

20 July 2016

### **OPT/Israel– Administrative detention order against human rights defender Hasan Karajah**

On 17 July 2016, the Israeli Ofer military court issued an administrative detention order of six months against human rights defender **Hasan Karajah**. He was arrested on 12 July, and to date has not been informed of the charges against him. He is currently detained at Ofer prison in the West Bank and a confirmation court hearing is scheduled for 21 July.

[Hasan Karajah](#) is a Palestinian human rights defender and member of various youth groups in Palestine including the Arab Education Forum and the Group of Safar. He is a Youth Programmes Coordinator with the Palestinian Grassroots Anti-Apartheid Wall Campaign (Stop The Wall) and is an ambassador for Palestinian youth with the Arab Thought Foundation. Hasan has extensively advocated for an end to the conflict in the region, and has launched a public initiative to put an end to the separation between Gaza and the West Bank.

On 12 July 2016, Hasan Karajah was arrested by the Israeli forces at Beit Ur al-Fuqua checkpoint, and transferred to Ofer prison, where he remains detained. During interrogation, he was questioned about his human rights activities in relation to the occupation and the separation wall. He was denied access to a lawyer and family visits during his detention .

A hearing session was scheduled for 14 July, but was subsequently postponed. On 17 July, the Israeli Ofer military court issued an administrative detention order of six months against Hasan Karajah without informing him of the charges against him. A court hearing to confirm his administrative detention has been set for 21 July.

Administrative detention has been frequently used by Israeli authorities against human rights defenders to detain them without charges, trial or for indefinite detention. According to [Addameer](#), as of May 2016, 715 Palestinians are [held](#) under administrative detention orders, including three members of the Palestinian Legislative Council,

Front Line Defenders is concerned by the administrative detention order issued against Hasan Karajah as it believes that he is being held solely as a result of his legitimate and peaceful work in the defence of human rights.

#### **Front Line Defenders urges the authorities in Israel to:**

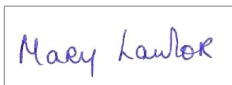
1. Immediately and unconditionally release human rights defender Hasan Karajah and cease any further harassment against him;
2. Ensure that the treatment of Hasan Karajah, while in detention, adheres to the conditions set out in the '*Body of Principles for the Protection of All Persons under Any Form of Detention or Imprisonment*', adopted by UN General Assembly resolution 43/173 of 9 December 1988;
3. Guarantee in all circumstances that all human rights defenders in the Occupied Territories of Palestine are able to carry out their legitimate human rights activities without fear of reprisals and free of all restrictions including judicial harassment.

Front Line Defenders respectfully reminds you that the United Nations Declaration on the Right

and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, adopted by consensus by the UN General Assembly on 9 December 1998, recognises the legitimacy of the activities of human rights defenders, their right to freedom of association and to carry out their activities without fear of reprisals. We would particularly draw your attention to Article 6 (c): *“Everyone has the right, individually and in association with others: (c) To study, discuss, form and hold opinions on the observance, both in law and in practice, of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and, through these and other appropriate means, to draw public attention to those matters”* and to Article 12 (2): *“The State shall take all necessary measures to ensure the protection by the competent authorities of everyone, individually and in association with others, against any violence, threats, retaliation, de facto or de jure adverse discrimination, pressure or any other arbitrary action as a consequence of his or her legitimate exercise of the rights referred to in the present Declaration.”*

Please inform us of any action taken or information received in relation to this case.

Yours sincerely,



Mary Lawlor  
Executive Director