



## Factsheet

### Violation of Children's Rights in the Gaza Strip

01 October – 31 December 2013

This factsheet describes violations of children's rights in the Gaza Strip in accordance with the Monitoring & Reporting Mechanism on grave violations of children's rights in situations of armed conflict, which was adopted by the Security Council in its Resolution No. 1612 (2005). This Mechanism requires monitoring and documentation of killing and maiming of children, recruitment and use of children by armed forces or armed groups, attacks on schools or hospitals, rape or other sexual violence, forced deportation of children, abduction of children, and denial of humanitarian access. This factsheet covers the period from 01 October– 31 December 2013.

Violations of children's rights continued in 2013. PCHR documented 92 incidents resulting in the killing of 8 children, including 1 child killed by Israeli forces and 7 in incidents related to the state of security chaos and misuse of weapons. PCHR also documented the injury of 43 children, including 15 wounded by Israeli forces and 28 wounded in incidents related to the state of security chaos and misuse of weapons. PCHR as well monitored the arrest of 41 children, including 38 children arrested by Israeli forces and 3 children arrested by the Palestinian police in the Gaza Strip.

During the reporting period from 01 October – 31 December 2013, 15 violations were committed in the Gaza Strip in incidents violating children's rights. Two girls were killed; one of whom was killed by Israeli forces, and the other one in an incident related to the state of security chaos and misuse of weapons. Six children were wounded, 4 of whom were wounded by Israeli forces. 7 children were arrested, including 5 arrested by Israeli forces and two by the Palestinian police.

#### 1. Deaths

During the reporting period, 2 girls; one of whom is 2 years old and the other is 17 years old, were killed in incidents related to violations of the children's rights in the Gaza Strip. According to investigations conducted by PCHR, during the reporting period, a child was killed by Israeli forces, and the other one was killed in an incident related to the state of security chaos and misuse of weapons in the Gaza Strip.

- On 24 December 2013, Hala Ahmed Salman Abu Sbikhah (2), from al-Maghazi refugee camp in the central Gaza Strip, was killed by a bullet in the head when her house was targeted by Israeli warplanes. Two children, who are brothers of the killed, were also wounded.

- On 30 December 2013, in an incident related to the state of security chaos and misuse of weapons, Leen Mohammed Humaida (17) from Gaza City, was admitted into Shifa Hospital as she was injured by a bullet to the abdomen while playing with her father's gun. At approximately 16:00, she was pronounced dead.

## **2. Injuries**

During the reporting period, 6 children, aged 3 – 17, were injured in the Gaza Strip in incidents violating children's rights. According to PCHR's investigations, four children were injured by Israeli forces, and two others were injured in incidents related to the state of security chaos and misuse of weapons in the Gaza Strip.

- On 10 December 2013, Baraa' Mohammed al-Farram (17) from Jabalia in the northern Gaza strip, sustained burns and shrapnel injuries to the mouth due to the explosion of a suspicious object inside a training site near their house. The wounded girl was transferred to Shifa Hospital in Gaza City to receive medical treatment. Medical sources at the hospital described her injuries as moderate. Additionally, two persons were injured.
- On 15 December 2013, Israeli forces stationed along the border fence in the northern Gaza Strip opened fire at a group of farmers working in agricultural lands 500 meters away from the border fence, northeast of Beit Lahia. As a result, Mohammed Rafiq al-Shanbari (17) from Beit Hanoun was injured by a bullet in his left leg and then taken to Kamal 'Odwan Hospital in Beit Lahia. Medical sources at the hospital described his injuries as moderate.
- On 20 December 2013, Israeli forces stationed along the border fence in the northern Gaza Strip opened fire at a group of young men, who were meters away from the border fence. As a result, Daa' Ahmed As'ad al-Natour (17) from Jabalia was injured by a bullet in his left leg and then taken to Kamal 'Odwan Hospital in Beit Lahia. Medical sources at the hospital described his injuries as minor.
- On 21 December 2013, Medhat Mazen Abu Mo'amar (13) from al-Shokah town in the eastern Rafah was injured by a bullet to the left leg in his house, which only 700 meters away from the border area. However, the source of the shooting was not identified. According to Palestinian police sources, the aforementioned child was injured when mishandled a Kalashnikov inside his house.
- On 24 December 2013, Belal Bahaa' Abu Sbikhah (3) and his brother Mohammed (6) from al-Maghazi refugee camp in the central Gaza Strip were wounded when their house was targeted by Israeli warplanes.

## **3. Arrests**

Seven children, aged between 16 and 17, were arrested in the Gaza Strip in incidents violating children's rights. According to investigations conducted by PCHR, 5 boys were arrested during the reporting period by Israeli forces, and the other two were arrested by the Palestinian police in the Gaza Strip.

- On 06 October 2013, the Interior Security Service (ISS) of the government in Gaza arrested Mohammed Kamal Mohammed Abu Siam (16) from Rafah City in the southern Gaza Strip on the grounds of participating in “Tamarud” movement. Abu Siam had been arrested several times before on the same charges.
- On 27 October 2013, the ISS arrested Jihad Amin ‘Abdel ‘Aal (16) from Rafah City in the southern Gaza Strip on the grounds of participating in “Tamarud Movement. He was released 3 days later. ‘Abdel ‘Aal had been arrested on 19 October 2013 on the same charges.
- On 23 November 2013, Israeli forces arrested 4 boys from Gaza Valley village (Johr al-Deek) when they infiltrate through the borderline, east of the village. Israeli soldiers subject the three boys to interrogation and released them through Beit Hanoun “Erez” Crossing 3 hours later. The boys were identified as: ‘Ayyad Jam’aan al-Bahabsah (17); Ahmed Sabri Abu Thaher (16); and Mohammed Fawzi Abu Ghneim al-Sawarkah (17).
- On 27 November 2013, Israeli gunboats opened fire at Palestinian fishing boats sailing 1 mile off the Rafah Seaport, west of the city in the southern Gaza Strip. The Israeli gunboats surrounded a Palestinian gunboat boarded by 2 fishermen: Ahmed Khalil Hasouna (16) and his cousin Mahmoud Mohammed Hasouna (17), both from the Sweden Village, southwest of Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip. Israeli naval forces arrested the 2 fishermen and took them to an unknown destination. The fishermen are still detained.

### Violations of Children’s Rights in the Gaza Strip in 2013

Month	Deaths	Injuries	Arrests	Access to Education Services	Access to Health Services	Forced Displacement	Kidnapping	Total
January	1	10	9	0	0	0	0	20
February	1	7	15	0	0	0	0	23
March April	1	10	6	0	0	0	0	17
May June July	3	6	0	0	0	0	0	9
August September	0	4	4	0	0	0	0	8
October November December	2	6	7	0	0	0	0	15
Total	8	43	41	0	0	0	0	92

