

Success: US Gov't Reveals True Numbers of Palestinian Refugees

On January 3, 2021, [HonestReporting](#), in conjunction with [UNRWA: Stop Teaching Hate](#), launched a “We the People” [White House petition](#) with the goal of inducing the US Administration to reveal the true number of Palestinian refugees alive today that were displaced during the 1948 war following Israel’s declaration of independence.

Now, with our help, the truth has been exposed by outgoing US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo. The revelation came after a concerted campaign that garnered widespread media attention (see [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#), for example).

We also produced a [related video](#) that, to date, has garnered about three-quarters of a million views and spurred people to action at the grassroots level.



Indeed, the United Nations treats Palestinians differently from all other refugees, whose needs are attended to by the body’s High Commissioner for Refugees. But the Palestinians are under the auspices of UNRWA, created uniquely for them and which reinvented the concept of refugee as an inherited characteristic.

Today, therefore, UNRWA counts four generations of Palestinian “refugees” — more than 5 million people — all descendants of the original 750,000-odd Palestinians who fled in 1948.

The Palestinian leadership has long insisted that these “refugees” be granted the “Right of Return” to what is now the State of Israel, which would effectively end Jewish self-determination.

Clearly, this distorted, if not malicious, figure serves to diminish the prospects of a peaceful resolution to the conflict.

Accordingly, in 2012, the US Congress prompted the Department of State to conduct a study to determine the exact number of Palestinian refugees but the report was subsequently “classified,” effectively burying it.

But Pompeo has now dispelled a 70-year-old myth.

The ramifications of this development are liable to reshape the manner in which the international community views the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and thus its approach to peacemaking.

Thank you for working with us on this!

Best regards,

Joan

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