



# 2020

**BADIL's Annual Report** 





# **Keeping viable the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people**

- >>> Promoting the resilience of the Palestinian people
- >>> Mobilizing international accountability and solidarity with the Palestinian people

BADIL Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights is a human rights organization that was established in 1998 with the aim of advocation and promoting the rights of Palestinian refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs).

Our vision, mission, programs for which we have thrived, and our relations are determined by our Palestinian identity and the principles of international humanitarian law 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 18 June 2020.

for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights

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### **About BADIL Center**

BADIL Center promoting the rights of Palestinian refugees and displaced persons, regardless of their place of residence or the period of their displacement. BADIL believes that the only just and lasting solution to their case is a rights-based solution; this is based on international refugee law and international human rights law.

BADIL Center is officially registered with the Palestinian National Authority, and the institution is owned by the General Assembly, which is currently composed of 38 members represented by an elected board of directors consisting of nine members. From an organizational point of view, BADIL Center consists of four work units led by the Director, which are: the Administrative and Financial Affairs Unit, the Research and Production Unit, the International and Legal Advocacy Unit, and the Community Mobilization Unit. BADIL Center will have in the year 2020 from six to seven full-time employees, and partly uses a changing number of specialists, consultants, trainees and facilitators to implement its programs, projects and activities, as needed.

BADIL has consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council, a member of the Framework Partnership Agreement with the UNHCR, a member of the Global Palestinian Refugees Network, and the European Coordination Committee for Palestine.

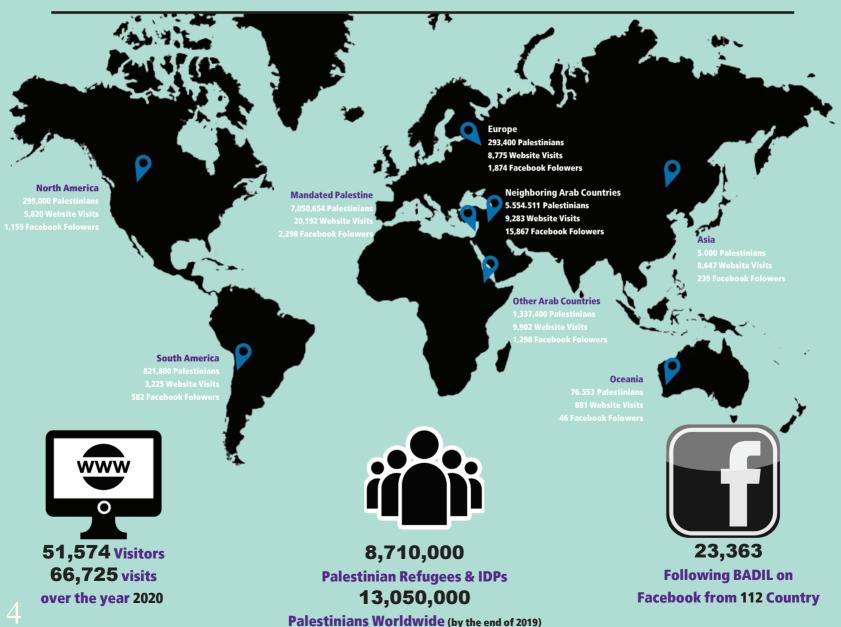
BADIL Center is guided by its firm belief in the principles of equality, justice and human rights as enshrined in international law, and in the role of civil society collective action in bringing about social and political change through:

- Broad participation approach: BADIL Center has worked as a non-governmental organization since its inception to develop strong partnerships with many community institutions working in the field of defending the rights of Palestinian refugees and displaced persons, based on its conviction that the benefit will be mutual between it and its partners/beneficiaries, and to obtain the greatest amount of credibility, and to be more able to employ public support and influence than just a self-contained NGO. Experience has shown us that refugee participation is crucial to every aspect of refugee assistance, protection and advocacy, as we did not reach this conclusion simply by conducting "sample surveys", but as a result of actively engaging and representing refugees at every stage, from planning to implementation to evaluation.
- · Building a conceptual framework for a rights-based solution to the

- ongoing displacement issues of Palestinians, which is important for both community campaigns and working with professional, academic and international groups, as this combination provides an opportunity for BADIL center to offer a variety of research and activities.
- Bottom-up Policy Change Strategy: We are convinced that collective civil
  society action alone can create pressure and political well for a rightsbased approach to the Palestinian refugee issue. BADIL sees its primary
  role as an active and catalyst for awareness and advocacy initiatives and
  campaigns.
- Preserving the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people is the overall objective of BADIL's strategic plan for the period 2019-2023. The plan reflects and responds to the current and expected situation, BADIL conducted a more in-depth analysis of the current situation compared to the previous, more general situation. In light of the absence of the political well of the major countries, and the world's preoccupation with the Corona pandemic, in addition to the continuing deterioration of the human rights situation in Palestine and abroad, BADIL believes that the priority is to continue working to preserve Palestinian rights while urging and motivating all members of networks around the world to take action.
- BADIL focuses on community activities that aim to provide Palestinian individuals, communities, and networks with the tools, information, and space needed to defend human rights. BADIL focuses on youth and women to enhance knowledge of rights and violations and to encourage them to engage in advocacy campaigns and activities, especially those focused on confronting forced transfer policies by strengthening means and elements of self-resilience.
- BADIL Center also works to strengthen the links between research and advocacy, through community mobilization and advocacy campaigns and the production of tools that support them at the local level. BADIL's research has been used in many community mobilization activities where Palestinian youth discuss its contents, enhancing the youth's ability to connect their own surroundings with a legal framework and gain a deeper understanding of the inalienable Palestinian right of return. In addition, BADIL constantly uses its research and other publications within its awareness and advocacy activities, whether with international civil society or as mandate holders and decision-makers.

## **BADIL's Global Outreach**

BADIL continues to join more coalitions and networks, expansion of its interventions across the Internet, which reflected its outreach worldwide.



### 2020 Context

Throughout 2020, BADIL faced significant challenges on many levels, in the shadows of the corona virus outbreak and the rapid decline in funding due to BADIL's rejecting the conditional funding. This caused BADIL to experience rapid decline in funding differently than other organizations that accepted the conditional funds, as many donors have moved from financing BADIL's core operations to project financing and imposing more and more dubious restrictions, by limiting the right to freedom of speech and expression, as well as the right to legitimate resistance. And as the space for support is constantly shrinking, with the funds allocated to Palestinian human rights organizations being cut off or restricted on the condition that terrorism is renounced or converted into relief work, which affects the credibility of the institutions and their struggle role.

Due to the reduced financial support that BADIL witnessed over the previous years, which lasted throughout 2020, the number of core staff decreased causing an increased operational burden over the years. To fill the human resources gap caused by the limited funding and lack of interns, as the internship program for Palestinian and international interns at BADIL was put on hold during 2020 due to travel restrictions imposed by the pandemic and social distancing practices to ensure safety BADIL uses external support of a number of specialized consultants, researchers and facilitators on a part-time basis, i.e. piece-work and as needed.

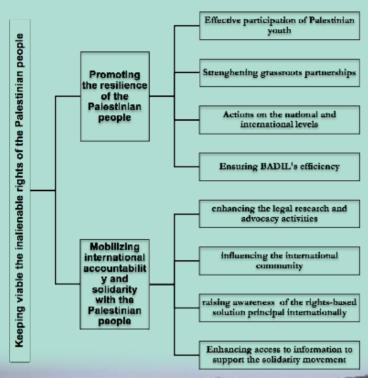
During 2020 as expected, the forced displacement of the Palestinian population escalated with the increase in the pace of colonial activity, including land confiscation and annexation, arbitrary arrest, detention, and repression, in the light of the international community continuing to stand neutral in the face of this deterioration and is satisfied with weakly worded condemnations of Israel's human rights violations, which provides Israel with the advantage of impunity for its international crimes, including the intensification and expansion of the policies of colonialism and apartheid against the Palestinian people. In addition, it is evident that the Palestinian leaders lack a unified national strategy regarding what happened and what might happen. As a result, it is expected to worsen the social and economic conditions.

In 2020, BADIL took measures to keep implementing its projects and programs during the pandemic through shifting to safer mechanisms such as online trainings, discussion panels and courses.

This report below explains the general framework for each programme/project/effectiveness in terms of implementation dates, direct objective, and the significance to the strategy and the action plan for 2020.



## **BADIL's Strategic Plan 2019-2023**



The current strategic plan (2019-2023) comprehensively addressed the existing situation and surrounding conditions, and came more deeply in the analysis, as shown below. Based on BADIL's reading of the data and indicators related to the work environment surrounding BADIL, the following conclusions are the most expected to happen in the next five years:

- The breadth and clarity of the international bias towards Israel.
- Israel's further displacement, annexation, especially in the area classified as C.
- A decline in the performance level of international institutions.
- The decline in the official Arab support for the Palestinian cause and rights.
- Increasing the security grip of the Palestinian National Authority and the Hamas government in the Gaza Strip in light of the continuing division, and the emergence of opposition currents.
- The decline of the Palestinian's ability, not in terms of confronting colonial policies, but rather in terms of resilience.
- The level of international institutions' support for BADIL's work and the Palestinian civil society in general will continue to decline.



## The 1<sup>st</sup> pillar: Promoting the resilience of the Palestinian people - results and outcomes

st Result: Palestinian youth both males and females are given the space and opportunity for equal participation to become knowledgeable and skilled in the defense of their rights, and engage in initiatives that assert their rights and influence their community and national duty bearers.

It should be noted that 2019 was year for BADIL to expand its standard Al-Awda School to include children and to become a regular project as well. There was indeed one School for children conducted in 2019, for the hope to continue implementing the school in 2020; however it was put on hold due to the pandemic. Plans are underway for the Al-Awda School for children to be implemented in the upcoming years.

Throughout the year 2020, despite the Corona pandemic and the imposition of social distancing, BADIL Center implemented 4 youth empowerment courses in 2020, for a total of 134 participants, 55 young women. For the first time ever, the Al Awda course was implemented online and included participants from Mandatory Palestine and Lebanon. In one of the courses, 8 video stories were produced by the youth and addressed many issues.

- The "<u>Palestinian Stories</u>" project, which was implemented in cooperation with 6 grassroots institutions from different regions of Palestine, with its mandatory borders and Lebanon. During this project, the participants produced 8 digital stories, aiming to shed light on the daily and ongoing suffering of Palestinians in their various locations.
- A legal course in the field of defending the rights of Palestinian refugees and displaced persons (targeted individuals from Palestinian and Arab youth groups active in the field of human rights) the course included lectures such as the system of protection due to Palestinian refugees, Palestinian refugees between the UNRWA crisis and the Corona pandemic, and the outcomes of the national project between division and normalization treaties.
- Youth Empowerment Training course aimed to address the vital

issues that face the Palestinian refugees in Lebanon, in order to develop the participant abilities to write reports and upgrade their research conducting skills, allowing them to implement their own initiatives and projects according to the trainings they received over the course of the week.

Al-Awda (Return) School, the first online training sessions which
was held electronically via the Zoom application, as The program
targets 35 youth participants (half young women) from all regions
of mandatory Palestine, in addition to Lebanon, and aims to raise
awareness and enhance the capabilities of rights holders to raise
their voices on the rights of the Palestinian people.





2 nd Result: Palestinian grassroots institutions and CBOs are more engaged through partnerships and initiatives to promote their rights.

Strengthening grassroots partnerships: BADIL Center continued its focus on including grassroots and community organizations in its activities on a larger scale than before, in order to empower rights holders, activate them and enhance their role to claim their rights. BADIL Center believes in the fundamental role of Palestinian civil society and is interested in creating partnerships with its grassroots organizations in order to increase the spirit of initiative, leadership and effectiveness of these institutions.

The Community Mobilization and Resilience program provides direct and indirect interventions to enhance the physical and psychological/mental resilience of the Palestinian population, particularly marginalized groups (those facing contemporary displacement). It also provides opportunities for raising awareness, influencing Palestinian public opinion, and local and national advocacy initiatives to engage the Palestinian civil society.

To support marginalized Palestinian communities in dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic, BADIL and the Global Palestine Refugee Network (GPRN) organized several events and initiatives from 10 March – 30 April 2020. The activities aimed at raising awareness about the virus in general and preventative measures one can take, as well as organizing online activities to strengthen morale and resilience amongst these communities. The initiatives came as a response to the failure of various institutions to take adequate actions to support and protect marginalized Palestinian communities – particularly refugees and IDPs.

For the 72<sup>nd</sup> commemoration of the Ongoing Nakba, BADIL completed numerous radio and TV interviews, produced three video spots, published its annual Ongoing Nakba statement, in addition to updating the Q&A brochure and organizing seven community initiatives and resilience activities to challenge Israel policies and practices that sustain the Ongoing Nakba under the slogan, "One People, One Destiny: United for Return and against the Deal of the Century". The Palestinians lit the torch of return in Jerusalem, Haifa, Acre, Nazareth, Lod, Khan Yunis, Dheisheh camp, Aida camp, Balata camp, Al-Fawwar camp, Jalazun camp, Burj Al-Barajneh camp, Shatila camp, Amsterdam and Geneva, in partnership and coordination between BADIL Center, The Global Palestinian Refugee Network, and a numerous of grassroots movements and institutions in various parts of Palestine and the diaspora.

ı	BADIL supported 19	community based	l initiatives, in partner	rship with its partne	r CBOs, throughout 1	mandatory Palestine and abroad.
ı						

Theme	Number implemented	Number of Beneficiaries	Purpose of the initiative
Resilience in the face of COVID-19	7	2602 (1424 females)	Supporting Palestinian families to mitigate the pressure, effects and complications due to the spread of COVID -19
Cohesion, Connection, Identity	2	620 (300 females) Including children	Enhancing the relationship between people and their land and strengthening their resilience
Nakba Commemoration	9	9161 (900 females) Including children	Keeping the memory of the ongoing Nakba alive and defending the Palestinian right of return
Land Day initiative	1	40 (20 females)	Preserving the Palestinian identity
Total	19	13,423 (3000 females)	









3 rd Result: The international Palestinian solidarity campaign implements more regular and impactful interventions in partnership with Palestinian youth groups and CBOs.

BADIL launched, in partnership with a number of community-based organizations, networks and coalitions, the Palestinian National Campaign to Reject Conditional Funding, which aims to reject politically conditional funding and pressure the funders to undo the unacceptable conditions that criminalize our people's legitimate struggle. The campaign issued a number of statements, papers, short films, promotional videos and posters, in order to raise awareness on the legitimacy of this approach, how it serves to silence Palestinian civil society, criminalize Palestinian resistance and supports Israeli colonial and apartheid policies.

Much of BADIL's work has focused on the activities of the national campaign to reject politically conditional funding and on finding donors that are compatible with BADIL's values and priorities, or at least do not impose a political condition that contradicts us.

BADIL works with and through Palestinian coalitions and networks to ensure the promotion of Palestinian human rights. BADIL also works to defend Palestinian civil society activists in the absence of a legislative body for the government and in the context of issuing a series of decisions on unconstitutional laws that are issued according to presidential decrees, which reflects the dominance of the executive branch of the government, and the prevailing security approach in governance.

For the purpose of preserving our independence, BADIL chose to keep a distance between it and the official national institutions, consisting of the Palestinian National Authority and Palestinian political parties, in order to remain able to criticize the official institution and positively influence its policies and positions.

th Result: Ensuring institutionalized efficiency and efficacy, while maintaining and enhancing BADIL's financial capacities and outputs.

BADIL Center continues to prepare its administrative and financial reports on a regular basis (quarterly and annually) and to present and ratify them by its General Assembly (GA). BADIL welcomed eleven new members in the annual GA meeting in the year 2020 despite the challenges of corona pandemic. BADIL's board of directors continue to hold its periodic meetings and stand side by side with the executive staff to ensure institutional efficiency and effectiveness and maintain the desired outputs according to previously approved work plans.

On the administrative level, the executive management succeeded in overcoming the financial crisis and the budget deficit caused by the large-scale attack carried out by Israel and other Zionist organizations against BADIL, and in the absence of Palestinian, European and / international organizations to confront such attacks. The year 2020 saw a decline in core funding versus an increase in project funding, causing an escalation in operational burden and employee payroll coverage, however, BADIL is determined to build quality partnerships rather than quantity.

In addition to the above, BADIL Center has witnessed institutional growth and development through:

- → Achieving integration between its programs and linking them to each other on the one hand, and linking them to its mission and vision on the other hand. (Research, advocacy, awareness and promotion tools)
- → Reviewing and updating its procedural manuals, and issuing new procedural manuals concerned with accountability of officials to subordinates and accountability to superiors. (Amendment to BADIL statute, development of the glossary of terms, and development of the financial system).
- → Expanding the scope of BADIL's work, in terms of the groups it targets, the range of activities it carries out, and the publications it issues.
- → Enhancing community presence and networking by launching and leading a campaign to reject politically conditional funding.
- → Maintaining the effectiveness of its board of directors and expanding its general assembly.

# The **2**<sup>nd</sup> pillar: Mobilizing international accountability and solidarity with the Palestinian people - results and outputs.

**1** \*\* **Result**: Detailed, accurate and evidence-based legal research is produced in Arabic and English.

BADIL Center has focused most of its attention in recent years on strengthening the links between research and advocacy activities. In addition, it links research and international advocacy through mobilization activities, community mobilization, the production of awareness-raising and advocacy tools at the local level, as well as in the targeted youth groups taking up the center's research for discussion. This contributes to strengthening their ability to frame their surroundings in a human rights framework, which will give them a deeper understanding of their inalienable rights, especially the right of return. Research and papers also focus on showing the practices of the Israeli apartheid regime, international legal and ethical responsibility, and the responsibility of major corporations, and legal shortcomings in the Oslo Accords.

BADIL produced studies and brochures on collective memory, values, national identity, and policies and mechanisms designed to change Palestinian consciousness. Finally, BADIL also produced surveys to explore public perceptions and opinions, particularly the youth.

Through the production of detailed and in-kind professional research, stakeholders are provided with information and evidence to identify the protection gap, and are motivated to take steps to fulfill their obligations, as well as promote a rights-based approach and resolution in all of their statements.

BADIL publications, working papers, position papers, and other tools for dissemination of knowledge aims at increasing the ability of rights holders to defend human rights, as these tools provide them with the necessary information to do so, and thus influence public opinion locally and internationally. Through their individual or collective efforts, international civil society and decision makers become more aware of Israeli human rights violations and crimes.

	1	
Title of the research paper	publication date	distribution
Working paper no.26 Israel's Apartheid-Colonial Education: Subjugating Palestinian Minds and Rights	December/2020	online
Working paper no.25 Creeping Annexation: A Pillar of the Zionist-Israeli Colonization Process in Palestine	December/2020	online
Position paper Trump's Vision/Deal of the Century: A Move to End the Palestinian Refugee Issue through Serious Breaches of International Law	May/2020	online
Position Paper European Union Conditional Funding: Its Illegality and Political Implications	April/2020	online
Working paper no. 23 Segregation, Fragmentation and Isolation: Israeli Apartheid practices utilized to eliminate the Palestinian People	February/2020	1000 copies +online

2 nd Result: Maintain a rights-based discourse on the Palestinian situation, particularly Palestinian refugees, which include accountability for Israeli human rights violations and crimes.

Indications of the international community's retreat from the Palestinian issue and the rights of the Palestinians indicated that it will be difficult

to influence decision-makers in the relevant countries at the present time. Preserving the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people requires revitalizing the role of the International Solidarity Campaign to pressure governments to change their policies, or at least stop the boundless bias of Israel. However, BADIL will continue to work with and through UN agencies including the Human Rights Council and other relevant bodies in order to influence states, parliaments, politicians and civil society actors.

Within the 43<sup>rd</sup> regular session of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC), BADIL joined 13 other Palestinian and regional organizations to demand accountability for Israeli human rights violations and international crimes committed against the Palestinian people through the submission of five written statements.

The five submissions addressed Israel's illegal blockade of the Gaza Strip, the systematic torture and ill-treatment of Palestinian detainees in Israeli interrogation centers, the de-Palestinianization of Jerusalem through the education system, the failure to release the UN database of businesses operating in Israeli-Jewish colonies, and Israel's entrenchment of its apartheid regime over the Palestinian people as a whole.

Since the submission of these joint written statements, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), following a UN resolution issued in March 2016 (Resolution 31/36), released the UN database of corporations on 12 February 2020. The list (A/HRC/43/71, available here) includes 112 corporations – mostly Israeli - complicit in human rights violation in the West Bank.

BADIL's <u>interventions in the 44<sup>th</sup> regular session</u> of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) from 30 June – 20 July 2020 included two individual written statements, one joint written and two oral statements.

BADIL submitted one written and one oral statement on "Impeding the Palestinian People's Rights through Racist and Discriminatory Policies and Practices of Segregation, Fragmentation and Isolation," under item 9. The statements highlight how Israel has, since its creation, developed a comprehensive set of racist and discriminatory policies and practices to deny the Palestinian people from their lands and tighten its control and oppression of the Palestinian people.

The second written and oral statement was on "US President Trump's Vision: Marginalizing Palestinian Refugee and IDP Rights and



Deviating from International Law," under item 7. The statements highlight how the US' "Peace and Prosperity: A Vision to Improve the Lives of the Palestinian and Israeli People" (hereinafter, the Vision) sets out to deny Palestinian refugees and IDPs their right to just and durable solutions, namely voluntary repatriation, as well as their right to reparations (i.e. right of return, property restitution, and compensation). Similar to Israeli strategy, the Vision aims to terminate the Palestinian refugee question and to erode the rights of displaced Palestinians.

The Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS), Al-Haq, and BADIL Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights submitted a joint written statement calling on third States, including Member States of the Council, to abide by their responsibility to cooperate to bring Israel's serious breaches of international law to an end and to uphold the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people.

3<sup>rd</sup> Result: The international solidarity and advocacy discourse is more unified and utilizes a rights-based approach.

Despite the Corona pandemic, the travel ban and the stopping of delegations from reaching Palestine, BADIL Center held a good number of webinars for about 800 people from all over the world (students, solidarity activists, human rights defenders, professors, representatives of institutions, representatives of unions and parties political...etc.).

BADIL Resource Center completed a <u>4-part series of webinars</u> in partnership with Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP) – Boston, covering the following issues: present-day Israeli annexation, Trump's Vision and Palestinian refugees, Segregation, Fragmentation and Isolation, and Conditional Funding.

The 4-week webinar series aimed to shed light on the current obstacles and challenges facing the Palestinian people in their struggle for liberation, their impact on Palestinian civil society, the shrinking space, and the role(s) of the international community, including its civil society.

Hundreds of participants, mostly from the USA, engaged in the weekly series. BADIL also provided a number of its publications on the various issues in advance. This is the second collaboration of this kind between JVP and BADIL; the first occurred in 2017.

BADIL also collaborated with Tufts University in the US on two separate occasions in March and April to discuss the current situation in Palestine. The focus of the interviews was on the role of various institutions and states that have an obligation to the Palestinian people to provide protection, rights and assistance. Topics that were highlighted included the defunding and smear campaigns against UNRWA and the consequences, as well as the role of the Palestinian Authority and the Israeli forces, the political prisoners and the high rate of unemployment amongst Palestinians. During the interview BADIL explained that "there is a lack of protection, rights and assistance to Palestinian refugees in general. Now in the time of Covid-19, a longstanding crisis has intensified," despite this, "in the face of this crisis, a spirit of compassion and cooperation among Palestinians has materialized. As people here say, no one can sleep while their neighbors are hungry."

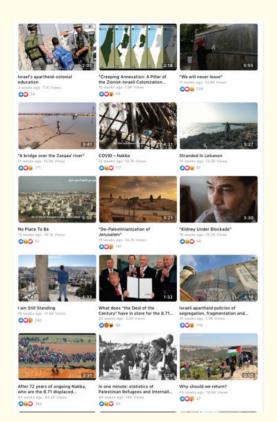
In addition, the lectures included information about Palestinian refugees and displaced persons, Israeli policies related to the forcible transfer of the Palestinian population, and the obligations of states parties in accordance with international humanitarian law and international human rights law.

th Result: Enhanced access and sharing of information, data, tools, legal analysis and research at the community level and throughout the global solidarity network.

In order to urge the International Solidarity Movement to unify its strategies, and to move to institutionalize international solidarity to influence state policies, BADIL Center contributed during the year 2020, either individually or in cooperation with partner networks:

- → BADIL Center published 47 press releases in English and 50 other press releases in Arabic about the latest events and developments and about the center's activities, works and programs.
- → BADIL Center uses multimedia tools to reach as many people internationally and locally to raise awareness about the Palestinian's rights.

#### BADIL published 19 video clips in 2020, which were viewed more than 700,000 times, (Arabic and English) as follows:



Video title	Views
Israel's Apartheid- Colonial Education	7.1k
Creeping Annexation	7.8k
We will never leave	15k
A bridge over the Zarqaa' river	15.7k
COVID- Nakba	10.7k
Stranded in Lebanon	13k
No Place To Be	10.1k
"De-Palestinianization of Jerusalem"	14.9k
Kidney Under Blockade	15.2k
Lam Still Standing	31k
What does "the Deal of the Century" have in store for the 8.71 million displaced Palestinian people	3.8k
Israeli apartheid policies of segregation, fragmentation and Isolation.	7.2k
After 72 years of ongoing Nakba, who are the 8.71 displaced Palestinian?	43k
In one minute: statistics of Palestinian Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons after 72 years of ongoing Nakba.	14k
Why should we return	16.6k
On the 44th commemoration of Land Day, what is the situation of Palestinian land today?	218
Palestinian Identity and Israeli fragmentation policies	177
Israeli Annexation; Etzion Colonial Bloc	63
Jerusalem: The Epitome of Israel Annexation and forcible transfer	263

Other tools produced by BADIL and its partners members of the Global Palestinian Refugee Network involved in the Youth Empowerment Program include:

- Q&A: Palestinian Refugees and Displaced Persons: The Ongoing Nakba and Inalienable Rights (March 2020).
- Poster: The National Campaign to Reject Conditional Funding (March 2020).
- Poster: "It was called Palestine... It became called Palestine" No to the Deal of the Century (March 2020).
- Q and A: All you need to know about the EU's Counter-terrorism clause and its destructive impact on Palestinian Civil Society (August 2020).
- Brochure: The Right to Education and the Policies of Colonialism in Palestine (December 2020).
- T-shirts and blouses for the "Right to Education" campaign (August 2020)
- Notebooks for the "Right to Education" campaign (October 2020).
- School bags for the "Right to Education" campaign (October 2020).
- T-shirts and sweatshirts for the 72<sup>nd</sup> Nakba activities (May 2020).
- Production of <u>awareness posters</u> for the 72 activities to confront the Nakba (May 2020).

## A look at the past and future aspirations

By reviewing the likely expectations contained in the BADIL strategy for the years (2019-2023), the most prominent of which was the expectation of Israel's rush to further colonial expansion and annexation, the increase in American bias toward Israel, the weakening of the European position, the decline in the role of international institutions, the decline in funding opportunities, and the deterioration of the Palestinian human rights situation, proved how accurate BADIL was in studying the situations and conditions, and prepared itself based on that analysis for the next five years.

BADIL was able to achieve its direct goals set for the year 2020 according to the action plan and in line with the strategy without being exposed to what undermines its integrity, identity and commitments towards the Palestinian people. The year 2020 was full of financial, political, and institutional obstacles that imposed challenges to the limited human capacity and the breadth of programs implemented by BADIL.

BADIL has faced challenges related to Corona, the deal of the century, and conditional funding, and it dealt with these challenges and confronted them with a high national, moral and professional commitment in a manner befitting its position as a Palestinian national organization concerned with the rights of refugees and displaced persons in particular and human rights in general.

The data and figures contained in this report are not only indicators of the extent of these activities, but rather they provide an indication of the persistence and strength of BADIL in terms of raising the voice of the Palestinian people, and maintaining its presence as a professional and reliable source. It is interesting to note not only the size and number of activities carried out by BADIL; but as well as BADIL's ability to maintain the quality of the work carried out.

As mentioned above, accountability for Israel remains elusive. Therefore, the human rights situation of the Palestinian people continues to witness an accelerated and steady deterioration. The reading of BADIL, which produced the strategic plan (2019-2023), is summarized in the fact that the next stage calls for protecting national rights from liquidation in light of the decline in Palestinian and Arab performance, the American

attack, the impotence of international institutions, and a significant decrease in funding. The strategic plan will continue to be implemented through programs and projects that contribute to achieving two specific goals: first, strengthening the resilience of the Palestinian people, and secondly activating global solidarity with the Palestinian people. Accordingly, the action plan for the year 2021 includes extensive analysis of the current context and forecasts foreseeing future expectations, and this plan has been prepared based on the existing conditions and data related to available and/or likely financial and human resources. The most important features of the action plan can be summarized as follows:

- → Continuing to provide targeted support to marginalized Palestinian communities in order to enhance their resilience and resistance through community initiatives that contribute to enhancing resilience and resisting displacement policies, especially in Area C, and enhancing the effectiveness of the activities implemented by grassroots institutions for the Palestinian refugees.
- → Maintaining research and documentation in order to develop and focus advocacy initiatives through the production of more tools that are easily accessible, promoted and benefit the target audience. BADIL will focus on issuing in-kind position papers and short research papers and expanding the base of beneficiaries.
- → Empowering Palestinian youth by providing them with general training and developing their skills in the field of advocacy, mobilization and campaigning. This pillar is reflected in the training programs of the Al-Awda School, which is implemented regularly by BADIL.
- → Strengthening and activating the international solidarity movement's discourse with and about the Palestinian people, particularly their inalienable rights. In 2020, BADIL was unable to implement, the International Mobilization Course which is designed for that purpose due to the pandemic restrictions. Plans are underway for the course to be implemented in 2021, using virtual technology if necessary and adapted accordingly.



The reliance on only the ineffective balanced statements and condemnation of the international community, in the face of the Israeli regime of annexation, forcible transfer, colonization and apartheid, has failed BADIL and the Global Palestinian Refugee Network (GPRN) calls on the Palestinian people, wherever they may reside, to unite and be steadfast in their struggle to claim and seek their rights to self-determination and return

### Return is our right and will?

Cited from Nakba at 72 statement, titled: "The Unity and Struggle of the Palestinian People to End the Ongoing Nakba". Issued by BADIL and GPRN (May 2020)