UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER

STATE OF PALESTINE

Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the occupied Syrian Golan

OHCHR Palestine | period from 1 November 2024 to 31 October 2025

REPORT OVERVIEW Provides an update on unlawful Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory between 1 November 2024 and 31 October 2025 and their acute impact on the individual and collective rights of the Palestinian people.

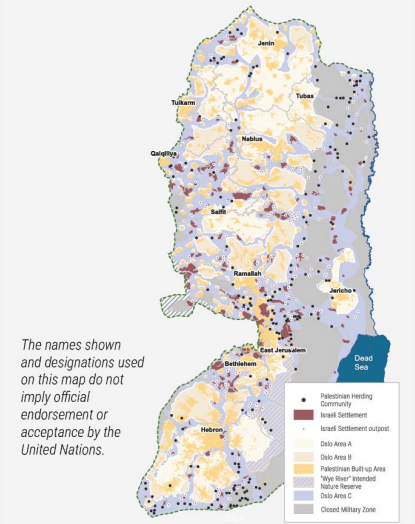
UNLAWFUL ANNEXATION

The highest authorities of the Government of Israel made statements indicating that they would utilize settlement activity to re-engineer the spatial order and demography of the occupied West Bank to cement Israeli control and block the viability of a Palestinian State. On 11 September 2025, at a signing ceremony for a framework agreement to expand the Ma'ale Adummim settlement into the so-called E1 settlement block, east of Jerusalem, the Prime Minister declared: **"There will be no Palestinian state. This place is ours."** The Minister of Defense declared that the establishment of more settlements in the occupied West Bank **"prevents the establishment of a Palestinian state"**.

Structural changes in governance over the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including the transfer of administrative and legal powers from the Israeli military to the civilian Government of Israel and the deeper enmeshment of settlers and pro-settler figures in decision-making processes, continued to accelerate the expansion of settlements and the integration of the occupied West Bank into Israel. **Since October 2024, there has been a marked increase in both the approval rate and the speed of approvals for settlement plans**.

In December 2024, Israel's Central Command issued a military order extending domestic Israeli urban-renewal laws to West Bank settlements, enabling high-density construction supported by government funding and tax incentives. The order effectively grants Israeli authorities powers in the occupied West Bank equal to those they exercise inside Israel. In April 2025, Israel established a new enforcement unit within the Israel Land Authority **to identify alleged "illegal" Palestinian construction in the West Bank**, significantly intensifying the discriminatory permit and enforcement regime and further deepening Palestinian forced displacement and forcible transfer.

On 11 May 2025, the Israeli Security Cabinet decided **to resume the settlement of land title process in Area C of the occupied West Bank**, which had been suspended since 1968.



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

EXPANSION OF SETTLEMENTS AND APPROPRIATION OF LAND

Israel consolidated its annexation of large parts of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, through the authorization and expansion of settlements, outposts and associated infrastructure, permitting encroachment of settlement activity into Area B, facilitated by the transfer of governance powers in the occupied West Bank from the military to Israeli civilian authorities.

Settlement-related approvals
1 Nov 2024 - 31 Oct 2025

35 settlement projects

in the occupied West Bank (excluding East Jerusalem) were **approved by the Israeli Security Cabinet**.

Source: Peace Now

Settlement-related measures authorized by the Security Cabinet
on 29 May 2025

22 settlements

- **12** outposts legalized
- **9** new settlements
- **1** area reclassified as an independent settlement *(previously a neighbourhood of an existing settlement)*

Source: Peace Now

Infrastructure Funding Authorized in the West Bank
on 24 July 2025

918M NIS

(approximately USD 248 million)

were **authorized by the Knesset Finance Committee for the construction of infrastructure** in the occupied West Bank.

Source: Government official announcement

Unprecedented Increase in Settlement Outposts
1 Nov 2024 - 31 Oct 2025

84 new settlement outposts

were established across the occupied West Bank during the reporting period, **bringing the total number to more than 300**.

Source: Peace Now

E1 Settlement Plan Approval
on 20 Aug 2025

3,401 housing units

approved by the Higher Planning Council.

The E1 development will physically isolate East Jerusalem from the rest of the occupied West Bank, *in a manner that contributes to the fragmentation of the Occupied Palestinian Territory and* ***the ongoing denial by Israel of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination****.*

Source: Government official announcement

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Appropriation of Land Through "State Land" Declarations

1 Nov 2024 - 31 Oct 2025

1,270 dunams of land were declared 'State land' by Israeli authorities.

*Israeli authorities continued to **illegally appropriate occupied land through the declaration of "State land"**, which is allocated nearly exclusively for Jewish settlement purposes.*

Source: Peace Now

Land Expropriation Orders

1 Nov 2024 - 31 Oct 2025

25 military orders were issued for land expropriation on security or military grounds during the reporting period, covering **approximately 400 dunams**.

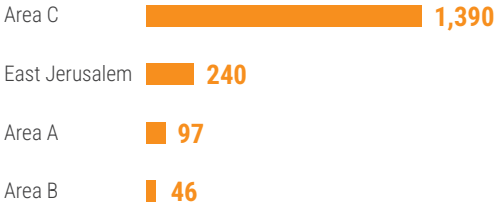
*The Government of Israel **continued to appropriate land, including through the establishment of so-called military buffer zones around settlements** and related infrastructure, alleging security concerns.*

Source: Colonization & Wall Resistance Commission

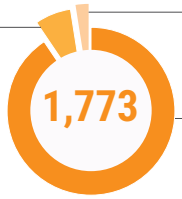
On 18 June 2025, the Higher Planning Council of the Israeli Civil Administration **reportedly issued a directive for the rejection of all building and planning permits submitted by Palestinians in Masafer Yatta**, south of Hebron, on the grounds that the Israeli army needed the area for renewed military training.

DEMOLITIONS OF PALESTINIAN HOMES

1,773
Palestinian-owned structures
were demolished or ordered demolished by Israeli authorities in the occupied West Bank, including:



Of the 1,773 Demolitions:
By Reason



124 structures demolished on alleged military/security grounds

42 structures punitive demolitions

1,607 structures demolished due to lack of building permits (rarely granted)

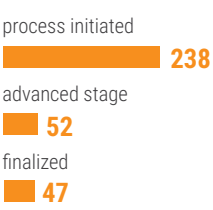
These demolitions resulted in the displacement of *at least* **2,490** Palestinians

Source: OCHA

EAST JERUSALEM

Land Title Settlement Stages (Blocks)

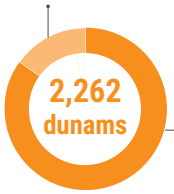
As of 31 Oct 2025



The settlement of land title process has in practice become the primary tool for unlawfully seizing land in East Jerusalem for the development of Israeli settlements, with Israeli authorities exploiting the significant difficulties Palestinians face in adducing the evidence required to prove their ownership of land.

Source: Government official announcement

other **340 dunams**



registered Israeli state or settler interest **1,922 dunams**

*Title has now been settled for **2,262 dunams** of land—**representing 6% of East Jerusalem area — of which 85% has been registered to Israeli State or settler interests,** including under the Absentee Property Law and the Legal and Administrative Matters Law.*

Source: IR AMIM/ BIMKOM

THE JORDAN VALLEY

*A significant focus of Israeli State and settlement activity remained in the Jordan Valley. **Comprising about 30% of the land area of the occupied West Bank, it is also one of the most fertile agricultural areas in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, despite the inclusion of the region in Area C**, which has hampered the ability to exploit its potential.*

During the reporting period *(1 Nov 2024 - 31 Oct 2025)*

- **6** settlement plans approved or advanced
- **776** new housing units in settlements
- **509** Palestinians **displaced**, including **251** children
- **3** new settler outposts established
- **309** Palestinian structures demolished
- **193** settler attacks causing casualties or damage

Those remaining in the Jordan Valley are at **extreme risk of forcible displacement**.

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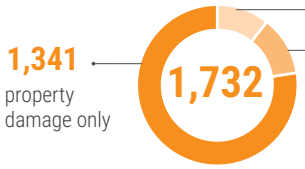
OHCHR Palestine | period from 1 November 2024 to 31 October 2025

SETTLER VIOLENCE

During the reporting period
1 Nov 2024 - 31 Oct 2025

1,732 Incidents

recorded during the reporting period (up from 1,400 previously)



187 death or injury

1,341 property damage only

204 casualties and property damage

*Settler violence continued in a **coordinated, strategic and largely unchallenged manner, with Israeli authorities playing the central role in directing, participating in or enabling this conduct.** There was an increase in incidents of settler violence against Palestinians.*

another **1,452** incidents recorded without casualties or damage.

Source: OCHA

ACCOUNTABILITY

During the reporting period
1 Nov 2024 - 31 Oct 2025

3,184 Incidents

of settler violence recorded

189 Incidents

documented by NGO Yesh Din

75 Complaints

filed by clients represented by NGO Yesh Din resulting in only **1** indictment

***Pervasive impunity remains a key driver** in facilitating and encouraging violence against Palestinians.*

*Moreover, Israeli measures to formally and informally support the militarization of the settler movement rendered it **extremely difficult to distinguish between instances of settler violence and instances of State violence, including due to the increasing role of "settler-soldiers", many of whom have been armed, equipped and trained by State authorities.***

DISPLACEMENT AND ETHNIC CLEANSING

Unprecedented levels of displacement recorded in the occupied West Bank are **a direct result of the accelerating discriminatory and oppressive Israeli State and settler practices, which are heightening the coercive environment facing Palestinians and inducing forcible transfer**.

7 Oct 2023 — *1 Nov 2024* — *1 Jan 2025* — *31 Oct 2025*

Since 7 Oct 2023

21
Palestinian communities fully displaced

at least
1,527
Palestinians displaced

***Since 1 Jan 2025, at least* 32,000**
Palestinians displaced by a sustained Israeli forces operation in **Jenin, Tulkarm, Nur Shams and El Far'a** refugee camps launched in January 2025.

During the Reporting period
1 Nov 2024 - 31 Oct 2025

632 Palestinians displaced | **9** Palestinian communities fully displaced

Source: OCHA

*The displacement of more than **36,000 Palestinians** in the occupied West Bank represented the **mass expulsion of Palestinians** on a scale previously unseen, amounting to **unlawful transfer that is prohibited under international humanitarian law.***

*The displacement in the occupied West Bank, which coincides with the extensive displacement of Palestinians in Gaza at the hands of the Israeli military, appears to indicate **a concerted Israeli policy of mass forcible transfer** throughout the occupied territory, **aimed at permanent displacement, raising concerns of ethnic cleansing.***

Creation date: 18 May 2026 Source: OHCHR Palestine For more information: mayy.elsheikh@un.org https://www.ohchr.org/en/countries/palestine

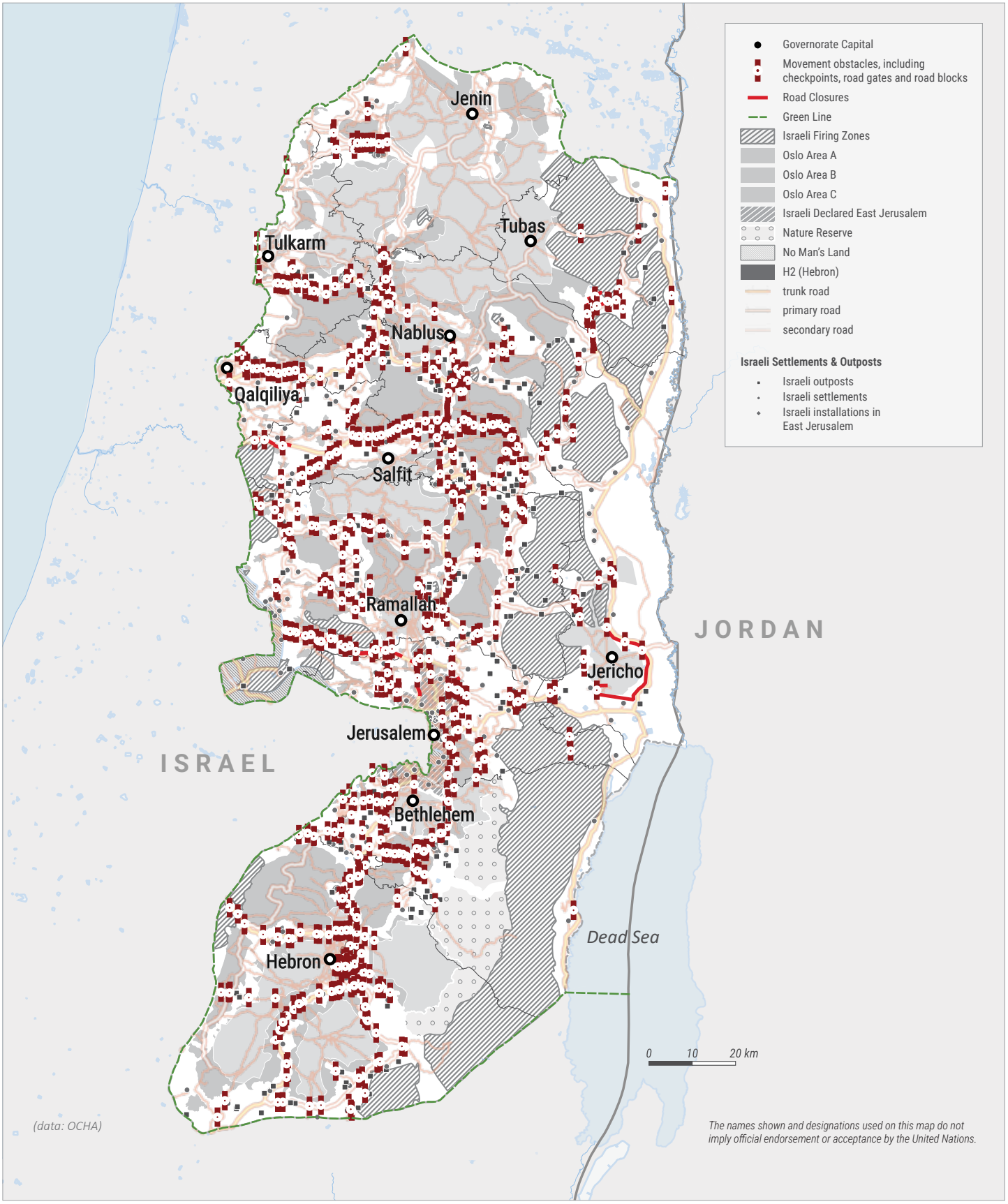
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MOVEMENT RESTRICTIONS IN THE WEST BANK



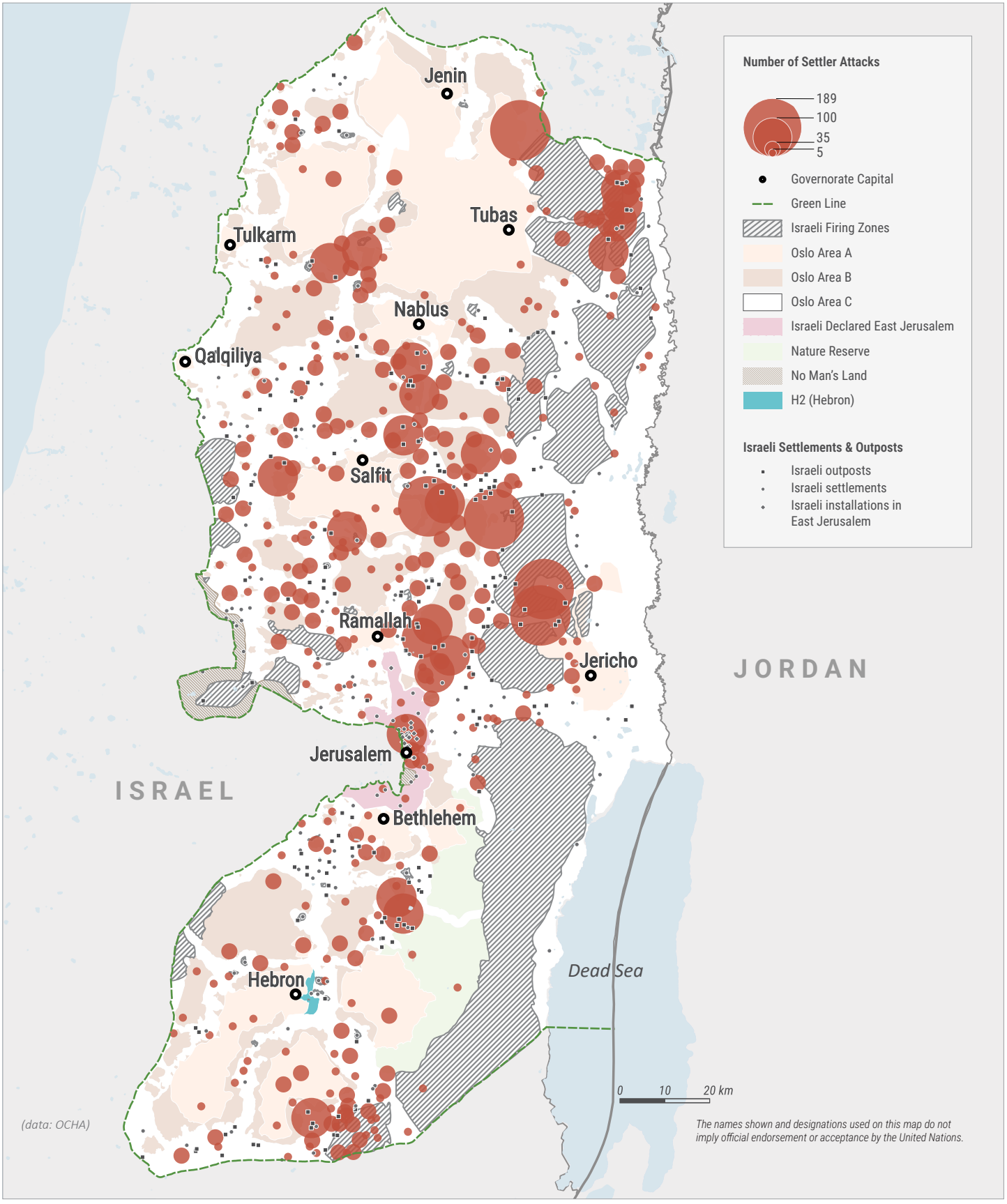
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LOCATIONS OF SETTLER VIOLENCE



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CONCLUSIONS

- The continuing transfer of power from the Israeli military to civilian authorities, the accelerated imposition of **legislative and administrative measures to appropriate Palestinian land and facilitate Israeli settlement, increasingly indistinguishable State and settler violence against Palestinians**, and a range of discriminatory policies and practices that severely hampered the everyday life of Palestinians **amounted to an institutionalized regime of systematic discrimination, oppression and violence by Israel against Palestinians**, violating article 3 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, which prohibits racial segregation and apartheid.
- The implementation of Israeli laws, policies and practices in the contexts described in the present report is reshaping the physical and demographic reality in the occupied West Bank, consolidating **the unlawful annexation by Israel of large parts of this territory and denying Palestinians their right to self-determination in a future contiguous Palestinian State**.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- **ON THE BASIS OF THE FINDINGS PRESENTED IN THE PRESENT AND PREVIOUS REPORTS, 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;

End its unlawful presence in the Occupied Palestinian Territory and, in the meantime, uphold all its obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law;

Rescind all policies and practices that contribute to a coercive environment that induces the forcible transfer of Palestinians, and ensure the safe and sustainable return of all displaced communities;

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 reallocation of land to Israeli settlements;

Prevent by all means at its disposal and punish attacks by settlers against the life or bodily integrity of Palestinians and against their property;

Immediately 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 reparations for such acts.

- **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.

He also calls upon all States to cease the sale, transfer and diversion of arms, munitions and other military equipment to Israel that facilitate violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.