

Addressing Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Against Female Palestinian Prisoners in Israeli Detention Centers: A Call for Accountability

By
Sara Al-Qobbaj

Submitted to Central European University - Private University
and Bard College - Private University

*In partial fulfilment of the requirements for the dual degree of Master of International Relations
and Global Studies*

Supervisor: Chris McIntosh

May 1, 2025

5389 words

Copyright Notice

Copyright © Sara Alqobbaj, 2025. Addressing Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Against Female Palestinian Prisoners in Israeli Detention Centers: A Call for Accountability - [This work is licensed under Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives \(CC BY-NC-ND\) 4.0 International](#) license.



For bibliographic and reference purposes this thesis/dissertation should be referred to as:
Alqobbaj, Sara. 2025). Addressing Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Against Female Palestinian Prisoners in Israeli Detention Centers: A Call for Accountability. MA, International Relations, Central European University, Vienna.

¹ Icon by [Font Awesome](#).

Author's Declaration

I, the undersigned, Sara Aqlobbaj, candidate for the joint MA degree in International Relations and Global Studies declare herewith that the present thesis titled “Addressing Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Against Female Palestinian Prisoners in Israeli Detention Centers: A Call for Accountability” is exclusively my own work, based on my research and only such external information as properly credited in notes and bibliography. I declare that no unidentified and illegitimate use was made of the work of others, and no part of the thesis infringes on any person's or institution's copyright.

I also declare that no part of the thesis has been submitted in this form to any other institution of higher education for an academic degree, except as part of the co-tutelle agreement between Central European University Private University and Bard College.

Vienna, 09 June 2025

Sara Aqlobbaj

Table of Contents

Table of Contents	4
Symbol of resistance inside Damon prison	5
Executive Summary	6
Problem Statement.....	8
Introduction.....	9
Sexual and Gender-Based Violence: A Legal and Human Rights Perspective	13
SGBV in Detention Settings	13
SGBV in Armed Conflicts and Occupied Territories	14
International Legal Protections Against SGBV in Detention Settings	14
Background on Sexual and Gender-Based Violence of Palestinian Women in Israeli Detention	16
Palestinian Organizations and Their Needs	19
Applying GJC’s Expertise and Existing Models	21
I. Conducting Training in Documenting SGBV Violations.....	21
II. Sharing a Feminist Legal Analysis on Israeli Detention Practices.....	23
III. Submitting Legal Opinions and Briefs to Advocate for International Accountability	25
Proposed Timeline	27
Risks and Mitigation.....	28
Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E).....	29
Project Team and Organizational Capacity	29
Funding	30
Challenges in Funding	30
Funding Strategy	30
Budget Sheet	31
Conclusion and Recommendations.....	32
Conclusion	32
Recommendations.....	33
Appendix I	34
Bibliography	35



This keychain, made inside Damon Prison and smuggled out, stands as a symbol of survival, resistance, and creative defiance under oppression. It consists of three olive pits, from the eight or eleven olives provided only on Saturdays, and threads pulled from a falling-apart shirt. What was meant to degrade was turned into something enduring, personal, and political.

² Alqobbaj, *Gift* .

Executive Summary

The Global Justice Center (GJC) is dedicated to using feminist legal frameworks to challenge systemic sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and discrimination³. It has played a critical role in advancing legal accountability for gender-based mass atrocities, and advocating for justice in conflicts and wars. While GJC has taken part in joint letters addressing human rights violations in Palestine⁴, it has yet to take more targeted action in addressing the legal realities faced by Palestinian women and girls. Including those who have been arbitrarily detained and subjected to SGBV in Israeli detention. This project proposal advocates for GJC's deeper engagement with Palestinian organizations to support legal frameworks addressing SGBV mass atrocities, with a particular focus on female Palestinian detainees held by Israel after the 7th of October 2023.

Palestinian women and girls face SGBV in Israeli detention facilities, where reports indicate widespread abuse such as sexual assault and psychological torture. The UN's 2024 investigative report illustrates the systematic abuse done by Israel⁵. Despite the severity of these violations, legal and advocacy efforts remain underdeveloped, and Palestinian organizations face significant barriers in addressing these crimes.

³ GJC, "Theory of Change."

⁴ GJC has shown solidarity with Palestine by signing letters either directly related to Palestine or for causes that include Palestinian rights, such as: Open letter to U.S. Congress and administration on ICC sanctions, Joint NGO letter urging President Biden to support the ICC, Letter on EU's review of funding to Palestinian NGOs, Letter urging President Biden to stop Israeli attacks on Palestinian civil society, Letter to Secretary Blinken in solidarity with Palestinian civil society, Petition to condemn Israel's crackdown on Palestinian human rights groups, Civil society letter on Women, Peace, and Security debate at the UN, Open letter to ICC Prosecutor regarding Palestinian case.

⁵ The Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and Israel, "Annual Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Including East Jerusalem, and Israel."

This proposal⁶ outlines a strategic plan for GJC to collaborate with Palestinian organizations in documenting abuses, developing legal arguments, and advocating for international accountability. Drawing from its experience, GJC can help shape a gender-sensitive legal framework that amplifies Palestinian voices and helps them advocate for themselves using a feminist analysis on an international level. The proposal also includes a budget sheet and explores partnerships to ensure sustainable engagement. By aligning this initiative with GJC's broader mission of transforming human rights from paper to practice, this project aims to fill a crucial gap in global feminist legal advocacy.

⁶ This project proposal and its sections are structured and formatted to mirror how GJC frames and implements its projects, reflecting their approach in legal advocacy, feminist analysis, and strategic engagement.

Problem Statement

Palestinian women and girls face systematic sexual and gender-based violence in Israeli detentions, yet legal accountability and feminist advocacy on this issue remain limited. Although reports from the UN have documented these abuses, there is a need for a stronger framing that recognizes them as structural violations rooted in militarized patriarchy and occupation⁷. Palestinian organizations face difficulties in seeking justice, and global actors have largely failed to respond. The Global Justice Center, with its expertise in feminist legal frameworks, is well-positioned to help fill this gap by supporting Palestinian-led efforts to hold perpetrators accountable and advance gender justice.

⁷ Ní Aoláin, “The Gender of Occupation.”

Introduction

SGBV is a direct manifestation of structural discrimination, patriarchy, and systemic inequality. The international community increasingly acknowledges SGBV in conflict settings, including its use as a weapon to instill fear, punish, and destroy communities⁸. Despite this recognition, it continues to treat such violations as isolated events rather than recognizing them as products of inherent systems of gender oppression. GJC seeks to challenge this fragmented approach by applying a feminist legal framework that connects mass atrocities to the broader structural inequalities that enable them.

For decades, GJC has led efforts to advance gender competent responses to violence, advocating for feminist engagement with multilateral systems and pushing for progressive legal standards on sexual violence in conflict. It has successfully pioneered legal arguments, such as the recognition of abortion access as a necessary and non-discriminatory right under international humanitarian law⁹. Despite its significant contributions to gender justice in conflict zones, GJC has yet to focus on the crisis facing Palestinian women and girls in Israeli detention.

Israel's detention and imprisonment of Palestinians, including women and minors, occur within a legal framework that systematically criminalizes Palestinian political expression and resistance. Thousands of Palestinians are detained annually under military orders, often subjected to arbitrary arrests, administrative detention without charge or trial, and proceedings in military courts that lack due process protections. Women detainees, in particular, face gender-specific

⁸ Security Council, "Strongly Condemning Rise in Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, Speakers Urge Security Council to Better Prevent, Enforce Accountability for Such Crimes."

⁹ Global Justice Center, "International Humanitarian Law and Access to Abortion."

abuses, including physical and psychological violence, sexual harassment, and denial of healthcare¹⁰. These detention practices aim not only to punish individuals but also suppress Palestinian activism and dismantle social and political structures resisting Israel's settler colonial project.

Prisoners have long held a central role in the Palestinian cause, symbolizing resistance, endurance, and the collective drive for freedom. Palestinian women have been referred to in some literature as the “front liners” not only because they participate in political activism, but because they are the first sector in Palestine to feel the initial and final blows of Israeli violence¹¹. This project recognizes Palestinian female prisoners as being on the front lines, with their bodies and lived experiences serving as direct evidence of the compounded effects of both patriarchy and military occupation. Their stories are essential to understanding Palestinian history, its present reality, and its future. This is precisely why a feminist legal analysis of the experiences of Palestinian women held in Israeli detention is both urgent and necessary.

Palestinian women have faced SGBV by Israeli forces for the past 77 years, yet only recently has the international community begun to pay closer attention, particularly as reports emerged after 7 October¹². Recent investigations, including the UN's 2024 report, confirm that Palestinian female detainees face systematic and widespread sexual violence, including rape, invasive strip searches, and other forms of physical and psychological abuse¹³. Reports indicate that such violations have become normalized within Israeli security operations, further deepening

¹⁰ Francis, “Escalating Oppression: Israel's Systematic Violations Intensify in Palestine Post October 7, 2023.”

¹¹ Nādirah, *Militarization and Violence Against Women in Conflict Zones in the Middle East*.

¹² Akkad, “Israeli Soldiers Have Been Sexually Assaulting Palestinian Women for Decades. Now They're Speaking Out.”

¹³ OHCHR, “Thematic Report: Detention in the Context of the Escalation of Hostilities in Gaza.”

an already dreadful human rights situation. However, Palestinian organizations working on these issues face significant legal and institutional challenges in documenting abuses, seeking justice, and holding perpetrators accountable.

More recently, in March 2025, the The Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied and Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and Israel released the report *More than a Human Can Bear: Israel's Systematic Use of Sexual, Reproductive, and Other Forms of Gender-Based Violence Since 7 October 2023*.¹⁴ This report documented and investigated multiple violations of SGBV, specifically regarding prisoners and detainees. Given its comprehensive findings, it will serve as a critical reference for this proposal, as such reports often form the backbone of GJC's legal and advocacy work. Such documentation provided in these reports open the way for legal accountability and policy change at the international level.

The Palestinian case necessitates a feminist analysis, which is GJC's specialty. The various layers of oppression and dominance in this context range from patriarchy and occupation, to institutionalized discrimination and cultural taboos surrounding SGBV. Therefore, utilizing GJC's expertise while ensuring that Palestinian organizations maintain leadership in advocacy efforts is crucial. This approach respects the local knowledge and experience of Palestinian civil society while integrating GJC's structural gendered framework to address these violations effectively.

This proposal details a framework for GJC's collaboration with Palestinian legal and civil society organizations to develop, support, and amplify legal strategies addressing SGBV in Israeli

¹⁴ The Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied and Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and Israel, "'More than a Human Can Bear': Israel's Systematic Use of Sexual, Reproductive and Other Forms of Gender-Based Violence since 7 October 2023."

detention facilities. It aims to integrate GJC's feminist legal approach centering structural, gendered responses to mass atrocities into Palestinian advocacy efforts. Key priorities include strengthening legal documentation, improving access to international accountability mechanisms, and leveraging global legal frameworks. GJC's role will be to provide legal support, advocacy tools, and international platforms to help Palestinian-led initiatives and ensure these violations are recognized and addressed at the global level. By bridging the gap between legal theory and enforcement, GJC can help strengthen accountability and advance justice for Palestinian women and girls subjected to SGBV in Israeli detention centers.

Sexual and Gender-Based Violence: A Legal and Human Rights Perspective

SGBV includes a range of violations committed against individuals due to their gender identity, roles, or perceived societal status. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) defines SGBV as "any act perpetrated against a person's will and that is based on gender norms of patriarchy and unequal power relations."¹⁵ These violations include sexual violence, psychological abuse, forced marriage, and reproductive coercion.

Sexual violence, as a category, refers to any non-consensual sexual act, attempt to obtain such an act, or other actions that exploit a person's sexuality through force, regardless of the relationship between the perpetrator and the victim¹⁶.

SGBV in Detention Settings

Deprivation of liberty increases individuals' vulnerability to SGBV, particularly when gendered power dynamics cross with systemic immunity, lack of oversight, and institutionalized violence¹⁷. International law has repeatedly stated that rape and other forms of sexual violence in detention can amount to torture or cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment¹⁸.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has highlighted that the risk of sexual violence escalates in detention centers where there is neglect, impunity, or an overarching

¹⁵ United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, "Sexual and Gender-Based Violence against Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons: Guidelines for Prevention and Response."

¹⁶ World Health Organization, "World Report on Violence and Health."

¹⁷ General Assembly resolution 39/46, "Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment."

The provisions of article 2 reinforce this peremptory *jus cogens* norm against torture and constitute the foundation of the Committee's authority to implement effective means of prevention, including but not limited to those measures contained in the subsequent articles 3 to 16, in response to evolving threats, issues, and practices.

¹⁸ ICRC, "Sexual Violence in Detention: A Call for Action." 5.

culture of abuse¹⁹. General Comment No. 2 of the Committee Against Torture (CAT) underscores that gender-based violence, including sexual assault, constitutes torture when it is carried out with the approval or direct involvement of state authorities²⁰.

SGBV in Armed Conflicts and Occupied Territories

In the context of armed conflicts, SGBV is often weaponized as a tool of war, domination, or forced displacement²¹. When SGBV is imposed on detainees under occupation, it adds another layer, constituting a grave breach of international law and international humanitarian law (IHL), triggering state and individual responsibility under multiple legal frameworks.

International Legal Protections Against SGBV in Detention Settings

SGBV in detention settings is explicitly prohibited under international law, imposing clear obligations on states to prevent, address, and provide remedies for such violations. The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) requires states to take all necessary measures to prevent gender-based violence, including in conflict and detention settings²². CAT and the Human Rights Committee have repeatedly emphasized that states must ensure detainees are protected from sexual violence and that perpetrators are held accountable²³.

Under IHL, the prohibition of sexual violence is absolute and applies to the occupying forces. The Fourth Geneva Convention (1949) explicitly protects civilians in occupied territories, stating that “women shall be especially protected against any attack on their honor, in particular

¹⁹ ICRC, “Sexual Violence in Detention: A Call for Action.”

²⁰ UN Security Council, “Conflict-Related Sexual Violence.”

²¹ UN Security Council, “UN Security Council Resolution 1820 on Women, Peace and Security.”

²² UN General Assembly, “CEDAW.” 13.

²³ United Nations Committee Against Torture, “General Comment No. 2: Implementation of Article 2 by States Parties.”

against rape, enforced prostitution, or any form of indecent assault”²⁴. These protections are reinforced by Additional Protocol I and Additional Protocol II²⁵. Given that Palestine is under Israeli occupation²⁶, these legal provisions establish a binding obligation on Israel to prevent SGBV against Palestinian detainees. However, reports from UN bodies and human rights organizations indicate systemic failures in upholding these commitments, with detainees frequently subjected to abuse without effective avenues for reparation²⁷.

It is also important to note that customary international law²⁸ also recognizes SGBV as a serious violation, such as ICRC's Customary International Humanitarian Law, rule 93, which prohibits rape and any form of sexual violence, including enforced prostitution, vicious assault, and attacks on the honor of individuals²⁹.

Despite the clear legal frameworks forbidding SGBV, enforcement remains a significant challenge, particularly in occupation contexts. Victims of sexual violence in detention often struggle with reporting due to systemic discrimination or cultural stigma.

²⁴ ICRC, “Geneva Convention Relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War (Fourth Geneva Convention)”, Article 27.

²⁵ ICRC, “Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and Relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I)”, Article 76; “ICRC, “Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and Relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (Protocol II)”, Article 4.

²⁶ According to the UN and as stated by the ICJ throughout the years since 1967, Palestine is under Israeli military occupation including East Jerusalem, the West Bank, and the Gaza Strip, this is recognized internationally which makes Israel bound to follow specific rules and articles as an occupation force. UN, “Israeli Occupation of Palestinian Territory.”

²⁷ OHCHR, “Israeli Settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Including East Jerusalem, and in the Occupied Syrian Golan.”

²⁸ Customary laws are the laws that were developed from a regular practice in Law. Actors are bound by customary Law so it plays an important role in filling gaps that treaties leave out.

²⁹ ICRC, “Customary International Humanitarian Law Volume I: Rules.”

Background on Sexual and Gender-Based Violence of Palestinian Women in Israeli Detention

Palestinian political imprisonment and acts of resistance within prisons must be understood as part of the wider struggle against Israel's ongoing settler-colonial project. Since the Nakba of 1948, the Israeli state has deployed continuous mechanisms of violence and dispossession to uproot Palestinians from their land³⁰. Since 1967, more than 17,000 Palestinian women and girls have been imprisoned in Israeli detention facilities³¹. These detainees come from all sectors of the Palestinian society, including teachers, doctors, journalists, and students. Some of them are mothers, and several have even given birth while detained. Reports from recently released prisoners, particularly during late-November temporary ceasefire, reveal widespread abuse³². As of March 2025, the Israeli occupation holds 21 Palestinian female prisoners in Damon Prison³³, including two minors and one pregnant prisoner. It is important to note that this is the number after 71 Palestinian female prisoners were released as part of prisoner exchange deal earlier this year during the first phase of the ceasefire agreement,³⁴ which was later broken.

The suffering of Palestinian women in Israeli detention begins at the moment of their arrest, which often occurs in the middle of the night. Israeli tanks raid cities and villages in the late hours to carry out arrest missions. It starts with the storming of the house, forcing female family members into one room while pointing guns at the male members, ordering them to stand against the wall.

³⁰ Wolfe, "Settler Colonialism and the Elimination of the Native"

³¹ *Abshar Atefeha Charity and Institute, "Arbitrary Detention of Women in the State of Palestine."*

³² The Guardian, "Palestinian Prisoners Describe Systemic Abuse in Israel's Jails."

³³ Damon Prison was opened during the British Mandate and initially used as a tobacco storage facility. It was built to maintain humidity for preserving tobacco leaves, which is why its rooms remain poorly ventilated, with concrete floors, making it extremely cold in winter and very hot in summer. In 2001 during the Second Intifada it became the designated prison for Palestinian female prisoners.

³⁴ Addameer, "On International Women Day the Occupation Detains 21 Palestinian Female in Its Prisons."

Then, the detainee is taken, blindfolded, and subjected to verbal abuse. Many recount being taken away without the chance to change out of their sleepwear, leaving them exposed and vulnerable. During transport and interrogation, they endure threats of sexual violence and questioning under harsh conditions. Some women have recounted being physically assaulted, while others describe interrogators making inappropriate contact or issuing explicit threats of rape.³⁵

In some cases, family members, such as fathers or brothers, are brought into the same interrogation rooms as a form of psychological coercion, with detainees subjected to degrading and sexually explicit insults in their presence. Accounts also indicate that female prisoners have been forced to undergo collective strip searches under humiliating circumstances³⁶. One former detainee at Jalama Prison³⁷ described being interrogated by a male and female officer who engaged in lewd behavior and used sexually charged language to intimidate her.

Beyond physical and psychological abuse, imprisoned Palestinian women face systematic deprivation of basic needs. They are often denied access to essential hygiene products, such as sanitary pads, forcing them to reuse unwashed clothing. In Damon Prison, guards reportedly told detainees that, following the events of October 7, they had a "green light" to mistreat them, knowing that global attention was focused on Gaza³⁸. Women have been denied fresh air, sunlight, and even the ability to cry out in distress. Prisoner rights lawyer Hassan Abadi has also documented

³⁵ Addameer, "On International Women Day the Occupation Detains 21 Palestinian Female in Its Prisons."

³⁶ Siam, "Sexual violence against Palestinian female prisoners since October 7."

³⁷ Jalama Prison is located at the crossroads on the main road between Haifa and Nazareth, in northern Palestine. It was reopened during the Second Intifada and is known as one of the most severe security interrogation centers. Detainees are held there while investigations are underway. The facility is housed in a building constructed during the British Mandate period. Reports have consistently highlighted the appalling conditions within this prison, including widespread torture, prolonged solitary confinement, inadequate hygiene facilities, and overall deplorable living conditions.

³⁸ Amnesty, "Israel/OPT: Horrifying Cases of Torture and Degrading Treatment of Palestinian Detainees amid Spike in Arbitrary Arrests."

cases of women being photographed against their will, with some reporting that their hijabs were forcibly removed before these unauthorized images were taken³⁹.

The conditions in Israeli detention centers amount to collective punishment, with women crammed into cells, provided with insufficient and often inedible food, and denied visits from lawyers or family members. The treatment of Palestinian female prisoners is part of a broader campaign of suppression, which includes mass arrests, forced displacement, home demolitions, and crackdowns on free expression. Since 7th of October 2023, Israel's military has been intensifying its bombing campaigns in Gaza, simultaneously, the occupied West Bank is experiencing ongoing raids, extrajudicial killings, and land annexation, all aimed at erasing Palestinian presence⁴⁰. Yet, even in the face of this cruelty, Palestinians continue to resist. As Edward Said puts it, “The Palestinians struggle against and resist this state of affairs is a function of how injustice and sufferings do not defeat a people, nor compel it into submission, but rather drive that people to resist more, and to struggle further for political justice and rights.”⁴¹

³⁹Amnesty, “Israel/OPT: Horrifying Cases of Torture and Degrading Treatment of Palestinian Detainees amid Spike in Arbitrary Arrests.”

⁴⁰Ajour, “Resistance, Captivity, and Colonial Repression: The Struggles of Palestinian Political Prisoners During the Gaza Genocide.”

⁴¹ Said, *The Politics of Dispossession: The Struggle for Palestinian Self-Determination, 1969–1994*.153

Palestinian Organizations and Their Needs

Based on GJC experience, the most effective way to address international human rights violations is by amplifying the voices of victims and those advocating on their behalf. This is particularly crucial in Palestine, reports from freed prisoners indicate that many abuses remain undocumented due to restricted access to detainees, harsh conditions, and deliberate obstacles placed in the way of legal representatives and families⁴².

Comprehensively, lawyer Shahda Ben Bari highlighted how Israeli authorities have systematically obstructed legal visits, often canceling them under vague “security” reasons. He mentioned how previously, such visits took three days to arrange, but now they can take a month, if permitted at all⁴³. Since October 7, detainees have also faced increased adversity, including food deprivation, blocked financial transfers from families and humanitarian organizations, and intensified mistreatment⁴⁴. Such limitations create an urgent need for alternative advocacy mechanisms and international pressure.

Organizations such as the Women’s Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling (WCLAC) and Addameer have played a critical role in exposing human rights violations in prisons. WCLAC has reported instances of sexual violence to the United Nations⁴⁵, shedding light on violations during Israeli night raids and detention processes. Meanwhile, Addameer has documented the use of

⁴² Omar, “A Palestinian woman released from Israeli prisons: Female prisoners are subject to oppression and abuse (interview).”

⁴³ Bouirat, “Interview | Restrictions and cancellation of lawyer visits to prisoners in Israeli jails.”

⁴⁴ AlHaq, “Palestinian Human Rights Organisations on Israel’s Arbitrary Arrests, Enforced Disappearance, Inhumane Treatment, and Torture of Palestinians.”

⁴⁵ WCLAC, “Sexual Violence Against Palestinian Women Submission to the UN Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict.”

torture and administrative detention without charge or trial, in violation of international law and international humanitarian law against women and girls⁴⁶.

Given the intensity and gendered nature of these violations, there is a clear need for a feminist legal analysis that not only addresses the human rights dimension but also centers structural inequalities, power imbalances, and the ways occupation, patriarchy, and SGBV intersect.

Moving forward, any intervention must center Palestinian voices and build upon the work already being done by these organizations rather than imposing external frameworks without consultation. A deeper engagement with Palestinian legal and advocacy groups including WCLAC and Addameer, will allow GJC and other actors to contribute meaningfully, ensuring that international legal mechanisms are leveraged effectively to hold perpetrators accountable.

⁴⁶ Addameer, “Imprisonment of Women and Girls.”

Applying GJC's Expertise and Existing Models

GJC has a strong track record of applying feminist legal strategies to address violence and impunity. Its past work in advocacy in conflict zones such as Myanmar and Iraq, GJC successfully developed legal arguments, published feminist analyses, and engaged with international mechanisms like the ICC and the UN Human Rights Council. Building on this experience, the following section presents a menu of suggestions for how GJC can contribute to addressing SGBV against Palestinian women in Israeli detention. This approach offers three key areas of engagement, each structured with a clear objective, goal, and proposed activities.

I. Conducting Training in Documenting SGBV Violations

Objective I

To collaboratively design a culturally sensitive, secure, and legally appropriate curriculum for documenting SGBV in detention settings, following the lead of Palestinian partners.

Long-Term Goal

To ensure that the training curriculum is tailored to real-world needs, minimizing risks for survivors and documenters, and maximizing cultural relevance, security, and legal compliance.

Proposed Activities

- Conduct consultative sessions with Palestinian NGOs, lawyers, and human rights defenders to identify: Community sensitivities regarding SGBV, security risks for survivors and documenters, legal limitations on documentation, detention visits, publication of testimonies, and specific needs and desired content for the training

- Based on input gathered, co-design the curriculum in collaboration with Palestinian partners
- Adapt delivery methods, language, and materials to fit local realities
- Offer follow-up mentorship to maintain continuous support and adaptation as needed

Objective II

To strengthen the capacity of Palestinian organizations and advocates in documenting SGBV in detention settings using a rights-based, survivor-centered approach that prioritizes safety, ethical standards, and international legal accountability.

Long-term Goal

To build and sustain a local network of Palestinian professionals and organizations who can reliably, safely, and ethically document SGBV in detention settings. This documentation will help survivors seek justice, while also feeding into broader international legal and advocacy mechanisms. Over time, this can help establish a legal record of abuse that supports accountability and policy change.

Proposed Activities

Organize a series of hybrid workshops (virtual or in-person, depending on safety conditions) for local NGOs, lawyers, social workers, and human rights defenders who are directly involved with prisoners, and for working groups that are collaborating on this project. The training will cover:

- Ethical documentation practices, including how to center the survivor's voice and protect

their dignity

- Interviewing techniques for trauma-sensitive situations, especially within a militarized and patriarchal context
- Evidence collection and preservation in line with international legal standards to ensure the information can be used in formal legal processes
- Digital safety protocols, including secure storage of sensitive files, anonymous sharing, and risk management

Context and Challenges

Documenting SGBV in the context of Israeli detention is a highly sensitive and risky work. Female prisoners often face stigma, retraumatization, and legal repercussions. Cultural taboos and fear of social exclusion can also discourage women from speaking about their experiences. Additionally, Israel's restrictions on civil society, surveillance practices, and corrective measures against documentation efforts mean that local organizations often work under extreme pressure and legal uncertainty. Because of this, documentation efforts must go beyond technical training; they must build safeguards to protect both prisoners and those doing the documentation. This includes ensuring digital security, data anonymization, and informed consent procedures that are adapted to the Palestinian cultural and legal context.

II. Sharing a Feminist Legal Analysis on Israeli Detention Practices

Objective

To contextualize the treatment of Palestinian women in Israeli detention within broader structures of gendered oppression and occupation. While the prison system has long been

recognized as a core tool of Israel's colonial repression⁴⁷, this project seeks to deepen that analysis by including its gendered dimensions.

Long-term

Goal

Reframe the global conversation on Israeli detention policies through a feminist lens and integrate these violations into international legal discourse on SGBV in conflict. In doing so, amplify Palestinian women's voices, and build sustained legal and policy pressure for accountability by incorporating these findings into international mechanisms and advocacy efforts.

Proposed

Activities

Develop a policy paper that applies feminist international law to Israeli detention practices. This paper should outline how these practices reflect patterns of gender-based oppression, identify legal gaps in protection, and articulate how international legal standards, especially those rooted in feminist jurisprudence, can be used to challenge them.

Draw on parallels from GJC's methodology and approaches in similar conflict settings, such as their legal analysis of gender crimes and the frameworks for identifying patterns of state violence against women, to frame the systemic nature of gender-based repression. While this work will not reflect other cases, the legal reasoning and feminist approach GJC has applied elsewhere will shape the structure and tone of this paper. It will be tailored specifically to the Palestinian context.

⁴⁷ Nashif, *Palestinian Political Prisoners: Identity and Community*.

Once finalized, the paper will be published in close partnership with Palestinian organizations and used as an advocacy tool to support legal submissions, shadow reports, media outreach, and broader accountability efforts.

III. Submitting Legal Opinions and Briefs to Advocate for International Accountability

Objective

Submit legal opinions, briefs, and Amicus Curiae that classify SGBV in Israeli detention as systematic violations of international law to connect the documented abuses to potential crimes against humanity and situate them within existing legal frameworks on torture, inhumane treatment, and discrimination.

Long-term

Objective

Strengthen the case for international accountability by creating a clear legal record of SGBV in Israeli detention as not isolated incidents, but part of a broader, systematic pattern. This work aims to pressure key international bodies to take concrete steps, such as initiating formal investigations, issuing recommendations, or imposing sanctions, against the Israeli state or individuals responsible.

Ultimately, the goal is not only to document and name and shame, but to hold perpetrators accountable and catalyze international legal and political responses that contribute to ending discriminatory and gendered detention practices. Through consistent, well-founded legal submissions, GJC can help close the impunity gap and advance justice for Palestinian women who have suffered these violations.

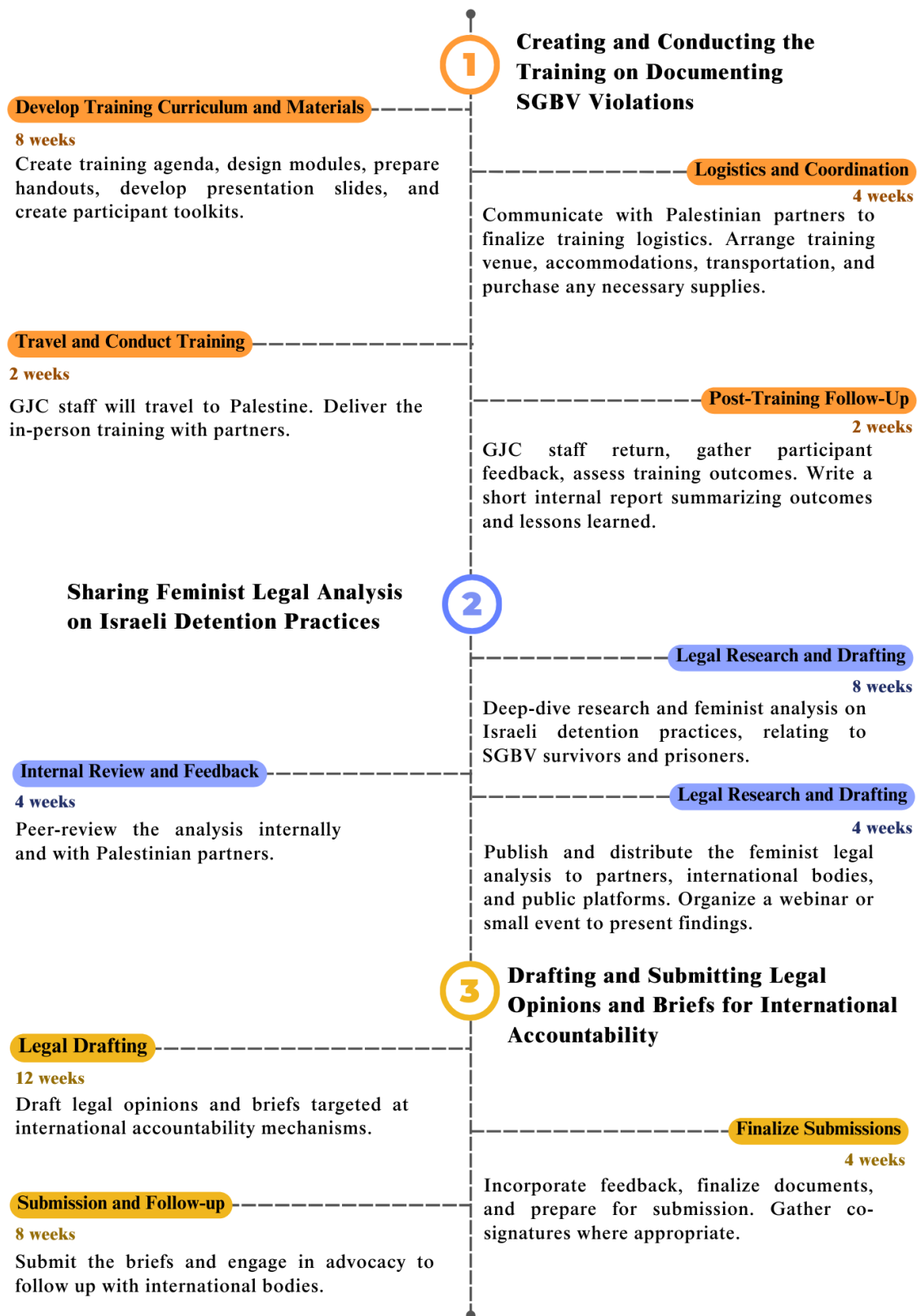
Proposed Activities

- Conduct legal research and prepare feminist legal analyses that classify SGBV in Israeli detention as part of a state-sanctioned policy of gender-based persecution, constituting potential crimes against humanity under international law
- Coordinate closely with Palestinian human rights organizations and survivor networks to ensure all legal interpretations are grounded in lived experiences, cultural contexts, and community-identified priorities
- Draft legal briefs, memoranda, and Amicus Curiae submissions targeted to international and regional bodies such as UN Special Procedures (including the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian Territory), the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, and the CEDAW Committee
- Submit and present the legal opinions to relevant UN mechanisms, framing documented violations within the existing definitions of torture, inhumane treatment, and discriminatory practices. Emphasis will be placed on the intersectional nature of the abuses: gendered, political, and racial
- Apply feminist legal frameworks to the Palestinian context, drawing on the “traveling concept”⁴⁸ of feminist thought to adapt international feminist jurisprudence in a way that resonates with local realities. This approach connects feminist legal analysis to Palestinian women’s lived experiences while fostering transnational feminist coalitions. The work builds on past UN coalition efforts that demonstrated how NGOs from diverse backgrounds can collaborate for intersectional change, contributing to broader advocacy efforts for Palestinian rights.

⁴⁸ Svedberg and Kronsell, *Making Gender, Making War Violence, Military and Peacekeeping Practices*.

Proposed Timeline

49



⁴⁹ Figure 1. Graph showing the timeline of the project.

Risks and Mitigation

Risk	Mitigation Strategy
Local Palestinian partners or survivors who contribute testimonies could face retaliation by Israeli forces	Anonymize sensitive information, secure informed consent, and protect identities where necessary
Increased surveillance and digital risks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Implement strong digital security protocols, including the use of encrypted messaging apps, secure email platforms, and VPNs- Conduct a cybersecurity trainings for all involved to minimize risks of data breaches or monitoring
Political backlash or funder hesitancy regarding Palestine	Target funders with a proven track record of supporting Palestine-related, feminist, or international justice initiatives. See more about this in the funding section
Restrictions on international advocacy due to political developments	Maintain flexibility in advocacy tactics, preparing alternative channels (such as UN special procedures, independent commissions, or regional human rights bodies) in case access to certain venues becomes restricted

Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E)

The project's impact will be assessed through a flexible, participatory M&E system grounded in feminist principles. Key indicators will include the number of SGBV documentation training delivered, the integration of feminist legal analysis in local advocacy, and the submission and reception of legal briefs to international bodies. Regular feedback conversations with Palestinian partners will ensure accountability, adaptability, and alignment with grassroots priorities. The M&E framework will be further developed in detail as specific activities and partnerships are confirmed during the next phase of planning.

Project Team and Organizational Capacity

GJC staff brings strong qualifications across the organization's core areas of expertise, including international law, human rights law, gender-based violence, peace and security, and feminist legal analysis. The team has extensive experience in legal advocacy, research, collaborative initiatives, and co-authoring impactful publications and interventions.

Based on the original project outline, it is anticipated that two legal team members and one administrative staff member will be needed to effectively support the project, along with the help of interns and the legal fellow. In some phases, there will be a need for one communication staff and operational staff. The administrative support will help ensure smooth coordination, compliance, and documentation processes. However, once the proposal is further developed and specific project components are finalized, a detailed project structure and role descriptions will be outlined. Responsibilities will be assigned according to workload distribution and relevant expertise within GJC's legal and programmatic teams, particularly during the upcoming quarterly planning cycle.

Funding

Securing dedicated funding is essential to ensure the successful implementation of this work without placing additional financial strain on Palestinian partners. In line with its commitment to solidarity-based legal advocacy, GJC will take primary responsibility for identifying and securing the financial resources needed to advance these efforts. Funding will cover both tangible deliverables, such as research, legal drafting, international submissions, and public advocacy. As well as, less easily measurable but critical activities, such as survivor-centered coordination, trust-building with partners, and ethical documentation practices.

The goal is to provide accessible support, ensuring that local organizations are not left bearing the costs of international engagement or made to feel that legal representation depends on their ability to fund it themselves.

Challenges in Funding

Locating specific funds for this case has proven challenging. Many major donors are reluctant to support initiatives focused on Palestine due to political sensitivities. Even within broader human rights funding streams, there are notable gaps in support for intersectional legal work addressing SGBV in contexts of political imprisonment and occupation. Calls for proposals rarely prioritize multilateral feminist legal advocacy, international accountability mechanisms, or efforts to challenge settler-colonial violence, leaving this type of work underfunded and marginalized.

Funding Strategy

To overcome these challenges, GJC will pursue a multilayered funding strategy:

- **Networking and Outreach:** GJC staff will prioritize sharing the project's objectives through targeted events, meetings, and informal conversations with funders who have previously shown interest in feminist legal work, Palestine advocacy, or international accountability. This word-of-mouth approach aims to generate early interest and secure informal commitments.
- **Co-Funding and Sub-Granting:** To avoid compromising any of the project's main objectives, GJC will explore co-funding models, where multiple funders contribute to different components of the project. Sub-granting opportunities will also be considered for smaller, aligned organizations.
- **Breaking Down Costs:** The project budget has been carefully structured to allow funders flexibility in selecting portions of the work they are most willing to support, whether that is the training, legal research, public submissions, or advocacy efforts.

Budget Sheet

[GJC and SGBV Palestine: Budget Sheet](#)

This budget sheet outlines the detailed financing required for the project, covering activities, partnerships, salaries, and operational expenses. For a printable version, refer to Appendix I. However, it is recommended to use the digital version for a comprehensive view of the operations and total cell calculations.⁵⁰

⁵⁰ *Note:* This budget is an estimate developed specifically for the purpose of this proposal and reflects projected costs based on the proposed timeline and scope of activities. It follows GJC's standard budgeting practices and past programmatic experience.

Conclusion and Recommendations

Conclusion

The gendered violence faced by Palestinian women and girls in Israeli detention is neither random nor incidental, it is part of a system of control that targets Palestinian bodies through both physical and psychological means. As reports and survivor testimonies continue to surface, it becomes increasingly clear that these acts of abuse must be situated within the broader framework of structural oppression, military occupation, and gendered violence.

While Palestinian organizations have worked continuously to document these abuses, their efforts have often lacked the international legal reinforcement and visibility necessary to push forward concrete accountability. This is where the GJC's expertise can make a critical difference. By applying feminist legal approaches to the documentation and legal analysis of SGBV in detention, GJC can contribute to building a coherent international legal case that frames these violations as part of a deliberate system of persecution.

This project is not only essential in addressing a severely underreported pattern of SGBV, but it also presents an opportunity for the GJC to fulfill its own strategic commitments laid out in its 2021–2026 framework. Given the prominence of Palestine in today's global human rights discourse, particularly following the escalations post-October 2023, it would be noticeable for a leading feminist legal organization to remain silent or unengaged.

GJC has long positioned itself as an organization unafraid to confront the politicization of rights and to lead transformative conversations in spaces where silence dominates. This moment calls for that same courage.

The project aligns precisely with GJC's stated theory of change⁵¹: it demands accountability for state violence against women, uses progressive interpretations of international law to seek justice, calls for a feminist approach to multilateralism, and centers the leadership of those most impacted. Moreover, it exemplifies GJC's working methods⁵² combining innovative legal analysis, strategic advocacy, and collaborative partnerships to advance gender equality. The organization's unique capacity to navigate difficult legal challenges with care and feminist multilateralism makes it especially well-suited to lead this effort. Helping to build legal avenues toward accountability that are survivor-centered, intersectional, and headstrong in their pursuit of justice.

Recommendations

1. Initiate a targeted legal research and analysis project on gendered violence in Israeli detention, integrating an intersectional feminist framework across all interventions.
2. Develop and submit legal briefs and Amicus Curiae to relevant UN and international mechanisms with close coordination with Palestinian partners.
3. Support survivor-centered documentation and testimonial strategies.
4. Engage in strategic advocacy to raise visibility and shift legal narratives.
5. Monitor, evaluate, and adjust legal strategy based on outcomes and community feedback.

⁵¹ GJC, "2021–2026 Strategic Framework." 5.

⁵² GJC, "2021–2026 Strategic Framework." 7.

Appendix I ⁵³

Expense Item	Category	Description & Justification	Estimated Cost (USD)
I. Conducting Training in Documenting SCBV Violations			
Salaries	Admin	Staff for legal, planning, logistics, coordination support (4 people; two legal staff, one project coordinator)	\$64,000.00
Temporary Help	Professional Services	2 part-time GJC fellows or interpreters	\$0.00
Expert Project Consultants	Professional Services	3 expert trainers over several sessions	\$4,500.00
Legal Consultant	Professional Services	Legal consultant to review content	\$1,000.00
Travel to Palestine	Travel & Accommoda...	Plane tickets for 2 round trip	\$3,000.00
Accommodations	Travel & Accommoda...	5 nights for 2 GJC work team in Ramallah, Palestine	\$5,000.00
Mass Transportation	Travel & Accommoda...	Buses/public transport for participants (20 people)	\$400.00
Ground Transportation	Travel & Accommoda...	Taxis and shuttles for staff	\$400.00
Meals	Activity	Snacks, lunches for training days (20 people x 10 days)	\$10,000.00
Phone/Internet Communications	Communication	Zoom license, data bundles, mobile lines for 4 months	\$400.00
Printing	Office Expenses	Manuals and forms	\$250.00
Office Supplies / Expense	Admin	Flipcharts, notebooks, markers	\$200.00
Training Materials	Activity	Toolkits, USBs, stationery	\$500.00
Registration Fee	Activity	Venue booking, online hosting	\$1,000.00
Translation	Professional Services	Interpretation documents in Arabic & English	\$800.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	Other	Unexpected fees, transport changes (10% of total)	\$9,145.00
Total I			\$100,595.00
II. Sharing a Feminist Legal Analysis on Israeli Detention Practices			
Salaries	Admin	Staff for legal, logistics, outreach support (4 people; two legal staff, one comms staff, operational staff,	\$64,000.00
Legal Consultant	Professional Services	Legal consultant to review content	\$1,000.00
Mass Transportation	Travel & Accommoda...	Travel internally for partners for testimony interviews or team research meetings	\$400.00
Meals	Activity	Food during fieldwork or partner meetings	\$400.00
Phone/Internet Communications	Communication	International calls, Zoom license, data bundles	\$400.00
Translation	Professional Services	Translation of the paper and testimonies into English/Arabic as needed	\$1,000.00
Printing and Copying	Office Expenses	Internal drafts, peer review copies, and printed testimony forms	\$150.00
Research Materials	Activity	Journal subscriptions, archives, and legal databases	\$800.00
Designer	Professional Services	Layout design or visual storytelling support to accompany the paper	\$1,500.00
Miscellaneous Travel Expenses	Other	Unexpected fees, additional support (10% of total)	\$6,965.00
Total II			\$76,615.00
III. Submitting Legal Opinions and Briefs to Advocate for International Accountability			
Salaries (6 months)	Admin	2 legal staff members working full-time over the 6-month period	\$48,000.00
Salaries (2 months)	Admin	1 communications and 1 operational staff member for the last 2 months of the phase	\$16,000.00
Legal Consultant	Professional Services	Senior legal reviewers ensuring compliance with UN or international court standards	\$1,000.00
Mass Transportation	Travel & Accommoda...	Travel for partners for in-person meetings with legal partners, or UN summits, and coordination sessio	\$6,000.00
Accommodations	Travel & Accommoda...	Hotel stays during legal conferences or UN advocacy missions	\$3,000.00
Ground Transportation	Travel & Accommoda...	Taxis, local transport for field meetings or stakeholder visits	\$400.00
Phone/Internet Communications	Communication	Secure communication lines and cloud subscriptions for document sharing	\$600.00
Translation	Professional Services	Translation of briefs and documentation into Arabic, English, and/or UN official languages	\$1,200.00
Research Materials	Office Expenses	Subscriptions to legal databases, UN records, or specialized human rights archives	\$600.00
Conferences Fee	Activity	Registration fees for legal advocacy conferences or UN side events	\$1,000.00
Miscellaneous Travel Expenses	Other	Unexpected fees, additional support, transport changes (10% of total)	\$1,380.00
Total III			\$79,180.00
Admin Cost for 14 Months (5% of total)			\$12,819.50
Total			\$269,209.50

⁵³ Figure 2. Budget Sheet

Bibliography

- Abshar Atefcha Charity and Institute. "Arbitrary Detention of Women in the State of Palestine." In *Arbitrary Detention of Promotion and Protection of All Human Rights, Civil, Political, Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Including the Right to Development in the State of Palestine*. Human Rights Council, 2024. <https://documents.un.org/doc/undoc/gen/g24/167/61/pdf/g2416761.pdf>.
- Addameer. "Imprisonment of Women and Girls," January 11, 2018. https://www.addameer.org/the_prisoners/women.
- Addameer. "On International Women Day the Occupation Detains 21 Palestinian Female in Its Prisons." Media, July 3, 2025. <https://www.addameer.org/media/5518>.
- Ajour, Ashjan. "Resistance, Captivity, and Colonial Repression: The Struggles of Palestinian Political Prisoners During the Gaza Genocide." Fieldsights, May 11, 2024. <https://culanth.org/fieldsights/the-struggles-of-palestinian-political-prisoners>.
- Akkad, Dania. "Israeli Soldiers Have Been Sexually Assaulting Palestinian Women for Decades. Now They're Speaking Out." News. *Middle East Eye* (blog), March 12, 2024. <https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/israel-sexual-assault-palestinian-women>.
- AlHaq. "Palestinian Human Rights Organisations on Israel's Arbitrary Arrests, Enforced Disappearance, Inhumane Treatment, and Torture of Palestinians." AlHaq, April 17, 2024. <https://www.alhaq.org/advocacy/22912.html>.
- Alqobbaj, Sara. *Gift*. photograph. August 7, 2024
- Alqobbaj, Sara. *Figure 1. Graph showing the timeline of the project*. Created March 2025.
- Alqobbaj, Sara. *Figure 2. Budget Sheet*. Created April 2025.
- Amnesty. "Israel/OPT: Horrifying Cases of Torture and Degrading Treatment of Palestinian Detainees amid Spike in Arbitrary Arrests," August 11, 2023. <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2023/11/israel-opt-horrifying-cases-of-torture-and-degrading-treatment-of-palestinian-detainees-amid-spike-in-arbitrary-arrests/>.

Bouirat, Amir Ali. “Interview | Restrictions and cancellation of lawyer visits to prisoners in Israeli jails.” Arab 48, December 6, 2024. <https://www.arab48.com/%D9%85%D8%AD%D9%84%D9%8A%D8%A7%D8%AA/%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AD%D8%B1%D9%83%D8%A9-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A3%D8%B3%D9%8A%D8%B1%D8%A9-48/2024/06/12/%D9%85%D9%82%D8%A7%D8%A8%D9%84%D8%A9-%7C-%D8%AA%D8%B6%D9%8A%D9%8A%D9%82%D8%A7%D8%AA-%D9%88%D8%A5%D9%84%D8%BA%D8%A7%D8%A1-%D8%B2%D9%8A%D8%A7%D8%B1%D8%A7%D8%AA-%D9%85%D8%AD%D8%A7%D9%85%D9%8A%D9%86-%D9%84%D8%A3%D8%B3%D8%B1%D9%89-%D9%81%D9%8A-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B3%D8%AC%D9%88%D9%86-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A5%D8%B3%D8%B1%D8%A7%D8%A6%D9%8A%D9%84%D9%8A%D8%A9>.

Francis, Sahar. “Escalating Oppression: Israel’s Systematic Violations Intensify in Palestine Post October 7, 2023.” addameer prisoner support and human rights association, January 23, 2024. <https://www.un.org/unispal/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Sahar-Francis.pdf>.

General Assembly resolution 39/46. “Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.” Geneva, January 24, 2008. <https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/convention-against-torture-and-other-cruel-inhuman-or-degrading>.

GJC. “2021–2026 Strategic Framework.” Web: Global Justice Center, November 11, 2021. https://wordpress-537312-2488108.cloudwaysapps.com/temp-uploads/2021/11/2021-2026_GJC-StrategicFramework_final.pdf.

GJG. “Theory of Change.” About Us, n.d. <https://www.globaljusticecenter.net/about-gjc/>.

Global Justice Center. “International Humanitarian Law and Access to Abortion.” GJC, April 14, 2019. https://www.globaljusticecenter.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Compilation_of_Citations_Abortion_and_IHL.pdf.

ICRC. “Customary International Humanitarian Law Volume I: Rules,” 689. International Committee of the Red Cross, 2009. https://icrcndresourcecentre.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/4293_002_Sexual-violence-detention_WEB.pdf.

- ICRC. “Geneva Convention Relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War (Fourth Geneva Convention),.” International Committee of the Red Cross, December 8, 1949. <https://www.refworld.org/legal/agreements/icrc/1949/en/32227>.
- ICRC. “Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and Relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I).” UNTS: International Committee of the Red Cross, August 6, 1977.
- ICRC. “Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and Relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (Protocol II).” UNTS: International Committee of the Red Cross, August 6, 1977.
- ICRC. “Sexual Violence in Detention: A Call for Action.” Geneva: International Committee of the Red Cross, August 3, 2017. https://icrcndresourcecentre.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/4293_002_Sexual-violence-detention_WEB.pdf.
- Nādirah, Shalhūb-Kīfūrkiyān. *Militarization and Violence Against Women in Conflict Zones in the Middle East*. Cambridge University Press, 2009. https://www.google.com/books/edition/Militarization_and_Violence_Against_Wome/ka2AmZw3YIC?hl=en&gbpv=1&dq=female+palestinian+prisoners+in+israel&printsec=frontcover.
- Nashif, Esmail. *Palestinian Political Prisoners: Identity and Community*. London: Routledge, 2008. <http://ndl.ethernet.edu.et/bitstream/123456789/44847/1/23.Esmail%20Nashif.pdf>.
- Ní Aoláin, Fionnuala. “The Gender of Occupation” 45, no. 2 (August 1, 2020): 336–76.
- OHCHR. “Israeli Settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Including East Jerusalem, and in the Occupied Syrian Golan.” Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General. UN General Assembly, January 30, 2020. https://www.un.org/unispal/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/A.HRC_.43.67.pdf.
- OHCHR. “Thematic Report: Detention in the Context of the Escalation of Hostilities in Gaza,” July 31, 2024. <https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/20240731-Thematic-report-Detention-context-Gaza-hostilities.pdf>.

Omar, Qais. “A Palestinian woman released from Israeli prisons: Female prisoners are subject to oppression and abuse (interview).” Anadolu Agency Network, January 16, 2025. <https://www.aa.com.tr/ar/%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AA%D9%82%D8%A7%D8%B1%D9%8A%D8%B1/%D9%81%D9%84%D8%B3%D8%B7%D9%8A%D9%86%D9%8A%D8%A9-%D9%85%D8%AD%D8%B1%D8%B1%D8%A9-%D9%85%D9%86-%D8%B3%D8%AC%D9%88%D9%86-%D8%A5%D8%B3%D8%B1%D8%A7%D8%A6%D9%8A%D9%84-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A3%D8%B3%D9%8A%D8%B1%D8%A7%D8%AA-%D8%AA%D8%AD%D8%AA-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%82%D9%85%D8%B9-%D9%88%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AA%D9%86%D9%83%D9%8A%D9%84-%D9%85%D9%82%D8%A7%D8%A8%D9%84%D8%A9/3452098>.

Said, Edward. *The Politics of Dispossession: The Struggle for Palestinian Self-Determination, 1969–1994*. 1st ed. New York: Vintage Books, 1995. <https://www.rahs-open-lid.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Said-Edward-W.-The-Politics-of-Dispossession - The-Struggle-for-Palestinian-Self-Determination-1969-1994-Vintage-2012.pdf>.

Security Council. “Strongly Condemning Rise in Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, Speakers Urge Security Council to Better Prevent, Enforce Accountability for Such Crimes.” Meetings Coverage. UN, July 14, 2023. <https://press.un.org/en/2023/sc15357.doc.htm#:~:text=During%20the%20day%2Dlong%20meeting,implement%20its%20various%20resolutions%20on>.

Siam, Abdul Hamid. “Sexual violence against Palestinian female prisoners since October 7.” Al Quds Al Arabi, January 25, 2024. <https://www.alquds.co.uk/%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B9%D9%86%D9%81-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AC%D9%86%D8%B3%D9%8A-%D8%B6%D8%AF-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A3%D8%B3%D9%8A%D8%B1%D8%A7%D8%AA-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%81%D9%84%D8%B3%D8%B7%D9%8A%D9%86%D9%8A%D8%A7%D8%AA/>.

Svedberg, Erika, and Annica Kronsell, eds. *Making Gender, Making War Violence, Military and Peacekeeping Practices*. New York: Taylor & Francis, 2011.

The Guardian. “Palestinian Prisoners Describe Systemic Abuse in Israel’s Jails.” The Guardian, May 8, 2024.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/article/2024/aug/05/palestinian-prisoners-describe-widespread-abuse-in-israels-jails>.

The Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and Israel. “Annual Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Including East Jerusalem, and Israel.” In *A/HRC/56/26*, 21. Geneva, 2024. <https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/hrbodies/hrcouncil/sessions-regular/session56/a-hrc-56-26-auv.docx>.

The Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied and Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and Israel. “‘More than a Human Can Bear’: Israel’s Systematic Use of Sexual, Reproductive and Other Forms of Gender-Based Violence since 7 October 2023.” In *A/HRC/58/CRP.6*, 49, 2025. <https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/hrbodies/hrcouncil/sessions-regular/session58/a-hrc-58-crp-6.pdf>.

UN. “Israeli Occupation of Palestinian Territory.” The question of Palestine, n.d. <https://www.un.org/unispal/in-facts-and-figures/>.

UN General Assembly, OHCHR. “Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.” Convention. Treaty Series. United Nations General Assembly resolution 34/180, December 18, 1979. <https://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/#:~:text=The%20Convention%20on%20the%20Elimination,bill%20of%20rights%20for%20women>.

UN Security Council. “Conflict-Related Sexual Violence,” March 6, 2020. <https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/2019-REPORT-OF-THE-SECRETARY-GENERAL-ON-CRSV-ENGLISH.pdf>.

UN Security Council. “UN Security Council Resolution 1820 on Women, Peace and Security,” June 22, 2008. <https://www.unwomen.org/en/docs/2008/6/un-security-council-resolution-1820>.

United Nations Committee Against Torture. “General Comment No. 2: Implementation of Article 2 by States Parties.” Geneva, January 24, 2008. <https://www.refworld.org/legal/general/cat/2008/en/53514>.

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. “Sexual and Gender-Based Violence against Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons: Guidelines for Prevention and Response,” January 5, 2003. <https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/report/sexual-and-gender-based-violence-against-refugees-returnees-and-internally-displaced-persons/3f696bcc4.pdf>.

WCLAC. “Sexual Violence Against Palestinian Women Submission to the UN Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict.” UN Submission, February 14, 2024.

Wolfe, Patrick. “Settler Colonialism and the Elimination of the Native.” *Journal of Genocide Research* 8, no. 4 (December 21, 2006): 387–409.

World Health Organization. “World Report on Violence and Health,” 360. Geneva: WHO Library Cataloguing-in-Publication Data, 2002. https://iris.who.int/bitstream/handle/10665/42495/9241545615_eng.pdf.