



**ARIJ  
DAILY  
REPORT**

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## Israeli Violations' Activities in the occupied State of Palestine

25 February 2020

The daily report highlights the violations behind Israeli home demolitions and demolition threats in the occupied Palestinian territory, the confiscation and razing of lands, the uprooting and destruction of fruit trees, the expansion of settlements and erection of outposts, the brutality of the Israeli Occupation Army, the Israeli settlers violence against Palestinian civilians and properties, the erection of checkpoints, the construction of the Israeli segregation wall and the issuance of military orders for the various Israeli purposes.

*The Violations are based on reports provided by field workers and/or news sources.*

*The text is not quoted directly from the sources but is edited for clarity.*

*The daily report does not necessarily reflect ARIJ's opinion.*



This DAILY REPORT is prepared as part of the project entitled ASSESSING THE IMPEDIMENTS BEFORE THE TWO-STATE SOLUTION which is financially supported by the EU. However, the content of this presentation is the sole responsibility of ARIJ & LRC and does not necessarily reflect those of the donors.

## Violations of the Israeli occupation Army

- A Palestinian citizen was injured, in an airstrike by Israeli occupation planes targeting his motorbike, east of Gaza City. The Israeli occupation planes targeted, with at least one missile, a motorcycle on Salah El-Din Street, east of the city, which resulted in one injured Palestinian civilian. Tensions have been running high in the besieged Gaza Strip, when Israeli occupation Army (IOA) killed a Palestinian and desecrated the slain man's body, also injuring several Palestinians that were attempting to rescue the body.(IMEMC 25 February 2020)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) attacked dozens of nonviolent Palestinian protesters near a military roadblock in the northern area of the Jordan Valley of the occupied West Bank, causing many injuries. The protesters marched against the ongoing illegal Israeli annexation of Palestinian lands, and Tel Aviv's policies aiming at the annexation of the Jordan Valley as part of the so-called "Deal of the Century," which was presented by U.S. President D. Trump on January 28<sup>th</sup>. The protesters marched near Tayasir military roadblock, east of Tubas, before the IOA fired live rounds, rubber-coated metal bullets, gas bombs, and concussion grenades at them. (IMEMC 25 February 2020)
- Two Palestinian citizens suffered rubber bullet injuries when Israeli occupation Army (IOA) attacked the car they were aboard in the west of Ramallah in the occupied West Bank. Two citizens arrived at the Palestine Hospital, suffering from injuries caused by rubber bullets. One of the victims was injured in his shoulder and the other in his leg, and their conditions were described as stable by the health ministry. The citizens were injured when the IOA unjustifiably opened fire at a car traveling on a road near Beit Sira town, west of Ramallah. Following the incident, the IOA stormed Beit Sira town and clashed with local youths.(PAL INFO 25 February 2020)

## Israeli Military Orders

- Israel's Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu announced his decision to persist with the bombardment of the besieged Gaza Strip, after speaking with several Israeli officials, including the head of the Shin Bet security agency, defense minister, Naftali Bennett, and the head of National Security. The Israeli Army (IOA) warplanes targeted a post in the northern part of the Strip. Palestinian officials said there were no casualties or injuries from the Israeli attacks. At noon, 14 rockets were allegedly fired from Gaza toward Israel, 12 of them were purportedly destroyed by the Israeli Iron Dome defense system, no reports of any injuries were reported at the time of reporting. This flare up of violence between the Israeli occupation and the Palestinian resistance group began on Sunday when Israeli forces killed Mohammad Ali Hasan an-Na'em, 27, a member of the Islamic Jihad resistance movement. The Israeli human rights group Adalah said the army committed a war crime in its actions dealing with the deceased Palestinian, with no respect for the sanctity of death. The Palestinian Center for Human Rights (PCHR) also condemned the army's despicable actions. (IMEMC 25 February 2020)

### **Confiscation & Razing of lands**

- Israeli bulldozers proceeded to raze Palestinian lands in the village of Huwwara, south of the northern occupied West Bank city of Nablus. Israeli bulldozers have been razing lands since the early morning hours near the village's military checkpoint in preparation to build a bypass road for the settlers. Israeli government issued a decision to build the 7-kilometer-long road in April, whose establishment will lead to the seizure of more than 400 dunums of land from seven villages to the south of Nablus. The opening this road will cause losses in agricultural lands and will contribute to Israel's apartheid system of separate roads to settlers and the original Palestinian inhabitants of the area. Israel also started the construction of an 8-kilometer-long road that would connect the colonial settlements of Eli and Shilo in the Nablus district with other colonial settlements in the occupied Jordan Valley to the east. (IMEMC 25 February 2020)

### **Expansion of Israeli settlements**

- We are building up Jerusalem and the outskirts of Jerusalem. I gave an immediate directive, to deposit plans to build 3500 housing units in E1," the prime minister said. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu crossed a diplomatic redline Tuesday when he announced he would advance plans for the construction of 3,500 homes in an undeveloped area of Ma'aleh Adumim known as E1. The settlement, the third largest Jewish West Bank city, is located just east of Jerusalem. Israel considers [Ma'aleh Adumim](#) and the E1 section essential to safeguard a unified Jerusalem. "We are [building up Jerusalem](#) and the outskirts of Jerusalem," Netanyahu told a largely right-wing crowd at the annual Besheva conference in Jerusalem. "I gave an immediate directive, to deposit plans to build of 3,500 housing units in E1," he said to applause. "This thing has been frozen," Netanyahu said, adding that E1 building has "enormous significance," and "I believe that everyone here understands what that is." Netanyahu also confirmed that a tender had been published this week for 1,077 homes for a new Jewish neighborhood in east Jerusalem, called Givat Hamatos, in the south part of the capital not far from PA-controlled Bethlehem in area A of the West Bank. Both projects had been diplomatically sensitive because the Palestinians and much of the international community believe they harm the territorial contiguity of a future Palestinian state. Under former president Barack Obama, the US pressured Israel not to advance either project. The E1 neighborhood, first put forward by former prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, has been viewed as particularly sensitive. Every prime minister since Rabin has promised to build there, but no one ever has, apart from an isolated police station atop the hill of E1. Netanyahu renewed his E1 pledge in 2012 in response to a UN General Assembly decision to upgrade Palestinian status to that of a nonmember state, a move that was considered to be a de facto recognition of Palestinian statehood. But nothing ever came of that pledge, which was similarly made during an election period. At that time, Netanyahu was under pressure from the former Obama administration not to make a move on E1. The Trump administration presumably has no issue with E1 construction, given that it has already said Israel can apply sovereignty to all the settlements, simply not at this time. This presumably includes E1, which is located within Ma'aleh Adumim's municipal boundaries. MA'ALEH ADUMIM Mayor Benny Kashriel has long argued that the area is needed to allow for population growth in his city of some 38,000 people. "This is a celebratory day for Ma'aleh Adumim," he told The Jerusalem Post. "Building in E1 is a housing solution for many young couples... It

promises territorial contiguity with Jerusalem.” Kashriel said he believes Netanyahu because the professional staff has already been ordered to work on submission of the plans to the Higher Planning Council for Judea and Samaria. Yesha Council head David Elhayani, who is also Jordan Valley Regional Council chairman, welcomed Netanyahu’s “important decision,” which he said would enable a “broad and strategic” link between Jerusalem and Ma’aleh Adumim. Palestinian officials on Tuesday condemned the E1 project and warned that Israeli policies would lead to further tensions with the Palestinians. PLO Secretary-General Saeb Erekat tweeted about the E1 project: “If carried out, it is the end of two states.” Palestinian Authority spokesman Nabil Abu Rudaineh said Netanyahu’s announcement “is the result of the biased and dangerous American policy in favor of Israeli occupation.” Netanyahu’s decision, he said, “challenges the statement that was passed unanimously on Monday by the UN Security Council to refrain from undermining the viability of the two-state solution.” Abu Rudaineh warned the Israeli government against continuing “with this escalated policy that will not bring security and stability to anyone but, rather, increase tension and violence in the region.” On February 24, the Security Council heard a briefing by Nickolay Mladenov, UN special coordinator for the Middle East peace process, on the latest developments concerning the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. In a closed-door meeting, Security Council members reiterated their support for a negotiated two-state solution, drawing applause from the PA leadership in the West Bank, Abu Rudaineh said. PLO Executive Committee member Hanan Ashrawi denounced the announcement as a “premeditated and clear step that deals a final and decisive blow to the practicability of the two-state solution formula and leaves no room for doubt about Israel’s agenda for permanent occupation.” Noting that the Israeli government had recently announced plans to build new housing units in Jerusalem, she said: “These announcements specifically target areas in and around occupied Jerusalem. They effectively and practically encircle the occupied capital and carve it out of the occupied Palestinian territory while dividing the rest of the West Bank into two separate parts.” (J POST 25 February 2020)

- A tender was issued Monday for 1,077 homes in a new Jewish neighborhood on east Jerusalem's Givat Hamatos, not far from the Palestinian city of Bethlehem, Peace Now said. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has pushed forward the project to help cement Israel’s hold on a [united Jerusalem](#). Peace Now has warned that it would “sever” the

territorial contiguity of a Palestinian Jerusalem-Bethlehem metropolitan area. "Construction in Givat Hamatos is a serious blow to the two-state solution. This is the last point enabling territorial continuity between Bethlehem and east Jerusalem," the NGO said. Bids open March 5 and close on June 22. Peace Now further stated that the IDF's Higher Planning Council for Judea and Samaria intends to meet on Thursday to advance plans for building 1,148 homes in West Bank [settlements](#). Among the projects on the agenda is a new industrial park, Sha'ar Hashomron, which will be located near Kalkilya. The council will also move on a plan for 620 homes in the settlement of Eli, which had been frozen due to a High Court of Justice injunction against the project. The court removed that injunction last week. All of Israel's building measures over the pre-1967 lines fall within the parameters of the Trump peace plan. But the Palestinians and the United Nations, as well as Peace Now, are holding out for a two-state solution based on the pre-1967 lines, with east Jerusalem as the Palestinian capital. With an eye to that parameter, UN Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process Nickolay Mladenov spoke against Israel building over the pre-1967 lines, as well as Israeli moves to advance sovereignty, when he addressed the UN Security Council in New York by video from Jerusalem. "The Secretary-General [Antonio Guterres] has consistently spoken out against unilateral steps and plans for annexation," Mladenov said. "Such steps, including the possible annexation of territory in the West Bank or similar moves, would have a devastating impact on the prospect for a two-state solution. They would close the door to negotiations, have negative repercussions across the region, and severely undermine opportunities for normalization and regional peace." (J POST 25 February 2020)

## Israeli Closures

- Israel closed Gaza's border crossings and the entire fishing area as a ceasefire agreed between Israel and the Palestinian factions in Gaza went into effect on the 24<sup>th</sup> of February 2020. But before the ceasefire went into effect at 10:00 p.m. local time, a barrage of rockets fired from Gaza fell in southern Israel for the second day in a row in retaliation for Israel's airstrikes that medical sources said resulted in the injury of at least five people in addition to eight others injured when an Israeli Iron Dome missile fell near a house in Shajaiyeh neighborhood, east of Gaza City.



Israel ordered shut down until further notice of Karm Abu Salem/Kerem Shalom border crossing, which is considered Gaza's only commercial crossing with Israel, except for food, fuel and medical supplies, Erez/Beit Hanoun border crossing except for humanitarian cases and the entire fishing area, one of Gaza's main income sources. Israel claimed the strikes came in response to rockets fired by Islamic Jihad operatives in Gaza into southern Israel that did not cause any injury or damage. Wafa 25 February 2020)

## The Israeli Segregation Wall

### Other

- "Council Members reiterated their support for a negotiated two-state solution... where two democratic states, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders." The UN Security Council unanimously decided on Monday to maintain their stance of support for a potential two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict along with the establishment of a Palestinian state alongside Israel through direct negotiations between both parties. Belgium, which holds the rotating presidency, released a statement saying that "Council Members reiterated their support for a negotiated two-state solution... where two democratic states, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders." The decision was supported by all 15 members of the Security Council, including the United States. "All parties should refrain from undermining the viability of the two-state solution in order to maintain the prospects for a just, comprehensive and lasting peace," the statement added, referring to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's recently announced [intention](#) to build thousands more homes in East Jerusalem, in an area with an overwhelmingly Palestinian majority. There was no reference to US President Donald Trump's proposed [peace plan](#) in the decision. (J POST 25 February 2020)

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