

The Wanted 18



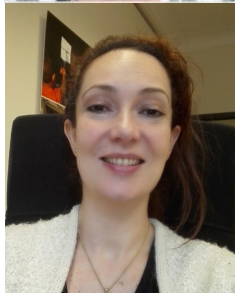
Rania Madi, Senior Advocacy Adviser, Badil Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights

Rania Madi is a Palestinian born in Ramallah, from a family originally from Jaffa. She holds a Master of International Law from Geneva University and Human Rights Law from Strasburg University. She works as Senior Advocacy Adviser for Badil Resource Center for Palestinian residency and refugee rights. Rania also represents Badil to the United Nations in Geneva where she lives and works. She is a member of ICVA (International Council of Voluntary Agencies) and collaborates with UNHCR in Geneva.



Raphael Shilhav, Policy Officer for Israel and Palestine, International Cooperation for Development and Solidarity (CIDSE)

Raphael Shilhav is an Israeli lawyer, currently working in Brussels for CIDSE – an international alliance of Catholic development agencies working together for global justice. Raphael obtained his bachelor degree from Bar Ilan University in Israel and his LL.M. degree from Columbia university in New York. He clerked for Justice Rubinstein in the Israeli High Court of Justice in 2007 and, since then, has been working in legal policy, human rights research, and international humanitarian organisations in Israel and abroad.



Elena Mancusi-Materi, Senior Liaison Officer, United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)

Elena Mancusi-Materi works as Senior Liaison Officer at the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). Prior to her current posting at the Agency's Representative Office to the EU in Brussels (2011-present) she served with UNRWA in Geneva (2007-11) and Jerusalem (2002-07). Elena started her career in the humanitarian and development sector in 1997, and holds a MPhil degree from the University of Cambridge, UK.



Caroline Petit, Deputy Director of the UN Regional Information Centre (UNRIC)

Caroline Petit is the Deputy Director of the UN Regional Information Centre (UNRIC) and chairs the UN Communication Group composed of 26 UN agencies. Before joining UNRIC, she worked as the Head of the Strategic Partnerships Unit at UN Headquarters for 12 years. She has also worked within the European Commission (EU Media Programme), film institutions in London and Copenhagen and the UN, and has over 25 years of international experience in communications, strategic partnerships and public information campaigns.

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unrwa and palestine refugees in the middle east

Who are we?

UNRWA is a United Nations agency established by the General Assembly in 1949 and mandated to provide assistance and protection to some 5 million registered Palestine refugees.* Its mission is to help Palestine refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, West Bank and the Gaza Strip achieve their full human development potential, pending a just and lasting solution to their plight. UNRWA services encompass education, health care, relief and social services, camp infrastructure and improvement, and microfinance.

*Palestine refugees are persons whose normal place of residence was Palestine during the period 1 June 1946 to 15 May 1948, and who lost both home and means of livelihood as a result of the 1948 conflict.

UNRWA in Palestine

Forty per cent of the population in the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) is registered as Palestine refugees with UNRWA. The Israeli occupation of the oPt is increasingly affecting the daily lives of Palestine refugees and undermining their basic human rights and freedoms. In particular, the settlement expansion in the West Bank, the restrictions on movement, the forced displacement and demolitions of homes, and the blockade and repeated hostilities in the Gaza Strip are causing great hardship. UNRWA, with EU support, mitigates the consequences of these violations on the lives of Palestine refugees while advocating privately and publicly for the respect of their rights.

UNRWA SDGs Priorities



How does the EU support Palestine refugees?

The EU is the largest multilateral provider of international assistance to Palestine refugees, providing crucial and reliable support to UNRWA since 1971. Between 2007 and 2015, the European Union contributed over EUR 1 billion in support of UNRWA. The partnership between the EU and UNRWA has allowed millions of Palestine refugees to be better educated, live healthier lives, access employment opportunities and improve their living conditions, thus contributing to the development of the entire region.

For more information about UNRWA, please visit www.unrwa.org or email us at info@unrwa.eu

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