



Democracy and Workers' Rights Center
مركز الديمقراطية وحقوق العاملين

LABOR & TRADE UNION NEWSLETTER IN PALESTINE

Sep-Oct 2025

Human Cost of Occupation Between Ceasefire and Survival

LATEST NEWS

After more than two years of war that claimed the lives of 68,000 Palestinian civilians, an official ceasefire entered into force on October 11. During this period, 47 ceasefire violations were documented, killing 200 civilians and injuring dozens.

The UN (OCHA) warned that unexploded ordnance still threatens families returning to their homes and fields, while WFP and FAO confirmed that war and pollution destroyed over 80% of Gaza's farmland, with productivity dropping by nearly 85% and 95% of land now unfit for cultivation.

Across the West Bank, 150 settler attacks were recorded during the olive harvest, destroying 700 trees and blocking farmers from more than 150 villages, a 13% rise in settler violence compared to 2024. The Palestinian Wall and Settlement Resistance Commission recorded a total of 766 settlers attacks against Palestinians and their properties in October 2025; this has included direct attacks and setting fire to houses with families inside, such as in Abu-Fallah village, where they escaped with smoke injuries. There are also 1,200 checkpoints, cutting off towns and limiting workers' access to their jobs. Nearly 140,000 Palestinian workers have been barred from entering Israel since 2023, raising unemployment to 28.6% in the West Bank (PCBS). Furthermore, illegal industrial zones established inside the occupied Palestinian territories, including in Salfit and Tulkarem governorates, continue to cause severe pollution. Many of these factories were relocated from inside the Green Line to bypass Israeli environmental laws. All these stifling restrictions imposed by the Israeli occupation make it harder for Palestinians to earn their livelihoods. Yet, our people continue turning loss into resilience and hardship into hope for tomorrow.



DWRC INTERVENTIONS :

Driven by our mission and belief in human dignity, our center continues to dedicate its efforts to raising awareness, empowering individuals and trade unions, and promoting social justice across the West Bank and Gaza through a range of community and humanitarian initiatives.

In Gaza, DWRC distributed 555 food parcels to families affected by the war. We also provide tools and materials to 20 women to enable them to start income-generating markets in Gaza with support from Soleterre, helping them meet their basic needs amid worsening humanitarian conditions. It also organized a psychosocial and legal awareness session in Khan Younis, in partnership with Al-Waleed Association, reaching 22 women workers and offering support to restore a sense of safety and stability. Additionally, we held a meeting with national coalition “My Right” to discuss the next steps

In the West Bank, DWRC strengthened inclusion and labor protection through several awareness and capacity-building activities:

- An online session on the rights of persons with disabilities, attended by 50 participants.
- A workshop on disability rights in the workplace, with 15 participants.
- An awareness session on protection from violence – C-190, engaging 15 participants.
- A trade union event in Salfit with 30 women working in the government sector, encouraging women’s participation and leadership within unions.

These collective efforts reflect DWRC’s ongoing commitment to defend rights, promote equality, and restore hope and resilience among Palestinian workers and communities.





CALL TO ACTION

In the context of a fragile ceasefire, survival remains uncertain, and daily life is shadowed by loss. For many families, living amid the rubble of war continues to awaken deep pain and post-traumatic stress, and this is where solidarity becomes vital.

At DWRC, we believe that standing with affected communities means more than offering aid; it means building resilience through awareness, psychological support, and the protection of workers' and unions' rights.

By supporting our mission, you help us create opportunities, amplify voices, and bring dignity back to every workplace and home. Your voice, your support, and even your advocacy for truth can bring back hope and keep resilience alive.

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