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(ARIJ)



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FACTSHEET

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Monitoring Israeli Settlement Activities in the occupied Palestinian Territory

The project was launched in 1996 with the support and Fund of the "European Union (EU) / Partnership for Peace Program and the implementation of a partnership between the Applied Research Institute - Jerusalem (ARIJ) and the Land Research Center.

The project aims at inspecting and scrutinizing Israeli colonizing activities in their different forms in the Palestinian West Bank and Gaza, writing them down in case studies and reports in both Arabic and English and uploading the results on the Institute's website.

The project provides the required information to all official bodies and anyone who requests information from academics, journalists, etc., in addition to building and renewing information bases. It cooperates with the GIS and Remote Sensing Unit to issue maps, calculate areas, and verify information on military confiscations and orders.

The Project conveys the facts to decision-makers, Palestinian officials and representatives of Arab and foreign countries and gives them an idea of what is happening in Palestine as a result of Israeli colonial activities and their effect on the safety and sustainability of Palestinian communities and their reflection on the geopolitical (geopolitical) conditions in the occupied Palestinian territories, through case studies and special reports, visual presentations and posters that are distributed to Palestinian institutions, departments,



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Ministries, foreign bodies, visitors, and many of those interested in the Palestinian affairs locally, regionally and internationally.

The project also aims to provide supportive information to the Palestinian negotiating team, for example: the preparation and submission of the Palestinian claim to the International Criminal Court (ICC) and the file on Israeli settlements and violations of international law, And the impact of the Israeli war on Gaza Strip for the period between June 14, 2014 and the end of May 2015, through a document exceeded 400 pages. The results of the project can be summarized as follows:

TV Interviews	Radio Interviews	Press Releases – News Articles	Presentations	Case Studies
Printed Booklets	Daily Reports	Quarterly Reports	Printed Posters	Monthly Reports

Fieldwork is considered a cornerstone of work to obtain documented information and strengthen the network with local councils and official bodies, which in turn become a major provider of information, including military orders, violations, etc. Accordingly, the project’s work depends mainly on collecting information and including it in special databases of the numbers of settlers, Israeli settlements (Existing and New), construction of outposts, military orders, Construction of bypass roads, settler attacks, home demolitions, the segregation wall, uprooting of trees , land confiscation and other related activities.

Israeli Settlements

Today, the number of Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank is 199, in addition to 220 outposts that have also been established throughout the years of occupation. These settlements and outposts are inhabited by more than 913,000 settlers, 350,000 of whom, are residing in settlements in occupied East Jerusalem. During the year 2021, the Israeli occupation authorities issued 65 Israeli settlement plans targeting more than 40 Israeli settlements to build approximately 11,000 settlement units on an area of about 12,000 dunums, including industrial zones and bypass roads.



Israeli Herding Outposts

During the past few years, Israeli settlers have adopted a new approach to seizing Palestinian lands in the oPt which is to establish herding outposts, most notably in the Jordan Valley area where 21 Israeli outposts have been illegally established.

Israeli Segregation Wall

The Segregation Wall was designed to extend 771 km along the western terrains of the West Bank, of which 135 km (17.5% of the total length of the wall) only run along the 1949 Armistice Line (Green Line). Upon completion, 705 km², 12.5% of the total area of the West Bank (5661 km²) will be geographically isolated/separated between the path of the wall and the 1949 Armistice Line (Green Line). The isolated area west of the wall (known as the Western Exclusion Zone) covers significant land areas, rich with natural resources (water aquifers) and the most fertile agricultural lands, isolating Palestinian communities in enclaves, undermining the territorial contiguity between the Palestinian villages and cities, controlling the natural resources, and encapsulating and protecting most of the illegal Israeli settlements and outposts.

In parallel, Israel has created a de facto Eastern Segregation Zone along the eastern terrains of the occupied West Bank Territory. It covers an area of 1664 Km² (29.3% of the West Bank total area) of which, Israel maintains military control on an area of 1,580 Km², representing 28% of the West Bank. Israel controls the area with checkpoints established along the Jordan Valley and the Dead Sea shores. However, the Segregation Wall system does not apply there due to the physical characteristics of the area.



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Israeli Industrial Zone in the occupied West Bank

Since the Israeli occupation of the West Bank in 1967, the Israeli occupation Authorities issued 113 military orders to establish 23 industrial settlements on an area of 19,831 dunums of Palestinian Land in the occupied West Bank. The Israeli Occupation Authorities also revealed plans to establish 35 other industrial settlements in the occupied West Bank on an area of 25,073 dunums of Palestinian land.

Areas designated as “nature reserves” in the occupied West Bank

Through Israeli military order No. 363 of 1969, the Israeli occupation declared 140 sites in various parts of the West Bank, covering an area of 705 square kilometers as “nature reserves” where Palestinians are not allowed to use or utilize the land under any circumstances. In January of the year 2020, then-Israeli Defense Minister Naftali Bennett announced the allocation of seven new “nature reserves” (112.5 square kilometers) in the occupied West Bank, in addition to expanding 12 existing ones in the occupied West Bank. It was also followed in October of the same year by another Israeli announcement (through military orders) allocating three sites in the occupied West Bank as nature reserves with a total area of 11,880 dunums.

Israeli Bypass Roads in the occupied West Bank

In addition to the 946 km long existing Israeli Bypass Road Network in the occupied West Bank, the Israeli Government is currently constructing a number of new bypass roads in the occupied WB (including East Jerusalem) and is also planning to commence the construction of these bypass roads as part of the Israeli Minister of Transportation plan, Miri Regev, which was presented back in November 2020 to the heads of settlement councils in occupied West Bank and includes for the first time, Israeli bypass roads in settlements in the occupied West Bank.

The plan includes the development and upgrade of the following bypass roads in the occupied West Bank: Israeli bypass Road 60 in Bethlehem – under construction. Huwwara



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bypass in Nablus - under construction. The Beit Ummer bypass and al-Arrub in Hebron; under construction. Upgrading and widening Road No. 55 from Road No. 6 to Road 60 in Qalqilyia; (In planning Phase). New and sunken Qalandiya-Jerusalem entrance road in Jerusalem; (In planning Phase). Extensions of Road 437 in the area of the Hizma Pass in Jerusalem (In planning Phase). Extensions of Road 375 from the Hadassah Cliff to the Husan Junction in Bethlehem and inside Israel; (In planning Phase). Expansion and addition of a public transportation system on Road 446 Shilat-Modi'in in Ramallah; (In planning Phase). Expansion and addition of a public transportation system on Road 505 Ariel – Tapuach in Salfit; (In planning Phase)

The Israeli takeover of Palestinian archaeological and historical sites in the occupied West Bank

In February 2021, the Israeli so-called “Legal Adviser to Judea and Samaria” in the Civil Administration in the occupied West Bank published a “new military orders booklet” entitled, “Leaflets, Orders and Appointments – Booklet No. 255”, in which it relies on several previously Israeli military laws to facilitate the process of confiscating Palestinian land in the occupied West Bank, the most prominent of them was the Israeli military order “The Antiquities Law 1966, Temporary Law No. (51). June 20, 1966; the Order regarding the Antiquities Law (Judea and Samaria) (No. 1166), 1986; and the Antiquities Regulations (Judea and Samaria), 1990,” which includes the announcement of 601 Palestinian Archaeological and Historical sites in the occupied West Bank as Israeli Archaeological Sites.

The seizure of Palestinian lands under the pretext of quarrying and mining

On 3 October 2021, the Israeli Civil Administration deposited regional Planning scheme for mining and quarrying areas in the occupied West Bank entitled “Tama 52/1 in areas classified as C”. The plan targets 14,739 dunums of Palestinian lands in Area C in the occupied West Bank, of which 1,830 dunums (12.5%) of the total targeted lands are classified by the Israeli occupation Authorities as “State Lands”, and 1,680 dunums (11.5%) of the total targeted lands are agricultural lands planted with olive trees.



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Demolition of Palestinian homes and structures in the occupied

To date, the Israeli occupation authorities have demolished more than 250 Palestinian residential homes (houses, tents, and barracks) and more than 450 Palestinian structures (animal barracks, stores, shops and others) under the pretext of un-licensing. Additionally, the Israeli Occupation Authorities have notified more than 350 Palestinian homes and other structures of demolition. It should be noted that most of the demolitions were carried out under Israeli Military Order 1797, which allows Israel to immediately demolish buildings within 96 hours of the demolition order being issued, and beyond that, nullifies any legal refuge for Palestinians.

Israeli Settler attacks in the occupied West Bank during 2021

The Applied Research Institute - Jerusalem (ARIJ) recorded more than 760 attacks by Israeli settler groups that targeted land, property, livestock, agricultural and even Palestinian civilians, causing heavy losses. It should be noted that the number of settler attacks that have been recorded to this date exceeds those recorded in previous years.

Uprooting of Palestinian Trees in the occupied West Bank during 2021

The Israeli settlers and the Israeli occupation Army (IOA) uprooted more than 19,000 trees in the occupied West Bank between January and October 2021. Tubas governorate in the Jordan Valley accounted for the largest number of uprooted trees followed by Salfit Governorate. Comparable data from last year (2020), the number of uprooted trees in 2021, is triple that of 2020 where only 7150 trees were uprooted.



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Facts and Figures			
More than 210 military bases occupying an area exceeding 45 km ²	Area and number of Israeli military bases	199	No. of Israeli Settlements
990 km ²	Area of Israeli Closed Military areas	542 km ²	Israeli Settlements Master Plans
771 km	Length of the Israeli Segregation Wall	220	N. of Israeli settlement outposts
1580 km ² (%28) of the total area of the West Bank	Land controlled by Israel in the Eastern Segregation Zone (ESZ)	946km	Length of Israeli Bypass Roads in the oPt
		38	No. of Israeli settlements in the ESZ
(%12.5) 2٠٧٥ Of the total area of the West Bank	The western Segregation Zone (WSZ)	107	No. of Israeli settlements in the WSZ