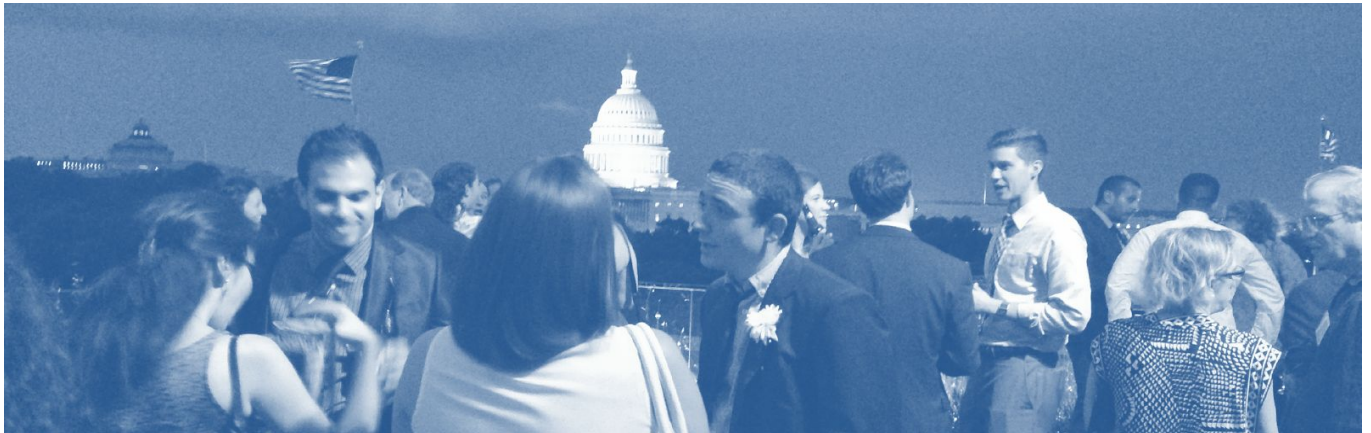




# PLO DELEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES



## **The Washington Scene**

**January 2016**

Staff members of the PLO Delegation are keen on attending key events in the capital that relate to Palestine and the Middle East. This bulletin offers a brief summary of these important conversations that take place in academic and policy circles. The views expressed in these events and reported here do not necessarily represent the views of the General Delegation of the PLO to the United States.

### **Reports in this issue**

*Uncivil Rites: Palestine and the Limits of Academic Freedom*

*The Twelfth Israeli War on Gaza*

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## *Uncivil Rites: Palestine and the Limits of Academic Freedom*

Where: The Palestine Center

When: January 8, 1:00 PM

About:

In the summer of 2014, renowned American Indian Studies professor Steven Salaita had his offer of a tenured professorship revoked by the University of Illinois Board of Trustees. Salaita's employment was terminated in response to his public tweets criticizing the Israeli government's summer assault on Gaza. His firing generated a huge public outcry, with thousands petitioning for his reinstatement, and more than five thousand scholars pledging to boycott the University of Illinois. His case raises important questions about academic freedom, free speech on campus, and the movement for justice in Palestine. In this book, Salaita combines personal reflection and political critique to provide a thorough analysis of his controversial termination. He situates his case at the intersection of important issues that affect both higher education and social justice activism.

Link: [The Jerusalem Fund](#)

## *The Twelfth Israeli War on Gaza*

**Where:** Georgetown University Center for Contemporary Arab Studies

**When:** January 15, 2016; 12:30-2 PM

**About:**

The 50-day long war Israel waged on Gaza, during the summer of 2014, has been far more devastating than the previous conflicts over this Palestinian territory. But it was neither unprecedented nor unpredictable. It is in fact the twelfth war Israel waged on Gaza. An overview of the past rounds of hostilities should help not only to understand the current crisis, but, more important, to find ways to break this seemingly endless cycle of violence.

Jean-Pierre Filiu is professor of Middle East studies at Sciences Po, Paris School of International Affairs (PSIA). He has held visiting professorships both at Columbia and Georgetown universities. He is the author of «Apocalypse in Islam » (University of California Press) and « The Arab Revolution » (Oxford University Press). His last book, « Gaza, a History », has just been published by Oxford University Press.

Link: [Georgetown University](#)

