CAMERA UK

September 25, 2020

Weekend long read

by Hadar Sela

[…]

4) The INSS has published a memorandum by Kobi Michael and Michal Hatuel-Radoshitzky titled 'Seventy Years to UNRWA — Time for Structural and Functional Reforms'.

"The year 2020 marks seventy years since UNRWA (United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East), which serves Palestinian refugees in the Gaza Strip, the West Bank, Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon, began operation. Since its establishment by virtue of the mandate given to it by the UN General Assembly, UNRWA has not succeeded in bringing about the true rehabilitation of the Palestinian refugees and in reducing their number, which has risen from approximately 700,000 on the eve of the State of Israel's establishment to over 5.5 million refugees in 2020. The impact of the regional upheaval on the Palestinian refugees, the stagnation of the political process between Israel and the Palestinians, the split in the Palestinian arena, the humanitarian distress in the Gaza Strip, the centrality of the refugee issue in the Palestinian narrative, and the American administration's 2018 decision to stop funding UNRWA pose even more complex challenges for the agency."

https://camera-uk.org/2020/09/25/weekend-long-read-229/