

Summary Report - Roundtable Discussion on September 1, 2022.

On September 1, 2022, the Hashim Sani Centre for Palestine Studies at Universiti Malaya organised a roundtable discussion on 'Resisting Settler Colonialism in Palestine' with representatives from 22 NGOs. The special guest of honour was Dato Saifuddin Abdullah, the Malaysian minister for foreign affairs and Dr Azzam Tamimi, who participated online from Istanbul.

Dr Azzam Tamimi emphasised the need to enhance understanding and knowledge of the whole history & development of the situation in Palestine so that people will not forget it and understand it correctly. He also praised the efforts of the Hashim Sani for Palestine Studies in this regard.

The foreign minister reiterated the government's stand that Malaysia will never normalise relations with Israel and will continue to support the Palestinian struggle. He also stressed that the government agrees with the findings of reputable organisations that Israel is committing crimes of apartheid against the Palestinians.

The minister also stressed that Palestinian elections must be held as quickly as possible and are long overdue. In addition, he urges Muslim countries to do more in specific areas including in the education of young Palestinians, by ensuring enough scholarship and training for young Palestinian leaders.

He also admired the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) Movement, which has found widespread support worldwide.

The NGOs that attended the event later decided to form working groups to follow up on the issues discussed at the roundtable discussion.