Re: 2009 European Neighborhood Policy (ENP) Progress Report on Israel

Dear Madam/Sir,

Badil Resource Center appreciates the opportunity to submit information to the European Commission in view of the ENP Progress Report on Israel in 2009. We hope to bring to your attention Israel’s failure to implement commitments it made in its respective ENP’s Plan of Action.

Despite its commitment to “promote democracy, rule of law and respect for human rights and international humanitarian law”, and to “promote and protect rights of minorities, including enhancing political, economic, social and cultural opportunities for all citizens and lawful residents”, Israel continues to dispossess and forcibly displace Palestinians in both Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT).

During 2009, Israel has continued its policies and practices of home demolition, forced evictions, land confiscation, privatization of confiscated Palestinian land, construction and expansion of Jewish settlements, and the closure regime in the OPT. All of the above are carried out in a fashion that discriminates against Palestinians on illegal grounds of nationality. The above-mentioned methods are used by Israel to attain illegal demographic objectives, namely asserting control over the maximum amount of land with a minimum number of Palestinians.
We hope that the European Commission will take into consideration the human rights concerns mentioned in the enclosed report while preparing its fourth progress report on Israel.

Sincerely,

Reem Mazzawi
Legal Advocacy Coordinator