

HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS IN A WEEK

25 March - 31 March 2024



Human Rights are inherent to all human beings, regardless of the nationality, place of residence, sex, national or ethnic origin, color, religion, language or any other status without discrimination. These rights are all universal, inalienable, interrelated, interdependent and indivisible.

The articles shared in this brief are the liability of their respective news outlets and do not reflect the views of CLDH.



LEBANON

Monday 25 March 2024

Tuesday 26 March 2024

Wednesday 27 March 2024

Airstrike on a house on the outskirts of Meiss El Jabal

The National News Agency correspondent in Marjaayoun reported on March 25, 2024, that an Israeli airstrike targeted a house in the western outskirts of the town of Meiss ElJabal (Ras al-Daher neighborhood) at 5:05 AM.

Two killed in Israeli airstrike on Meiss El Jabal

The National News Agency reported on March 25, 2024, that two people were killed in an airstrike on a house in Meiss El Jabal. Airstrikes also targeted the town of Rab El Thalathine and a power plant between Markaba and Aadaysit.

Three members of the Civil Defense injured in an airstrike that targeted a house in Tayr Harfa

The National News Agency reported on March 26, 2024, that Israeli warplanes struck the town of Tayr Harfa at dawn, targeting an uninhabited house, resulting in three minor injuries among Civil Defense medics. Civil Defense teams affiliated with the Islamic Scout Association and the Islamic Health Authority worked to transport the injured to the hospital in Tyre. The houses also suffered extensive damage. The town of Tayr Harfa has been subjected to dozens of airstrikes since the start of the aggression, which has resulted in the complete destruction of homes. The villages of Jebbayn, Tayr Harfa, and Dhayra were also subjected to Israeli artillery shelling. Throughout the night and until yesterday morning, Israeli reconnaissance aircraft continued to fly over the villages of the Tyre and Bint Jbeil districts. The Israeli army also fired flare bombs at night over the villages of the western and middle sectors, reaching Majdal Zoun and Naqoura.

Casualties in airstrike on Lebanese Relief Center affiliated with the Islamic Group in Habbariyeh

On March 27, 2024, the National News Agency reported <u>that</u> Israeli warplanes struck the Lebanese Relief Center affiliated with the Islamic Group in the town of Habbariyeh at dawn today, destroying it and killing 7 members <u>of</u> the medical staff, in addition to injuring four civilians. The airstrike also led to damage in nearby homes.

Thursday 28 March 2024

Friday 29 March 2024

5 killed in the raid on Tayr Harfa and 3 in the raid on the Nagoura

On March 27, 2024, the National News Agency reported that 3 people were killed in the Israeli shelling which targeted a rest stop in the town of Naqoura. A number of wounded were transferred to Tyre hospitals for treatment, and a large number of residents gathered to donate blood in front of the hospitals. The National News Agency's reporter indicated those killed were members of Civil Defense paramedics of the Islamic Message Scouts Association, who were gathered next to the targeted rest stop, where the first raid took place, which killed more than six people. Search remains underway for missing people under the rubble.

UNIFIL Statement: Call for ceasefire amid escalating Blue Line violence

The United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon released a statement on March 28, 2024, announcing that "UNIFIL is very concerned over the surge of violence occurring across the Blue Line right now.

This escalation has caused a high number of civilian deaths and the destruction of homes and livelihoods." The statement stressed "it is imperative that this escalation cease immediately. We urge all sides to put down their weapons and begin the process toward a sustainable political and diplomatic solution. UNIFIL remains ready to support that process in any way we can, including by convening a Tripartite meeting at the parties' request."

One killed in an airstrike on a car in Bazouriye

The National News Agency reported on March 29, 2024, that one person <u>was</u> killed in an airstrike by Israeli drones that targeted a car on the road to the town of Bazouriye in the Tyre district. Ambulances rushed to transport the wounded. The targeted car was engulfed in flames, and the Civil Defense of the Islamic Message Scouts Association pulled the person killed out of the car, while they are verifying the presence of another individual possibly killed.

Human Rights Watch: UN Report on Israeli Killing of Journalist in Lebanon

Human Rights Watch reported that on March 29, 2024, 16 NGOs and journalist groups said on March 29, 2024, in a letter to UN Secretary-General António Guterres, force commander Lieutenant General Aroldo Lázaro Sáenz, the UN Special Coordinator for Lebanon Joanna Wronecka and Jean-Pierre Lacroix, Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations that "the United Nations Interim Forces in Lebanon (UNIFIL) should release the findings of its investigation into two Israeli strikes on a group of journalists in south Lebanon on October 13, 2023. In the letter, the NGO and journalist groups also requested "that UNIFIL make its full investigation public in accordance with the UN's commitment to transparency. Since the UN does make findings related to internal investigations public, there is no shortage of precedents. If UNIFIL is currently unable to make the full report public, we ask you to make a public statement explaining why and providing a timeline for when publication will occur. In such instances, a redacted or summarized version of the report should be released in the interim. The publication of the investigation findings is necessary to support other justice and accountability efforts that the victims' families want to pursue."

Saturday and Sunday 30 and 31 March 2024

Civil defense volunteers suspended work in all northern centers

On March 29, 2024, the National News Agency reported that the regional civil defense volunteers in the north gathered to hold a meeting "to raise their voices and obtain their salaries and financial dues." They issued a statement saying: "After the meeting of the National Defense, Interior and Municipalities Committee on Thursday 3/28/2024, and no statement was issued regarding our salaries, we therefore confirm that we will suspend work at the centers affiliated with the regional north until a decision is issued to do us justice in the meeting scheduled for next Tuesday 4/2/2024 for the specialized committees regarding the wronged employees, and after that there will be no implementation of tasks until further notice unless they do us justice."

UN launches investigation into Lebanon explosion that injured peacekeepers

The United Nations News Centre reported on March 30, 2024, that the UN peacekeeping force in south Lebanon (UNIFIL) has announced that it is investigating an explosion in the Rmeish area that injured four unarmed peacekeepers on a foot patrol along the Blue Line that divides Israel from Lebanon and the disputed Golan Heights. In a statement released on Saturday, UNIFIL spokesperson Andrea Tenenti, said that the casualties - three military observers from the UN Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) and a Lebanese language assistant - have been evacuated for medical treatment. The Lebanese state-run National News Agency reported that the UN peacekeepers were "subjected to an Israeli strike" carried out by drones. However, in a Tweet, Israeli military spokesperson Avichay Adraee said that the Israeli Defence Forces (IDF) did not target any UNIFIL vehicles in the Rmeish area. Mr. Tenenti explained that the UNTSO observers, who are part of Observer Group Lebanon (OGL), support UNIFIL in implementing the force's mandate, which includes monitoring the cessation of hostilities, helping to ensure humanitarian access to civilian populations and assisting the Lebanese government in securing the country's borders. The spokesperson underlined the responsibility of all actors in the conflict, under international law, to ensure protection for non-combatants, and called for a cessation of heavy exchanges of fire "before more people are unnecessarily hurt".

<u>3 officers and a civilian translator were injured in the raid on a military vehicle belonging to "UNIFIL" in Rmeish</u>

UNIFIL spokesperson Andrea Tenenti released a statement on March 30, 2024 indicating that "three OGL (UNTSO) military observers <u>and</u> one Lebanese language assistant on <u>a</u> foot patrol along the Blue Line were injured when an explosion occurred near their location. They have now been evacuated for medical treatment. OGL (UNTSO) observers support UNIFIL in implementing our mandate. We are investigating the origin of the explosion. Safety and security of UN personnel must be guaranteed. All actors have a responsibility under international humanitarian law to ensure protection to non-combatants, including peacekeepers, journalists, medical personnel, and civilians. We repeat our call for all actors to cease the current heavy exchanges of fire before more people are unnecessarily hurt."

3 houses were destroyed in the raid on Taybeh

On March 30,2024, the "National News Agency" in Marjeyoun reported that the raids on the town of Taybeh targeted the neighborhoods of Awidat and Taybeh Project. The aggression resulted in the destruction of 3 houses without any human casualties.

REPORTING A VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS TO CLDH

If you wish to report an incident that may potentially constitute a violation of human rights, kindly send an email to the following address: **violations@cldh-lebanon.org**

You can also report an incident anonymously through our **website**.

When making a report, please ensure to include the following information:

- WHERE: City/village, governorate, additional details (e.g. what prison)
- **WHAT**: Nature of the violation
- **HOW**: A narrative description of what happened
- **WHEN**: Date of the episode (at least the year, if day and month are unknown)
- **TO WHOM**: Information regarding the victim (name, nationality, gender, date of birth, city of origin, phone number). Only share this information with the consent of the person.
- **WHO** is the person reporting (name, phone number) and how were they identified (e.g., victim him/herself, family member, eyewitness, journalist, humanitarian worker...)

The information referred will remain completely private. It will be fact-checked and registered into CLDH's internal system. No action will be undertaken without the explicit and written consent of the reporter.



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