

# HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS IN A WEEK

26 FEBRUARY - 3 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**  
26 Feb 2024

### Two people were killed in the Israeli targeting of Baalbek

On February 26, 2024, Annahar reported that "for the first time since the start of the military escalation between Israel and Hezbollah, Israeli targeting has reached the Baalbek region through raids on a site allegedly belonging to Hezbollah. Initial information indicates that the two raids targeted a Hezbollah center in Baalbek, not warehouses. The targeting came in two waves, the first with a missile that hit a container for storing food between the towns of Al-Alaq and Hawsh Tal Safieh on the Boudai road, while the second raid hit a rented house belonging to one of the members of the Maawiya family. An-nahar's correspondent reported that at least two people were killed in the Israeli attack, while ambulances rushed to the scene.

**Tuesday**  
27 Feb 2024

### Israel launches two raids on the towns of Jebchit shit and Al-Bisariya in southern Lebanon

An-nahar reported on February 27, 2024 that Israel launched two raids on the towns of Jebchit and Al-Bissariya in southern Lebanon for the first time since the start of the escalation with Hezbollah. The Israeli bombing targeted the Tabna area. An Israeli raid was also reported on the vicinity of the town of Al-Mansouri, causing cases of suffocation after the destruction of a house.

### 10 MPs appealed against the budget law based on seven legal and constitutional violations

According to An-nahar, ten members of parliament representing the Kataeb, Tajadod, and Tahalof Al Taghyeer blocs filed a legal challenge before the Constitutional Council against the constitutionality of Law No. 324 issued on February 12, 2024, which sets the general budget for the year 2024, requesting its suspension and annulment. The appeal included the signatures of MPs: Ashraf Rifi, Elias Hankash, Sami Gemayel, Salim Al-Sayegh, Fouad Makhzoumi, Mark Daou, Michel Al-Duwaihi, Michel Moawad, Nadim Gemayel, and Waddah Al-Sadiq. The plaintiffs, represented by lawyer Lara Saadeh, based their challenge on violations of constitutional articles and paragraphs in the preamble to the constitution.

Wednesday  
28 Feb 2024

### German prosecutors confirm arrest warrant for former Lebanon central bank chief

According to Reuters, German prosecutors confirmed for the first time on February 27, 2024, that they were conducting money laundering investigations into the former head of Lebanon's central bank and had issued an arrest warrant for him. The Munich public prosecutor's office said it was investigating Riad Salameh, Lebanon's central bank chief from 1993 to 2023, together with his brother Raja and other suspects on charges including forgery, money laundering and embezzlement. The Salameh brothers deny all the charges.

### Official demands for an independent investigation into Israel's targeting of journalists in southern Lebanon

On February 28, 2024 An-nahar reported citing AFP sources, that more than 120 organizations, media outlets, personalities, and survivors submitted two official letters to the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Volker Türk, and the Director-General of UNESCO, Audrey Azoulay, demanding an independent investigation into Israel's targeting of journalists in southern Lebanon. Israeli strikes on southern Lebanon on October 13 killed Reuters photographer Issam Abdullah and injured six other journalists, including AFP photographers Dylan Collins and Christina Assi, whose foot was amputated and is still recovering in the hospital. Reporter Farah Omar and photographer Rabih Maamari from Al-Mayadeen TV were also killed as a result of an Israeli strike that targeted them on November 21.

### Israeli raids on the towns of Kafra and Siddiqin kills two civilians and injures others

On February 28, 2024 the National News Agency reported that Israeli warplanes raided the towns of Siddiqin and Kafra resulting in the death of two individuals from the town of Kafra, in addition to 14 injuries including wounds and cases of suffocation.

Thursday  
29 Feb 2024

### General directors call on public sector employees to return to work

On February 29, 2024 An-nahar reported that a number of general directors announced in a statement that, "in line with the convening of the Cabinet of ministers, they met with the President of the Civil Service Council to discuss the approved salary increases for public sector employees, in light of the logistical and material deterioration in the public sector, the acute shortage of administrative staff, and the continued attrition of qualified human resources in the public administration." In a statement, they considered that "what the government has approved, despite its inadequacy in relation to the efforts exerted by employees and workers to ensure the continuity of the public service on the one hand...constitutes a temporary treatment of the rightful salaries that should be fair and take into account the economic reality in light of the taxes and fees approved in the 2024 budget." They stressed that "the employees of public institutions whose situation is similar to that of the employees of the public administration should benefit from the increase approved by the decree, as discrimination between the two categories is not permissible, and they called on the government to correct this as soon as possible in order to achieve justice and equality."

Friday  
1 March 2024

### Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants condemns the deliberate killing of dozens of unarmed Palestinian civilians

On March 1, 2024 the Lebanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants, on its twitter account on the platform "X", released a statement in which it condemned the deliberate killing of dozens of unarmed Palestinian civilians and the injury of hundreds more through the shelling of humanitarian aid queues in Gaza by the Israeli occupation forces. The ministry stated that such actions weaken the chances of a just and comprehensive peace. The Ministry also [called](#) for the establishment of an international investigation committee to determine responsibilities and to prevent the party responsible for this crime from escaping accountability and punishment. The Ministry reiterates the importance of the international community adopting unified standards to stop flagrant violations of international humanitarian law.

### European Commission will proceed to paying €50 million to UNRWA and increase emergency support to Palestinians by €68 million in 2024

On March 1, 2024 the European Commission stated that it has decided to allocate an additional €68 million to support the Palestinian population across the region to be implemented through international partners like the Red Cross and the Red Crescent. This comes in addition to the foreseen €82 million of aid to be implemented through UNRWA in 2024, bringing the total to €150 million. The Commission will proceed to paying €50 million of the UNWRA envelope next week. Furthermore, the Commission has allocated €125 million of humanitarian aid for Palestinians for 2024. The Commission is contracting the first €16 million today.

Saturday and Sunday  
2 and 3 March 2024

### Israeli drone targets car on Naqoura road in Hamra area

On March 2, 2024, a reporter for the National News Agency in Tyre reported that an Israeli drone targeted a car on the Naqoura road in the Hamra area. Ambulances were dispatched to the scene.

### Phosphorus shelling in Wazzani

On March 3, 2024 the National News Agency in Marjaayoun reported that artillery shelling hit the outskirts of the town of Khiam. The village of Wazzani was also shelled with phosphorus shells by the Israeli army.

# 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\*\*](mailto: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.



**UNDEF**  
The United Nations  
Democracy Fund



**FNUD**  
Fonds des  
Nations Unies  
pour la démocratie