

## REPORT OVERVIEW

► **Updates on the unlawful Israeli settlement advancement in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and its impact on the human rights of the Palestinian people.**

► **It covers:**

- Legal and policy initiatives of the Government of Israel
- Settlement consolidation and expansion
- Outposts
- Appropriation of land
- East Jerusalem
- The impact of settler violence and movement restrictions on Palestinians' economic, social and cultural rights
- Settler violence
- Accountability for settler violence
- Forced evictions and demolitions
- Settlements in the occupied Syrian Golan

### Key conclusions

- 1 The ongoing **transfer of powers** over Occupied Palestinian Territory to the **civilian Government of Israel** is facilitating the consolidation and expansion of Israeli settlements and the **forcible transfer** of the Palestinian population. This transfer of powers has also further **enabled the steady integration of the occupied West Bank into the State of Israel**.
- 2 The transfer of powers further **institutionalizes long-standing patterns of systematic discrimination, segregation, oppression, domination, violence and other inhumane acts against the Palestinian people**, as well as **control of the Occupied Palestinian Territory**.
- 3 Increasingly indistinguishable **State-settler violence** and wide-ranging and discriminatory **movement restrictions devastated Palestinian livelihoods**.
- 4 Israeli settlement advancement continued to **change the demographic composition** of the occupied territory, and to **annex territory** in violation of the prohibition on the acquisition of territory by force.
- 5 This has had dire consequences for the human rights of the Palestinian people, including the **denial of their right to self-determination**.
- 6 An institutionalized regime of **systematic discrimination, violence, and oppression violates Article 3 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination**.

### Article 3 of ICERD:

**“States Parties particularly condemn racial segregation and apartheid and undertake to prevent, prohibit and eradicate all practices of this nature in territories under their jurisdiction.”**

### LEGAL FRAMEWORK

- Israel's policies and practices, including the **maintenance and expansion of settlements**, amount to the **annexation of large parts of the Occupied Palestinian Territory**.
- This **violates** the integrity of this territory as an essential element of the **Palestinian people's right to self-determination**.
- **Israel's presence** in the Occupied Palestinian Territory is **unlawful**, and Israel must **bring to an end** its unlawful presence as **rapidly as possible**.
- The **transfer** by the Occupying Power of parts of **its own civilian population** into the territory it occupies, or the **deportation or transfer of the population of the occupied territory** within or outside this territory, amounts to a **war crime**.
- A **regime of comprehensive restrictions and separation** imposed by Israel on Palestinians in the Occupied Palestinian Territory constitutes **systematic discrimination based on race, religion or ethnic origin**.
- **Segregation** between Palestinians and Israelis is part of the policies and practices imposed by Israel through **separate legal systems, road separation and movement restrictions** among other means.

## ISRAELI SETTLEMENT EXPANSION

### SETTLEMENT EXPANSION

➔ **737,332**

approximate number of Israeli settlers in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem

including approximately **503,732** settlers in the West Bank residing in **147** Israeli settlements and **224** outposts and approximately **233,600** settlers in East Jerusalem (Peace Now).

🏠 **10,360**

approximate number of new housing units within existing Israeli settlements in the West Bank in Area C that were advanced or approved (UNSCO)

🏠 **20,138**

housing units in East Jerusalem were advanced at the municipal and/or district level (Ir Amim and Bimkom)

### OUTPOSTS

- There have been an unprecedented **49 Israeli settler outposts** established during the reporting period. This compares to a **yearly average of 8 during the past decade** (Peace Now).
- Finance Minister Smotrich issued a directive to recognize **68 outposts** as **“sites undergoing regularization”**.

### APPROPRIATION OF LAND

- A record of

📍 **24,193**

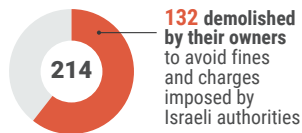
dunams of land in the West Bank were declared as **“State land”** by Israel (Peace Now)

## EAST JERUSALEM

▶ The “**settlement of land title**” was initiated in **229 blocks of land** (*Ir Amim and Bimkom*). This is currently the primary tool being used in East Jerusalem to unlawfully seize land for the development of Israeli settlements.

▶ **139 Palestinians from Umm Tuba**, East Jerusalem found that their lands were registered in the name of the Jewish National Fund, leaving them **vulnerable to eviction**.

▶ **214 structures of Palestinian property** were **demolished** in East Jerusalem:



a **22% increase** from the previous reporting period (OCHA).

▶ **217 Palestinian households** have **eviction cases** filed against them in Israeli courts, the majority **by settler organizations**, placing **968 Palestinians**, including **424 children**, at risk of forced displacement (OCHA).

▶ Palestinians in the **Batan al-Hawa** and **Al-Bustan** neighbourhoods in **Silwan**, East Jerusalem, were **targeted with evictions and demolitions** by the Israeli State, in close cooperation with settler organizations.

▶ From 7 October 2023 to 31 October 2024, **29 Palestinian properties in Silwan** were **demolished**, including **18 inhabited homes** (OCHA).

▶ In the **Batan al-Hawa** neighbourhood, over **87 Palestinian families**, totalling **600-680 people**, face proceedings initiated by settlers to evict them from their homes.

▶ In **Al-Bustan** neighbourhood, more than **100 homes** are under imminent threat of demolition, placing **1,550 Palestinians** at risk of displacement and forcible transfer.

## VIOLATION OF PALESTINIANS' ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS THROUGH SETTLER VIOLENCE AND MOVEMENT RESTRICTIONS

**793**

movement obstacles controlling, restricting and monitoring Palestinian movement in the West Bank

including **89 checkpoints**, **196 road gates** and **104 road blocks** (OCHA).

▶ **Violence and a climate of revenge** prevail across the West Bank, with many **Palestinians not even attempting to access and harvest their land**. During the reporting period, in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, **612 Palestinians were killed**, and **24 Israelis** were killed.

▶ Between October and December 2023, there were more than **90 olive harvest-related incidents**, where **Israeli settlers attacked Palestinians and their crops** (OCHA).

▶ From the 2023 olive harvest, more than **96,000 dunams of olive-cultivated land** across the West Bank **remained unharvested due to movement restrictions and violence** (OCHA).

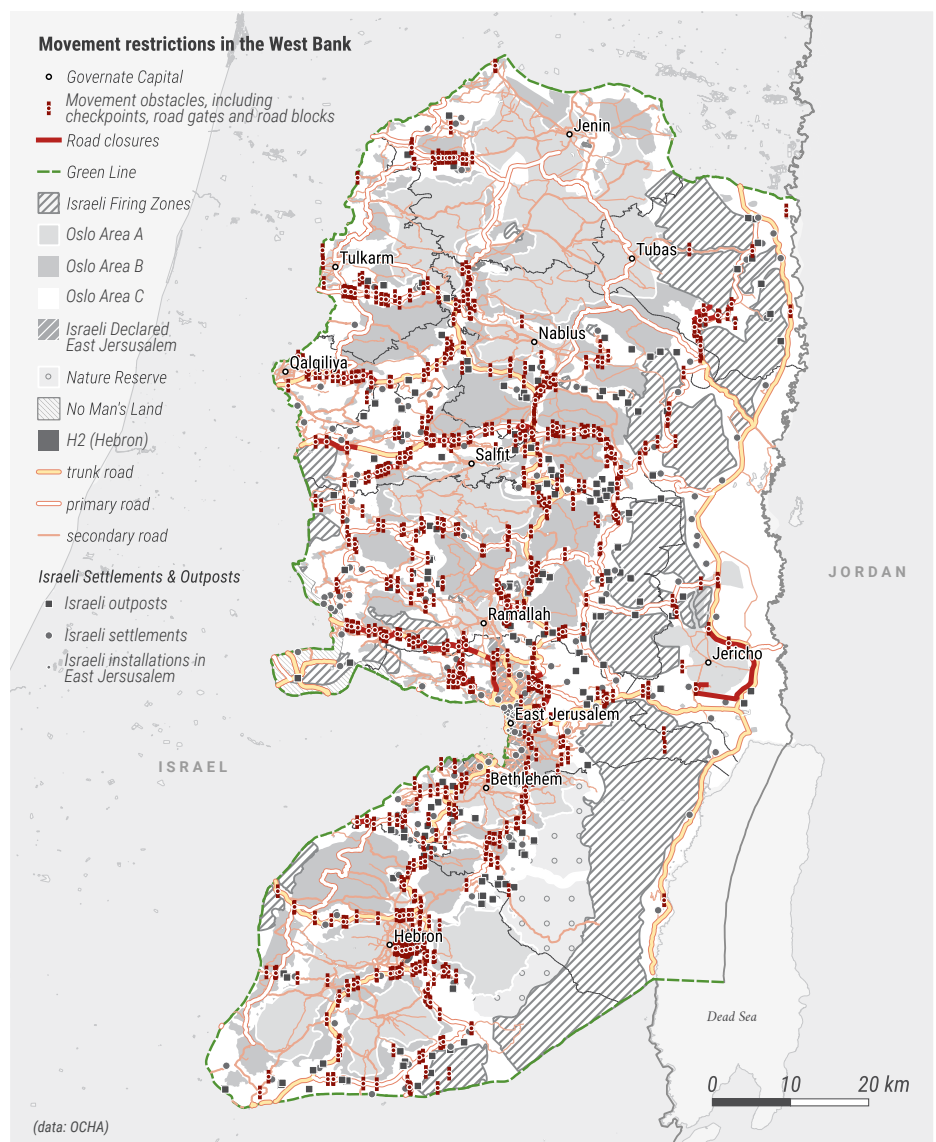
▶ Approximately

**50%**

of Palestinian farmers were unable to harvest their olive trees, effectively destroying local Palestinian economies

(Palestinian Farmers' Union)

▶ In October 2024, Israeli settler **attacks on harvesters and access and movement restrictions** again intensified. **162 Israeli settler attacks on olive harvesters** took place, **119 resulting in casualties or property damage**, many in the presence of Israeli security forces.



The names shown and designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

## SETTLER VIOLENCE

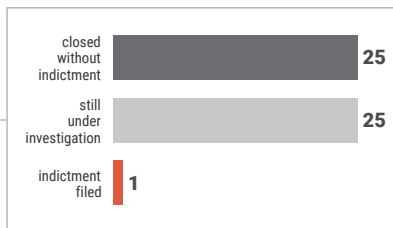
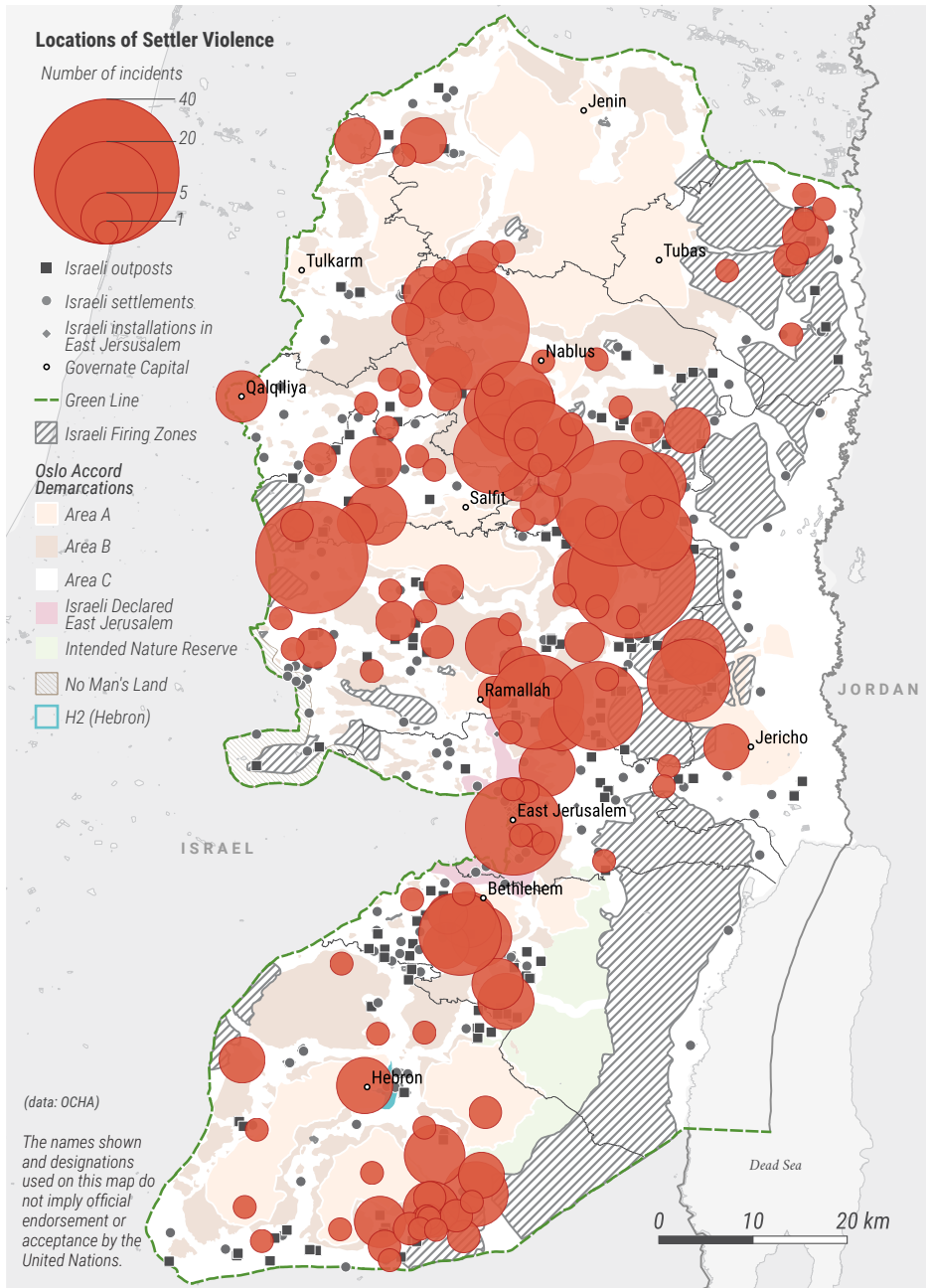
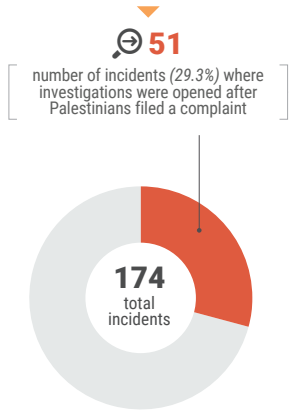
- ▶ The line between settler and State violence has blurred to a **vanishing point**, including through the strengthened role of **"settlement defence squads"**, and the increased enlisting of settlers for reserve duty in **"regional defence battalions"**, which have grown five times in size.



- ▶ **Israeli settler violence killed 11 Palestinians, including 3 children.**
- ▶ **500 Palestinians were injured by Israeli settler violence, including 388 men, 51 women, and 61 children – all boys.**
- ▶ **680 Palestinians displaced due to settler violence and access restrictions, including more than 310 children, mainly in Bedouin and other herding communities in Area C (OCHA).**

## ACCOUNTABILITY FOR SETTLER VIOLENCE

- ▶ During the reporting period, the non-governmental organization Yesh Din looked into **174 incidents of settler violence:**



- ▶ **Of 109 incidents in which Palestinians decided to file no complaint:**
- 70** did not because of a **lack of faith** in Israeli authorities to apprehend the perpetrators.
- 25** did not because of **fear of retaliation** from Israeli authorities or Israeli settlers.

## FORCED EVICTIONS AND DEMOLITIONS



- ▶ This resulted in **4,527 Palestinians forcibly displaced (OCHA).**
- ▶ The **monthly average** number of Palestinians **forcibly displaced by demolitions** was **194 per cent higher** than the previous reporting period.

including **Area A: 534 Area B: 46** and **Area C: 985 (OCHA).**

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## RECOMMENDATIONS

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### TO THE ISRAELI AUTHORITIES

In view of the International Court of Justice's Advisory Opinion of 19 July 2024 and General Assembly Resolution ES-10/24, the High Commissioner recommends that the Israeli authorities:

▶ **Immediately and completely cease and reverse the establishment and expansion of Israeli settlements** in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, and all other related activity, in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions, including Security Council resolutions 497 (1981) and 2334 (2016)

▶ **Evacuate all Israeli settlers** from the Occupied Palestinian Territory

▶ **Bring to an end its unlawful presence in the Occupied Palestinian Territory as rapidly as possible**, and in accordance with General Assembly resolution ES-10/24 and, in the meantime, uphold all obligations under international law, including the law of occupation and international human rights law

▶ **Rescind all policies and practices that contribute to a coercive environment** that induces the forcible transfer of Palestinians

▶ **Cease the appropriation of land in the occupied West Bank**, including East Jerusalem, and return it to its previous inhabitants

▶ **Cease all forced evictions, house demolitions and the reallocation of land** to Israeli settlements

▶ **Cease and rescind the policy of exploiting the natural resources** of the Occupied Palestinian Territory and diverting them to the population of Israel, including settlers

▶ **Prevent and punish attacks by settlers** against the life or bodily integrity of Palestinians, and against their property

▶ **Cease all discriminatory practices that violate international human rights law**, including breaches of Article 3 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

▶ **Uphold the Palestinian people's right to self-determination**, including by ceasing internationally wrongful acts and making reparation for such acts.

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### TO THIRD STATES

▶ With respect to third States, the High Commissioner recalls the conclusion of the International Court of Justice in its advisory opinion of 19 July 2024 that **States are under an obligation not to render aid or assistance in maintaining the situation created by the continued presence of Israel** in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.