

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – The Palestinian Prisoners Society (PPS) has warned of “the dangerous spread of diseases and epidemics among Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails, mainly skin diseases.” According to the PPS, “the Israel Prison Service (IPS) has escalated the tight restrictions and systematic torture against Palestinian prisoners that were imposed following the Aqsa Flood Operation in an unprecedented manner.” “The IPS intensified medical crimes against Palestinian detainees, surpassing the policy of intentional medical negligence, which has been the primary cause of many prisoners’ martyrdom in Israeli prisons in the last few years,” the PPS statement said.

# Protests Continue Worldwide in Support of Palestine

BRUSSELS (Dispatches) – Thousands of demonstrators have taken to the streets of Brussels, Belgium, to demand economic and diplomatic sanctions against the Zionist regime and an immediate ceasefire in the Gaza Strip.

Police estimated that 9,000 people marched through the city.

The spokesman for the Belgo-Palestinian Association, Gergory Mauze, said he did not believe the solution to the Israeli aggression on Gaza was military and condemned Israel for collectively punishing Palestinians for Operation Al-Aqsa Storm, which was carried out by the Gaza-based resistance groups on October 7, 2023.

“So the point (of the protest) is to insist on the fact that there is no military solution to this conflict, which has led to far too many deaths and which has created an unprecedented humanitarian catastrophe. Now is the time for Belgium and the European Union to say that not only this war must end [and] there must be a ceasefire, but also we must take action to force Israel to end its murderous offensive, which is directed not against Hamas but against the



Thousands of demonstrators took to the streets of Brussels, Belgium, on Sunday to demand an immediate ceasefire in the Gaza Strip.

whole of the Palestinian people,” he said.

The demonstration came as the toll from the Zionist regime’s genocide in Gaza exceeded 25,000, and the regime’s brutal onslaught continued unabated on Sunday.

United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres on Sunday denounced the Zionist regime for what he called the “heartbreaking” deaths of Palestinian civilians in Gaza.

Meanwhile, the people of Tunisia held a rally in the capital Tunis, calling for the expulsion of the U.S. ambassador from the

North African country.

According to the Palestinian media reports on Sunday, scores of people gathered and protested in front of the U.S. embassy in Tunis and chanted slogans against Washington and its ambassador.

The Tunisian people also condemned the complicity of Washington and other Western countries in the Zionist regime’s genocide in Gaza.

Turkish activists also organized a protest in front of the Egyptian Consulate in Istanbul to demand the complete opening of the Rafah border crossing with the Gaza Strip in support of the besieged

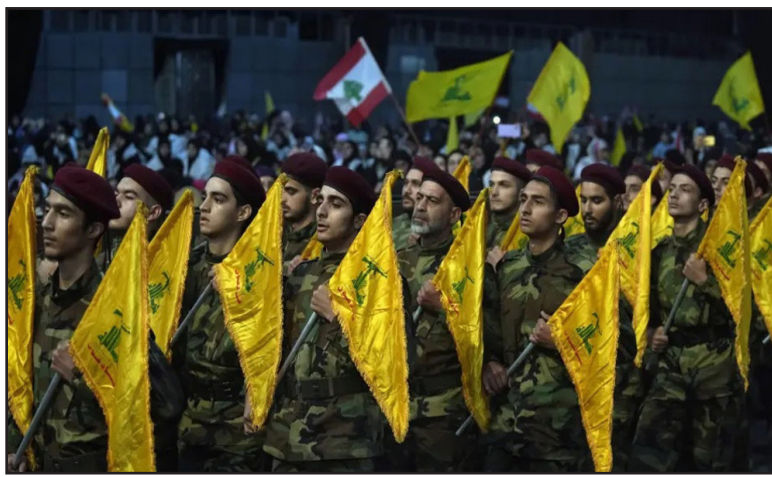
Palestinian people. The protest was organized by the Turkish Mustu Genclik organization.

“We must discuss Egypt’s failure to open the Rafah crossing, as much as we discuss the genocide committed by Israel in Gaza,” said well-known Turkish journalist Kemal Ozturk. “Everyone must put pressure on Egypt to open the border crossing. We journalists also want to enter Gaza and take over from our colleagues who were martyred.”

A defense lawyer for the Zionist regime at the International Court of Justice dropped a political bombshell 10 days ago when he held the Egyptian authorities responsible for preventing aid entering the Gaza Strip. This was denied by the Egyptian authorities.

The people of the Gaza Strip are suffering from an unprecedented humanitarian catastrophe as a result of the Zionist regime’s ongoing genocide against the Palestinians. More than two million have been displaced, many more than once. Camps and shelters are totally inadequate in the winter weather. Homes, medical facilities and media teams continue to be targeted by the regime.

## Hezbollah Fighters Thwart Israeli Incursion Into Lebanon



Hezbollah fighters parade during a rally marking Hezbollah Martyrs’ Day, in the southern Beirut suburb of Dahiyeh, Lebanon, on November 11, 2022.

BEIRUT (Dispatches) – Fighters from the Lebanese Hezbollah resistance movement have thwarted an Israeli military incursion into the southern part of Lebanon, amid strikes by the group against the regime’s positions, in response to the ongoing genocidal campaign in the besieged Gaza Strip.

Lebanon’s Arabic-language al-Manar television channel, citing a Hezbollah statement, reported that the group had targeted a gathering of Israeli forces stationed at an outpost in the town of Zar’it, close to the border with Lebanon, early on Monday. A number of the soldiers were injured as a result.

The statement added that the troops were preparing to carry out an offensive against an area in southern Lebanon.

The development came hours after Hezbollah announced in a separate statement that it had launched a heavy-caliber Burkan (Volcano) missile at 4:45 p.m. (1445 GMT) on Sunday, targeting a gathering of Israeli soldiers at the Hadab al-Bustan site. There were casualties among the forces.

Lebanese resistance fighters also targeted Israeli soldiers at an outpost in Ruwaisat al-Qarn area in the occupied Shebaa Farms with a salvo of rockets, causing casualties among the forces.

The Israeli regime launched its devastating hostilities in the Gaza Strip on October 7 after the territory’s Hamas-led Palestinian resistance groups carried out a surprise retaliatory attack, dubbed Operation Al-Aqsa Storm, against the occupying entity.

The Israeli military has also been carrying out attacks against the Lebanese territory since then, prompting retaliatory strikes from Hezbollah in support of the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip.

The movement has vowed to keep up its retaliatory operations as long as the Tel Aviv regime continues its onslaught on Gaza.

The Israeli campaign in Gaza has killed at least 25,105 people, most of them women and children. More than 62,000 individuals have also been wounded.

## Poll: Global Support for Zionist Regime Plummets Amid Gaza Genocide

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – Support for the Zionist regime around the world has plummeted dramatically since its brutal onslaught against the besieged Gaza Strip began more than three months ago, a new survey found.

According to figures released by the data-gathering company Morning Consult and published in Time magazine, the percentage of people viewing Israel ‘positively’ after subtracting the

percentage viewing it negatively, dropped an average of 18.5 percentage points globally between September and December.

Out of 43 countries surveyed on all six continents, including BRICS nations China, South Africa and Brazil, support for the Zionist regime dropped in all but one.

The steepest decline in support was recorded in wealthy countries that already had a

negative view of Israel. These included Japan, which dropped from -39.9 to -62.0, South Korea, which dropped from -5.5 to -47.8, and the UK, which went from -17.1 to -29.8.

“The data shows just how tough of a road Israel has right now in the international community,” Sonnet Frisbie, deputy head of political intelligence at Morning Consult, stated.

According to the survey, the U.S. was the only country in the

developed world to retain a net ‘positive’ view of the occupying regime, with net favorability dropping just 2.2 percentage points from 18.2 to 16 between September and December.

The occupying regime waged the war on Gaza on October 7.

The Zionist regime has also imposed a “complete siege” on the territory, cutting off fuel, electricity, food, and water to the more than two million Palestinians living there.

## UN: Taliban Enforcing Restrictions on Single, Unaccompanied Afghan Women

ISLAMABAD (AP) – The Taliban are restricting Afghan women’s access to work, travel and healthcare if they are unmarried or don’t have a male guardian, according to a UN report published Monday.

In one incident, officials from the vice and virtue ministry advised a woman to get married if she wanted to keep her job at a health care facility, saying it was inappropriate for an unwed woman to work, it said.

The Taliban have barred women from most areas of public life and stopped girls from going to school beyond the sixth grade as part of harsh measures they imposed after taking power in 2021, despite initially promising more moderate rule.

They have also shut down beauty parlors and started enforcing a dress code, arresting women who don’t comply with their interpretation

of dress code. In May 2022, the Taliban issued a decree calling for women to only show their eyes and recommending they wear the head-toe burqa, similar to restrictions during the Taliban’s previous rule between 1996 and 2001.

In its latest quarterly report, covering October to December last year, the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan said the Taliban are cracking down on Afghan women who are single or don’t have a male guardian, or mahram, accompanying them.

There are no official laws about male guardianship in Afghanistan, but the Taliban have said women cannot move around or travel a certain distance without a man who is related to her by blood or marriage.

Three female health care workers were detained last October because they were going to work without a mahram. They were released

after their families signed a written guarantee that they would not repeat the act, the report said.

In Paktia province, the vice and virtue ministry has stopped women without mahrams from accessing health facilities since December. It visits health facilities in the province to ensure compliance.

The ministry, which serves as the Taliban’s morality police, is also enforcing the requirements when women visit public places, offices and education institutes through checkpoints and inspections.

Women have also been arrested for buying contraceptives, which the Taliban have not officially banned.

The Taliban’s chief spokesman, Zabihullah Mujahid, said the UN report was based mostly on misunderstandings.

## Iraqi PM Stresses Determination to End U.S.-Led Occupation

BAGHDAD (Dispatches) – Iraqi Prime Minister Mohammed Shia’ al-Sudani said on Monday that any attack on Iraqi soil violates its sovereignty, stressing the country’s determination to end the presence of the U.S.-led occupation of the country.

Al-Sudani made the remarks during his meeting with the Dutch Defense Minister Kajsa Ollongren, whose country is scheduled to assume the presidency of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) mission in Iraq in mid-May, according to a statement issued by al-Sudani’s media office.

Al-Sudani stressed his rejection of any attack on Iraqi territory or any violation of its sovereignty, reiterating “the government’s commitment to protecting diplomatic missions and advisors working in Iraq, as well as assisting the NATO mission in carrying out its tasks agreed upon with the Iraqi government,” the statement said.

A day earlier, the spokesman for Iraq’s Joint Operations Command (JOC), Brigadier General Yahya Rasool, says the Baghdad government is determined to end the presence of foreign troops from the U.S.-led military coalition purportedly formed to fight the Takfiri Daesh terrorist group.

“The Iraqi government is resolute

to put an end to the deployment of foreign forces in the country. It has devised a vision plan for the next stage, which includes joint technical activities intended for the U.S.-led coalition’s departure and subsequent security and military cooperation,” Rasool said.

The high-ranking Iraqi security official underscored that with the presence of capable Iraqi forces, the U.S.-led military coalition in Iraq is no longer needed.

Al-Sudani on Thursday repeated his call for the U.S.-led coalition to depart his country, stressing that Baghdad demands the immediate withdrawal of the forces due to their destabilizing activities.

“The end of the U.S.-led coalition mission is a necessity for the security and stability of Iraq,” he said during a televised event at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.

“It is also a necessity for preserving constructive bilateral relations between Iraq and the coalition countries,” the Iraqi prime minister noted.

Sudani has repeatedly said in recent weeks he would like to see foreign troops leave Iraq.

Iraq adopted the law to expel foreign forces after Washington’s assassination of top Iraqi and Iranian anti-terror commanders four years ago.