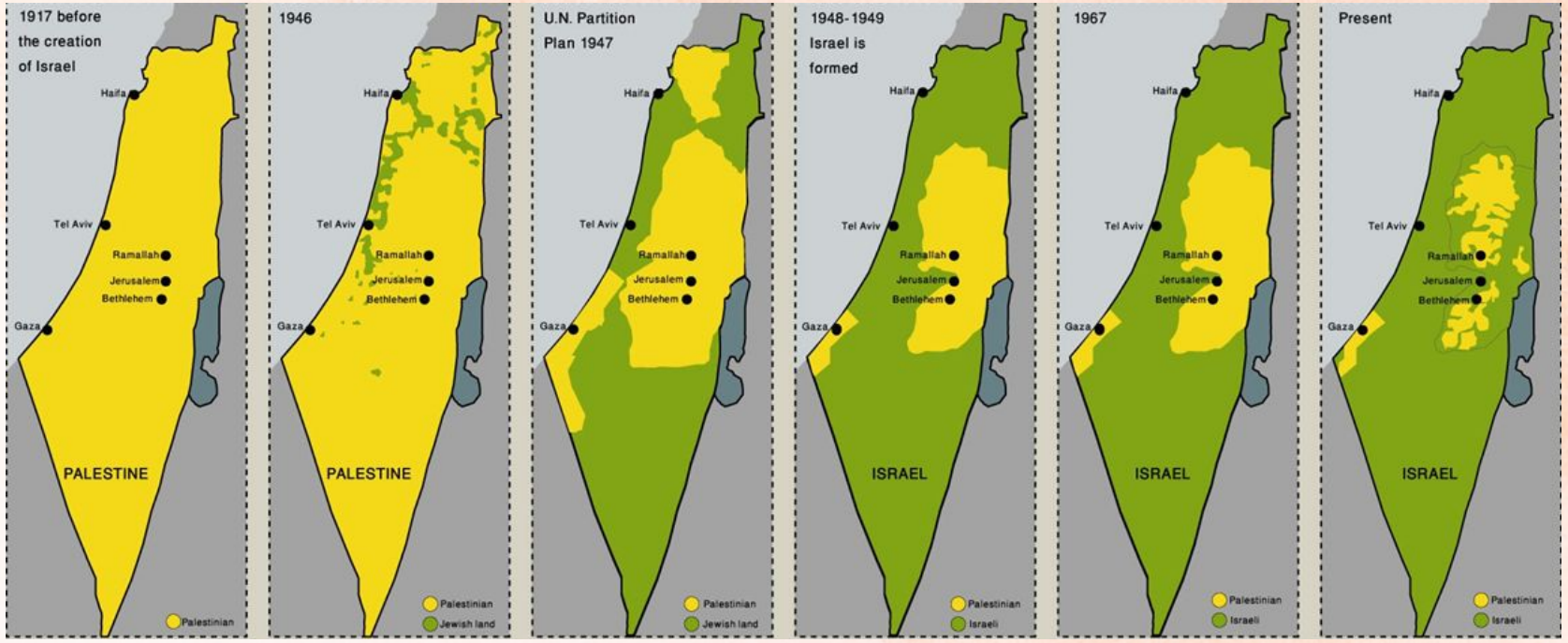
Understanding Palestine: What's habitat got to do with it?

فهم فلسطين: ما علاقة الموئل بالأمر؟

Comprendre la Palestine : Qu'est-ce que l'habitat a à voir avec ?

Entendiendo Palestina: ¿Qué tiene que ver el hábitat con ello?



Habitat International Coalition

Technical Instructions

Interpretation Channels: Original, English, Spanish, French, Arabic

Write your name and organization as your username or in the chat

Share your comments in the chat & open floor: raise your hand on zoom & state the language you'll speak in

Please mute yourself when not speaking

Instrucciones técnicas

Canales de interpretación: Original, inglés, español, francés, árabe

Escribe tu nombre y de tu organización en tu nombre de usuario o en el chat

Compartir sus comentarios en el chat y en el debate abierto: levante la mano en Zoom e indique el idioma en el que hablará.

Por favor, silénciese cuando no esté hablando

Instructions techniques

Canaux d'interprétation: original, anglais, espagnol, français, arabe

Écrivez votre nom et celui de votre organisation dans votre nom d'utilisateur ou dans le chat

Partagez vos commentaires dans le chat et lors du débat ouvert : levez la main sur Zoom et indiquez la langue dans laquelle vous parlerez

Veuillez vous mettre en sourdine lorsque vous ne parlez pas

تعليمات فنية

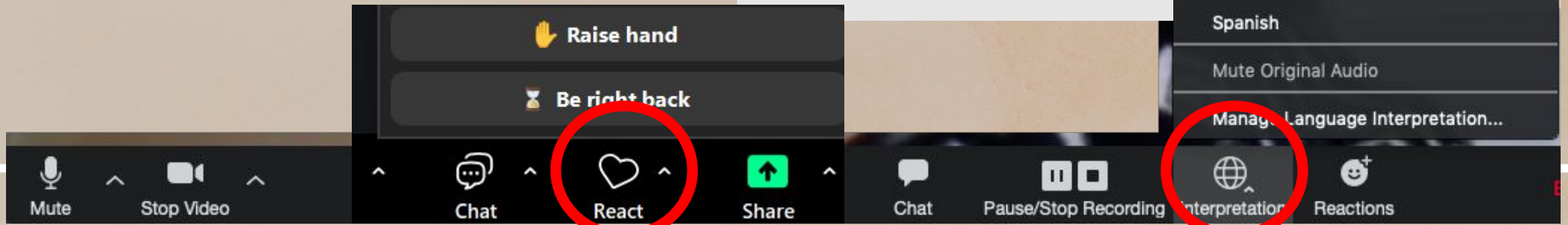
قنوات الترجمة الفورية: الأصلية، الإنجليزية، الإسبانية، الفرنسية، العربية

اكتب اسمك واسم مؤسستك كاسم مستخدم أو في الدردشة

شارك تعليقاتك

في الدردشة والمناقشة المفتوحة: ارفع يدك على زووم واذكر اللغة التي ستتحدث بها

يرجى كتم صوتك عندما لا تتحدث



Understanding Palestine: What's habitat got to do with it?

Session III:
The occupied Palestinian territory - understanding how housing, land and water apartheid is operationalised

Sesión III:
El territorio Palestino ocupado - comprender cómo se lleva a cabo el apartheid en materia de vivienda, tierra y agua

Session III :
Le territoire Palestinien occupé - comprendre comment l'apartheid en matière de logement, de terre et d'eau est mis en œuvre

الجلسة الثالثة: الأراضي الفلسطينية المحتلة - فهم كيفية تطبيق الفصل العنصري في مجالات الإسكان والأراضي والمياه



Program/ Programa / **Programme** /البرنامج

Welcome, recap and overview	20’
The setting: what is the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt)?	15’
How Israeli apartheid laws affect housing & land in the oPt	15’
Open floor 1	**10’**
How housing & land apartheid is operationalised in the oPt	15’
Open floor 2	**10’**
How water apartheid is operationalised in the oPt	15’
Open floor 3	**10’**
Discussant	7’
Closing	3’

Bienvenida, resumen y visión general	20’
El contexto: ¿qué son los territorios palestinos ocupados (TPO)?	15’
Cómo las leyes de apartheid israelíes afectan a la vivienda y la tierra en los oPt	15’
Turno abierto 1	**10’**
Cómo se aplica el apartheid en materia de vivienda y tierra en los oPt	15’
Turno abierto 2	**10’**
Cómo se aplica el apartheid en materia de agua en los oPt	15’
Turno abierto 3	**10’**
Participante en el debate	7’
Clausura	3’

Bienvenue, récapitulatif et aperçu	20’
Le contexte : qu'est-ce que le territoire palestinien occupé (TPO) ?	15’
Comment les lois d'apartheid israéliennes affectent le logement et la terre dans les oPt	15’
Discussion ouverte 1	**10’**
Comment l'apartheid en matière de logement et de terre est mis en œuvre dans les oPt	15’
Discussion ouverte 2	**10’**
Comment l'apartheid en matière d'eau est mis en œuvre dans les TPO	15’
Discussion ouverte 3	**10’**
Intervenant	7’
Clôture	3’

ترحيب، ملخص ونظرة عامة	20’
السياق: ما هي الأراضي الفلسطينية المحتلة (oPt)؟	15’
كيف تؤثر قوانين الفصل العنصري الإسرائيلية على السكن والأراضي في الأراضي الفلسطينية المحتلة	15’
مناقشة مفتوحة 1	**10’**
كيف يتم تطبيق الفصل العنصري في السكن والأراضي في الأراضي الفلسطينية المحتلة	15’
مناقشة مفتوحة 2	**10’**
كيف يتم تطبيق الفصل العنصري في المياه في الأراضي الفلسطينية المحتلة	15’
مناقشة مفتوحة 3	**10’**
المشارك في المناقشة	7’
الختام	3’



Recap
Resumen
Synthèse
ملخص

The 4 sessions / Las 4 sesiones / **Les 4 séances** / الجلسات الأربع

Session 1 **30 Jul 2025**

Understanding housing & land policies as instruments of domination

Session 2 **13 Aug 2025**

Tracing occupation, apartheid and resistance in Palestine over the years
Ideological Roots and Imperial Systems of Dispossession

Session 3 **27 Aug 2025**

Tracing occupation, apartheid and resistance in Palestine over the years
The occupied Palestinian territory - housing, land & water apartheid

Session 4 **10 Sep 2025**

Solidarity and action with Palestine and beyond

Sesión 1 **30 Jul 2025**

Comprender las políticas de vivienda y suelo como instrumentos de dominación

Sesión 2 **13 Aug 2025**

Rastreando la ocupación, el apartheid y la resistencia en Palestina a lo largo de los años
Raíces ideológicas y sistemas imperiales de despojo

Sesión 3 **27 Aug 2025**

Rastreando la ocupación, el apartheid y la resistencia en Palestina a lo largo de los años
El territorio palestino ocupado: apartheid en materia de vivienda, tierra y agua

Sesión 4 **10 Sep 2025**

Solidaridad y acción con Palestina y más allá

Session 1 **30 Jul 2025**

Comprendre les politiques du logement et foncières comme instruments de domination

Session 2 **13 Aug 2025**

Retracer l'occupation, l'apartheid et la résistance en Palestine au fil des ans
Racines idéologiques et systèmes impériaux de dépossession

Session 3 **27 Aug 2025**

Retracer l'occupation, l'apartheid et la résistance en Palestine au fil des ans
Les territoires palestiniens occupés : apartheid en matière de logement, de terre et d'eau

Session 4 **10 Sep 2025**

Solidarité et action avec la Palestine et au-delà

Session 1 **30 Jul 2025**

فهم سياسات الإسكان والأراضي كأدوات للسيطرة

Session 2 **13 Aug 2025**

تتبع الاحتلال والفصل العنصري والمقاومة في فلسطين على مر السنين
الجذور الأيديولوجية وأنظمة الاستيلاء الإمبراطورية

Session 3 **27 Aug 2025**

تتبع الاحتلال والفصل العنصري والمقاومة في فلسطين على مر السنين
الأراضي الفلسطينية المحتلة - الفصل العنصري في الإسكان والأراضي والمياه

Session 4 **10 Sep 2025**

التضامن والعمل مع فلسطين وما وراءها

Recap Session 1: housing & land policies as instruments of domination

Resumen de la sesión 1: las políticas de vivienda y suelo como instrumentos de dominación

Synthese de la session 1 : les politiques du logement et foncières comme instruments de domination

ملخص الجلسة 1: سياسات الإسكان والأراضي كأدوات للسيطرة

We asked:
Why is a habitat lens relevant & important for understanding Palestine?

We saw that…
"the ideologies of States are reflected in their human settlements policies…" (Vancouver Action Plan, 1976)

We heard how…
housing and land policies are used as instruments of domination in Palestine

Speakers shared examples:

- Leilani Farha
- Ashraf Abu Hayyeh
- Hiba al-Washoush
- Enrique Ortiz

See session 2 slides for more details.

Preguntamos:
¿Por qué es relevante e importante la perspectiva del hábitat para comprender Palestina?

Vimos que...
«las ideologías de los Estados se reflejan en sus políticas de asentamientos humanos...» (Plan de Acción de Vancouver, 1976)

Escuchamos cómo...
las políticas de vivienda y tierra se utilizan como instrumentos de dominación en Palestina.

Los ponentes compartieron ejemplos:

- Leilani Farha
- Ashraf Abu Hayyeh
- Hiba al-Washoush
- Enrique Ortiz

Para más detalles, véanse las diapositivas de la sesión 2.

Nous avons demandé :
Pourquoi la perspective de l'habitat est-elle pertinente et importante pour comprendre la Palestine ?

Nous avons constaté que...
« les idéologies des États se reflètent dans leurs politiques d'établissement humain... » (Plan d'action de Vancouver, 1976)

Nous avons entendu comment...
les politiques en matière de logement et de foncier sont utilisées comme instruments de domination en Palestine.

Les intervenants ont partagé des exemples :

- Leiliani Farha
- Ashraf Abu Hayyeh
- Hiba al-Washoush
- Enrique Ortiz

Pour plus de détails, voir les diapositives de la session 2.

سألنا:

لماذا تعتبر منظور الموائل مهمًا وذو صلة لفهم فلسطين؟

رأينا أن...

أيديولوجيات الدول تنعكس في سياساتها المتعلقة بالمستوطنات البشرية..." (خطة عمل فانكوفر، 1976)

سمعنا كيف...

تُستخدم سياسات الإسكان والأراضي كأدوات للسيطرة في فلسطين

شارك المتحدثون أمثلة:

ليلياني فرحا
أشرف أبو حيّة
هبة الوشوش
إنريكي أورتيز

انظر شرائح الجلسة 2 لمزيد من التفاصيل.

Recap Session 2: Tracing occupation, apartheid, and resistance in Palestine over the years PART A

Understand the ideological roots: racism, colonialism, anti-semitism and zionism as apartheid to dispossess, fragment and erase Indigenous Palestinian People;

Understand the imperial systems of dispossession: Ottoman Empire, British Mandate, Israel's parastatal institutions seizing land, housing, water, human resources for settler colonialism in Palestine;

Resumen de la sesión 2: Rastreando la ocupación, el apartheid y la resistencia en Palestina a lo largo de los años PARTE A

Comprender las raíces ideológicas: el racismo, el colonialismo, el antisemitismo y el sionismo como apartheid para despojar, fragmentar y borrar al pueblo indígena palestino.

Comprender los sistemas imperiales de despojo: el Imperio otomano, el Mandato británico, las instituciones paraestatales de Israel que se apoderan de tierras, viviendas, agua y recursos humanos para el colonialismo de asentamiento en Palestina.

Synthese de la session 2 : Retracer l'occupation, l'apartheid et la résistance en Palestine au fil des ans PARTIE A

Comprendre les racines idéologiques: le racisme, le colonialisme, l'antisémitisme et le sionisme comme apartheid visant à déposséder, fragmenter et effacer le peuple palestinien indigène;

Comprendre les systèmes impériaux de dépossession: l'Empire ottoman, le mandat britannique, les institutions parapubliques israéliennes s'emparant des terres, des logements, de l'eau et des ressources humaines pour le colonialisme de peuplement en Palestine;

ملخص الجلسة 2:
تتبع الاحتلال والفصل العنصري والمقاومة في فلسطين على مر السنين الجزء أ

فهم الجذور الأيديولوجية: العنصرية والاستعمار ومعاداة السامية والصهيونية كأبارتايد لطرد وتفتيت ومحو الشعب الفلسطيني الأصلي؛

فهم الأنظمة الإمبريالية للطرد: الإمبراطورية العثمانية والانتداب البريطاني والمؤسسات شبه الحكومية الإسرائيلية التي تستولي على الأراضي والمساكن والمياه والموارد البشرية من أجل الاستعمار الاستيطاني في فلسطين؛

Recap Session 2: Understanding ideological roots

Resumen de la sesión 2: Comprender las raíces ideológicas

Récapitulatif de la session 2 : Comprendre les racines idéologiques

ملخص الجلسة 2: فهم الجذور الأيديولوجية



Paul Hendler

Jewish South African activist scholar of housing and urban development

Activista judío sudafricano, experto en vivienda y desarrollo urbano.

Militant juif sud-africain, spécialiste du logement et du développement urbain

ناشط يهودي جنوب أفريقي وباحث في مجال الإسكان والتنمية الحضرية

- What is **anti-semitism**?
- What is **zionism**?
- What is **apartheid**?
- How **anti-semitism and zionism have been used to justify an apartheid system** in Israel

- ¿Qué es el **antisemitismo**?
- ¿Qué es el **sionismo**?
- ¿Qué es el **apartheid**?
- Cómo se han utilizado el **antisemitismo y el sionismo** para justificar un sistema de apartheid en Israel.

- Qu'est-ce que **l'antisémitisme**?
- Qu'est-ce que le **sionisme**?
- Qu'est-ce que **l'apartheid**?
- Comment l'**antisémitisme et le sionisme** ont été utilisés pour justifier un système d'apartheid en Israël

- ما هو معاداة السامية؟
- ما هو الصهيونية؟
- ما هو الفصل العنصري؟
- كيف تم استخدام معاداة السامية والصهيونية لتبرير نظام الفصل العنصري في إسرائيل

Recap Session 2: The imperial systems, institutions and mechanisms of dispossession

Resumen de la sesión 2: Los sistemas imperiales, las instituciones y los mecanismos de despojo

Synthese de la session 2 : Les systèmes, institutions et mécanismes impériaux de dépossession

ملخص الجلسة 2: الأنظمة الإمبراطورية والمؤسسات وآليات نزع الملكية



Joseph Schechla

Co-founder and coordinator of the HIC Housing & Land Rights Network, Cairo

Cofundador y coordinador de la Housing & Land Rights Network, el Cairo

Co-fondateur et coordinateur du réseau HIC Housing & Land Rights Network, Le Caire

مؤسس مشارك ومنسق شبكة HIC لحقوق السكن والأرض، القاهرة

- Historical development of **zionist institutions and their role in establishing settler colonialism in Palestine**
- implementing **racial discrimination through policies favoring Jewish settlers over Palestinian Arabs** particularly during the British mandate period.

- Evolución histórica de las **instituciones sionistas y su papel en el establecimiento del colonialismo de asentamiento en Palestina**
- aplicando la **discriminación racial mediante políticas que favorecían a los colonos judíos frente a los árabes palestinos**, especialmente durante el periodo del mandato británico.

- Développement historique des i**nstitutions sionistes et leur rôle dans l'établissement du colonialisme de peuplement en Palestine**
- mise en œuvre de la **discrimination raciale par le biais de politiques favorisant les colons juifs au détriment des Arabes palestiniens**, en particulier pendant la période du mandat britannique.

- التطور التاريخي للمؤسسات الصهيونية ودورها في إرساء الاستعمار الاستيطاني في فلسطين
- تنفيذ التمييز العنصري من خلال سياسات تفضل المستوطنين اليهود على العرب الفلسطينيين، لا سيما خلال فترة الانتداب البريطاني.

Session 2 Discussant

Participante en el debate de la sesión 2

Intervenante de la session 2

المناقش في الجلسة الثانية



Lubnah Shomali

Advocacy Manager at BADIL Resource Centre for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights

Gerente de Defensa en BADIL Resource Centre for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights

Responsable du plaidoyer au BADIL Resource Centre for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights

مدير الدعوة في
مركز بديل للموارد لحقوق الإقامة واللاجئين الفلسطينيين

- **Palestine cannot be liberated incrementally**
- Dismantling of colonial apartheid structures and institutions is needed
- The **international community needs to force states to activate sanctions**
- We need to speak about **reparations beyond reconstruction**

- **Palestina no puede liberarse de forma gradual.**
- Es necesario desmantelar las estructuras e instituciones coloniales del apartheid.
- La **comunidad internacional debe obligar a los Estados a activar sanciones**.
- Debemos hablar de **reparaciones más allá de la reconstrucción.**

- **La Palestine ne peut être libérée progressivement.**
- Il est nécessaire de démanteler les structures et les institutions coloniales d'apartheid.
- La c**ommunauté internationale doit contraindre les États à appliquer des sanctions.**
- Nous devons parler de **réparations au-delà de la reconstruction.**

- لا يمكن تحرير فلسطين بشكل تدريجي
- يلزم تفكيك هياكل ومؤسسات الفصل العنصري الاستعماري
- على المجتمع الدولي أن يجبر الدول على تفعيل العقوبات
- علينا أن نتحدث عن التعويضات بما يتجاوز إعادة الإعمار



What stood out you from session 2?

¿Qué te llamó la atención de la sesión 2?

Qu'est-ce qui vous a marqué dans la session 2?

ما الذي ميزك في الجلسة الثانية؟

Reactions from the Evaluation Form / Reacciones del formulario de evaluación / Réactions issues du formulaire d'évaluation / ردود الفعل من نموذج التقييم

"Since time memorial I have heard **many people relating the conflicts between Israel and Palestine as Biblically founded. But..** the previous session showed how this came into place and with what intentions…"

"Overwhelmed by the knowledge and depth"

"The entire session, like the previous one, is about **learning and suffering, something like the essence of dehumanisation**. Just like in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Events that have not been judged or condemned internationally. **A kind of denialism based on the imperial domination of the moment**. In turn, it seems that the Nazi operation to exterminate poor Jews was followed by the expulsion of the surviving Jews from Europe to Palestinian lands…"

«Desde tiempos inmemoriales he oído a **mucha gente referirse a los conflictos entre Israel y Palestina como algo basado en la Biblia. Pero...** la sesión anterior mostró cómo se llegó a esta situación y con qué intenciones...».

«Abrumado por el conocimiento y la profundidad».

«Toda la sesión, al igual que la anterior, trata sobre el **aprendizaje y el sufrimiento, algo así como la esencia de la deshumanización**. Al igual que en Hiroshima y Nagasaki. Acontecimientos que no han sido juzgados ni condenados internacionalmente. **Una especie de negacionismo basado en la dominación imperial del momento.** A su vez, parece que la operación nazi para exterminar a los judíos pobres fue seguida por la expulsión de los judíos supervivientes de Europa a tierras palestinas...».

« Depuis toujours, j'ai entendu **beaucoup de gens dire que les conflits entre Israël et la Palestine avaient des origines bibliques. Mais**... la session précédente a montré comment cela s'est produit et avec quelles intentions... »

« Submergé par la connaissance et la profondeur »

« Tout comme la précédente, cette session est consacrée à **l'apprentissage et à la souffrance, quelque chose qui s'apparente à l'essence même de la déshumanisation.** Tout comme à Hiroshima et Nagasaki. Des événements qui n'ont pas été jugés ni condamnés au niveau international. **Une sorte de négationnisme fondé sur la domination impériale du moment**. Il semble que l'opération nazie visant à exterminer les pauvres Juifs ait été suivie de l'expulsion des Juifs survivants d'Europe vers les terres palestiniennes... »

"منذ زمن بعيد، سمعت الكثير من الناس يتحدثون عن الصراعات بين إسرائيل وفلسطين على أنها مستمدة من الكتاب المقدس. لكن... الجلسة السابقة أوضحت كيف حدث ذلك وبأي نوايا..."

"أذهلتني المعرفة والعمق"

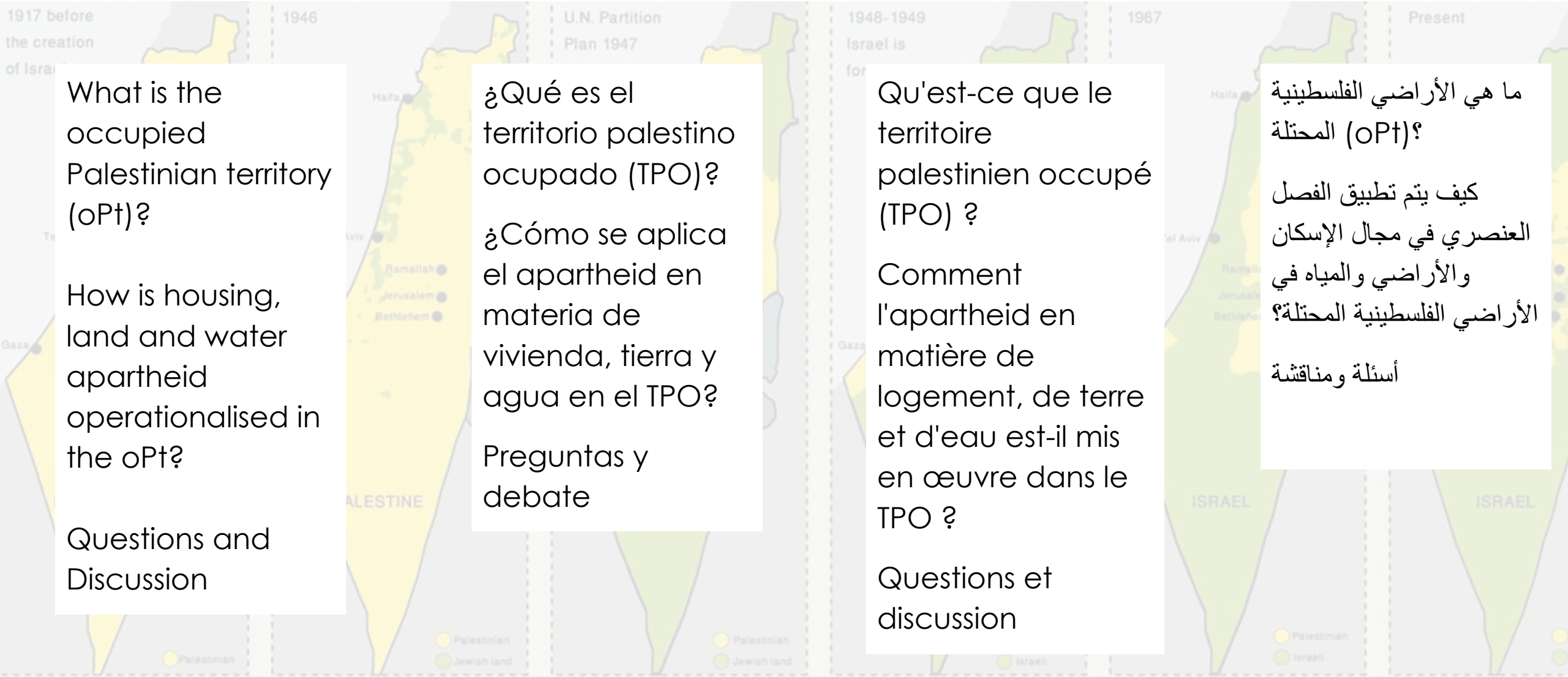
"الجلسة بأكملها، مثل الجلسة السابقة، تدور حول التعلم والمعاناة، شيء يشبه جوهر نزع الصفة الإنسانية. تمامًا كما حدث في هيروشيما وناغازاكي. أحداث لم يتم الحكم عليها أو إدانتها دوليًا. نوع من الإنكار القائم على الهيمنة الإمبريالية في ذلك الوقت. في المقابل، يبدو أن العملية النازية لإبادة اليهود الفقراء أعقبها طرد اليهود الناجين من أوروبا إلى الأراضي الفلسطينية..."

Session 3: Tracing occupation, apartheid and resistance in Palestine over the years PART B

Sesión 3: Rastreando la ocupación, el apartheid y la resistencia en Palestina a lo largo de los años PARTE B

Session 3 : Retracer l'occupation, l'apartheid et la résistance en Palestine au fil des ans PARTIE B الجلسة 3: تتبع الاحتلال

والفصل العنصري والمقاومة في فلسطين على مر السنين الجزء ب



What is the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt)?

How is housing, land and water apartheid operationalised in the oPt?

Questions and Discussion

¿Qué es el territorio palestino ocupado (TPO)?

¿Cómo se aplica el apartheid en materia de vivienda, tierra y agua en el TPO?

Preguntas y debate

Qu'est-ce que le territoire palestinien occupé (TPO) ?

Comment l'apartheid en matière de logement, de terre et d'eau est-il mis en œuvre dans le TPO ?

Questions et discussion

ما هي الأراضي الفلسطينية المحتلة (oPt)؟

كيف يتم تطبيق الفصل العنصري في مجال الإسكان والأراضي والمياه في الأراضي الفلسطينية المحتلة؟

أسئلة ومناقشة



The setting: what is the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt)?
El contexto: ¿qué son los territorios palestinos ocupados (TPO)?
Le contexte : qu'est-ce que le territoire palestinien occupé (TPO) ?
السياق: ما هي الأراضي الفلسطينية المحتلة؟

Jamal Talab Al-Amleh

How **Israeli apartheid laws** affect housing and land in the oPt

Cómo afectan las **leyes de apartheid israelíes** a la vivienda y la tierra en los territorios palestinos ocupados

Comment les **lois d'apartheid israéliennes** affectent le logement et la terre dans les territoires palestiniens occupés

كيف تؤثر قوانين الفصل العنصري الإسرائيلية على السكن والأراضي في الأراضي الفلسطينية المحتلة

Tasneem Janazra

The Impact of Israeli Apartheid Laws on Housing and Land in the Occupied Palestinian Territories

Third Session

Tracing occupation, apartheid and resistance in Palestine over the years PART B

:Prepared by

Israeli violations monitoring team

Land Research Center

:Presenter to

Habitat international Coalition

”?HIC Teach – In Series: “Understanding Palestine – What’s habitat got to do with it

August 26 2025

- ✔ **The roots of the crisis began in Europe**, where Jewish communities were subjected to persecution.
- ✔ **The British Mandate authorities facilitated and encouraged Jewish immigration** to Palestine, turning it into an organized process that supported Zionist settlement goals.
- ✔ The Mandate's legal responsibility was to prepare the local population for self-governance, but they used this pretext to facilitate Jewish Immigration from Europe , to increase their numbers and give them control over more lands.
- ✔ In **1930, the British Mandate launched the Land Registration Project** in Palestine. While officially presented as a means of land registration, it effectively enabled the transfer of land titles to Jewish immigrants.
- ✔ Jewish land ownership increased from **1.5% to 8%** during this period.
- ✔ The **Jewish National Fund (JNF)**—a British-registered charity founded in 1901—was later authorized by the Israeli state to take control of land across historic Palestine.

Could racism be any more explicit than this??

The **Jewish National Fund (JNF):** was established in 1901, well before the creation of the State of Israel. After the mass displacement of Palestinians in 1948, the JNF undertook widespread tree planting projects on lands from which Palestinians had been forcibly expelled. These forests were used not for environmental restoration but to conceal the remains of depopulated and destroyed Palestinian towns and villages, effectively erasing evidence of displacement and historical presence.

Today, the JNF manages forests in countries such as Chile, claiming environmental expertise. Ironically, one of the forest fires in Chile was allegedly started by an Israeli tourist, which raises serious concerns about the legitimacy and accountability of such organizations.

Jewish National Fund (1901)

Memorandum of Association

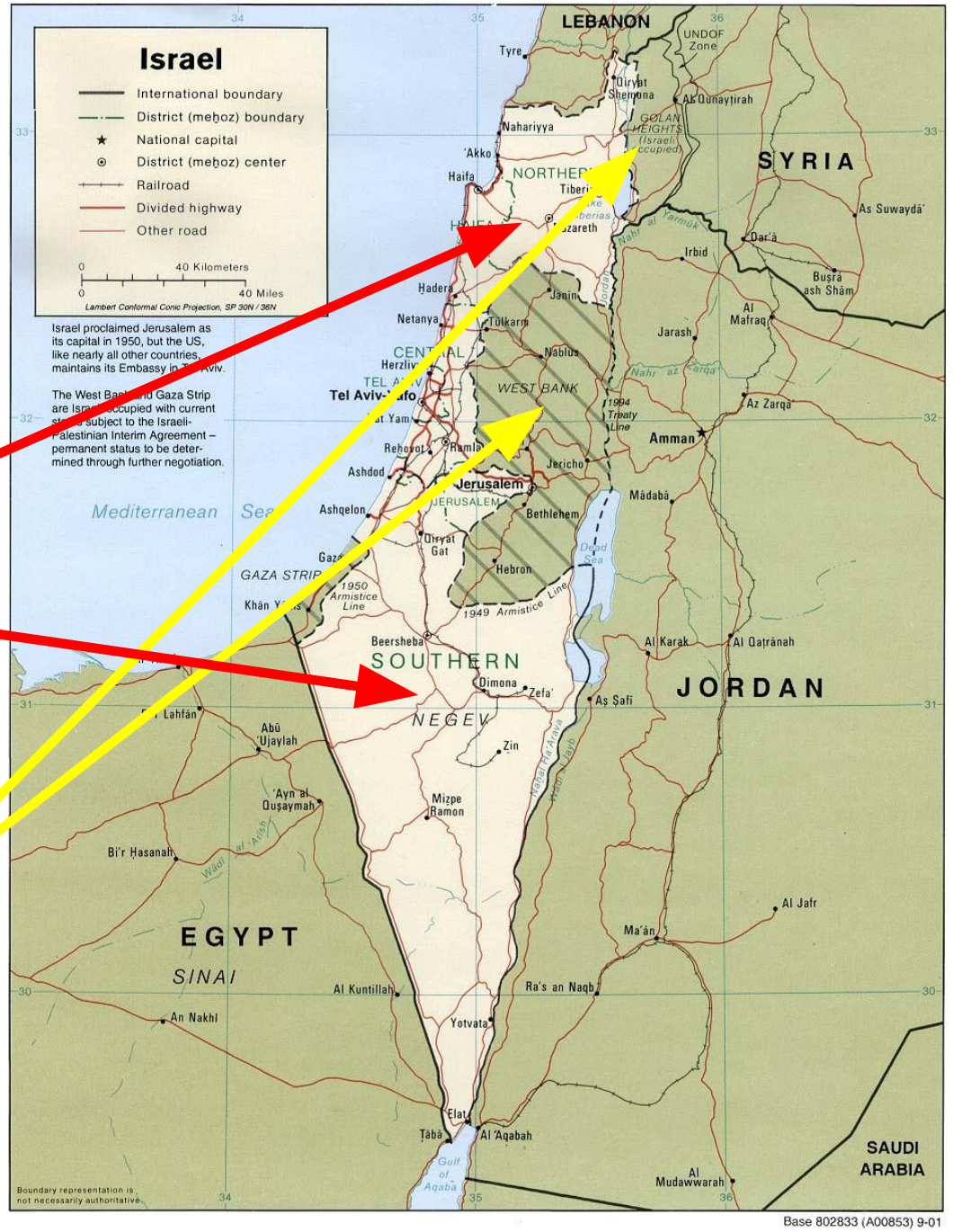
- Article 3(a): “To purchase, acquire on lease, or in exchange, or receive on lease or otherwise, lands, forests, rights of possession, easements and any similar rights, as well as immovable properties of any class…for the purpose of settling Jews on such lands and properties.”
- Article 3(c): “benefit, whether directly or indirectly, to those of Jewish **race or descent**”
- Article 3(g): “…promote the interests of Jews in the prescribed region.”
- Article 6: “upon dissolution…any properties whatsoever…shall be transferred to the Government of Israel.”

Colonial Division of Labor

Jewish Agency

Jewish National Fund

World Zionist Organization



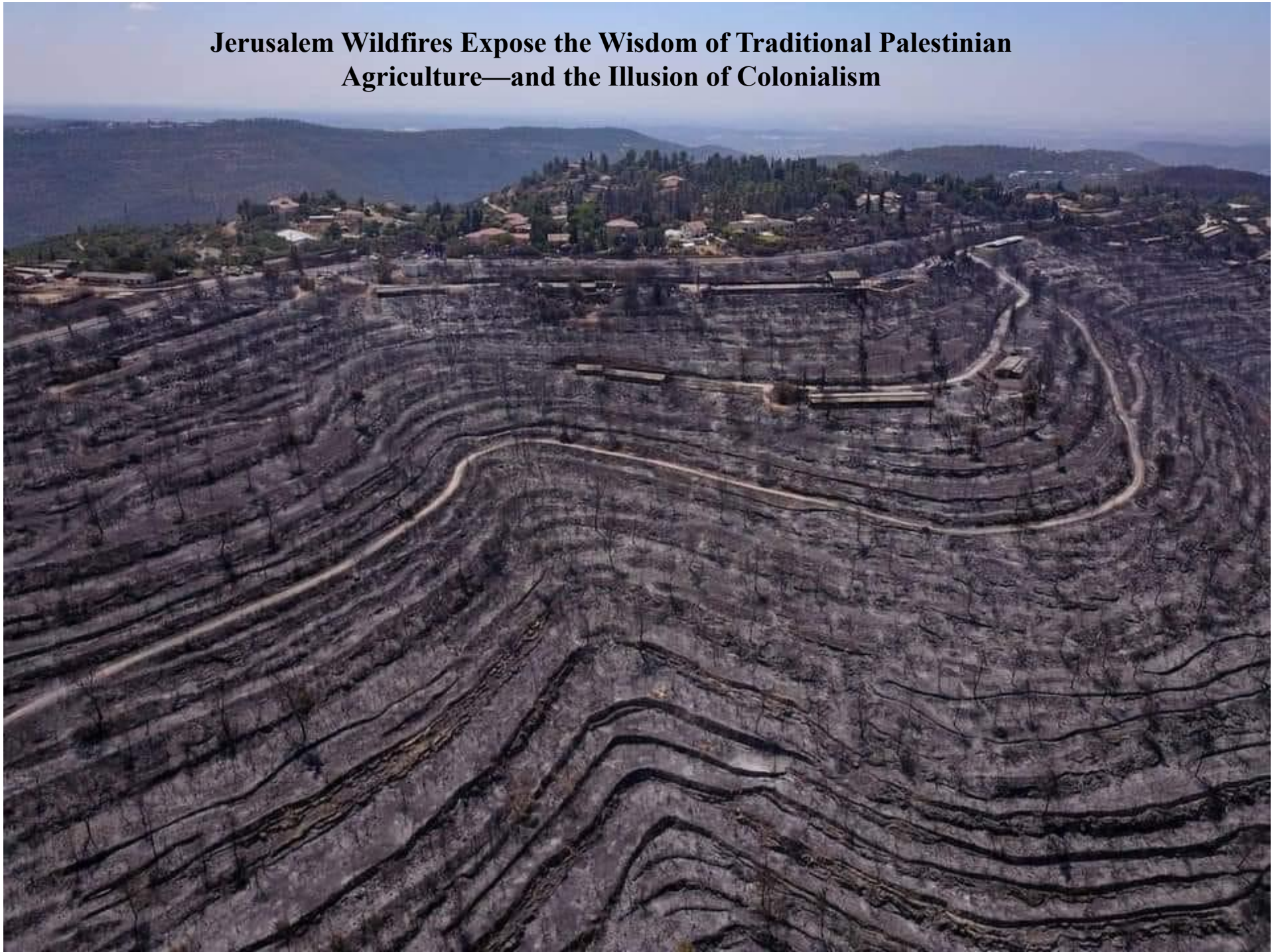
Violations of International Law and Discriminatory Population Policies

- ✔ The Hague Regulations (Article 43) forbids an occupying power altering the legal system in occupied territory.
- ✔ Fourth Geneva Convention (Article 49) prohibits an occupying from transferring its civilian population into occupied territory.
- ✔ Following the 1967 occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, Palestinians who were abroad at the time—whether working, studying, or otherwise—were denied the right to return, even if their families remained in Palestine.

<u>In stark contrast, Jews from anywhere in the world are granted the right to immigrate to Israel, obtain citizenship under the Law of Return, and own property, including in the occupied territories.</u>


TAREK BAKRI

Jerusalem Wildfires Expose the Wisdom of Traditional Palestinian Agriculture—and the Illusion of Colonialism



The Concept of “State Land” and Its Discriminatory Application

Military Order No. 59 (1968) established the legal framework by which the Israeli military authorities assumed control over so-called “State Land” in the occupied Palestinian territories.

➢ This order transferred the authority to manage these lands to the Israeli Civil Administration.

➢ It prohibits Palestinians from leasing or using State Land, effectively stripping them of access to large portions of the West Bank and Gaza.

Following this, the Israeli government brought in Israeli settlers and placed them on lands confiscated from Palestinians, particularly in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, further entrenching the occupation and undermining Palestinian land rights

Why does the international community continue to allow such racially exclusive, politically implicated organizations, complicit in acts of displacement like JNF, Mekorot, and National Jewish Fund to operate freely in other countries under the cover of environmental work or sharing expertise?

Unequal Rights and Freedom of Movement

A Palestinian resident of the West Bank who leaves the territory and does not return for a period of **seven** years is at risk of having their residency status revoked by Israeli authorities—effectively stripping them of their right to live in their homeland, even if their family and roots remain there.

Meanwhile, a Jewish person holding any foreign nationality is free to travel, reside abroad indefinitely, and return to the so called “Israel” or the occupied territories without restriction. Under the “Birthright Law” , they are even granted automatic citizenship and full rights of superior “Jewish nationality” status upon arrival.

Palestinians are still alone facing these crimes and racist policies, and creating a wall that blocks this occupation from intoxicating the rest of the world.

Now its real face was revealed, we expect the world people and governments to boycott this occupation and its institutions and impose sanctions on them.



Open Floor
Debate abierto
Discussion ouverte
مناقشة مفتوحة

How is **housing & land apartheid** operationalised and resisted in the oPt?

¿Cómo se aplica y se combate el **apartheid en materia de vivienda y tierras** en los territorios palestinos ocupados?

Comment **l'apartheid foncier et immobilie**r est-il mis en œuvre et combattu dans les territoires palestiniens occupés ?

كيف يتم تطبيق الفصل العنصري في مجال الإسكان والأراضي ومقاومته في الأراضي الفلسطينية المحتلة؟

Hiba al-Wohoush

The Occupied Palestinian Territory

The Palestinian Right to Land and Housing

Settlement Dispossession

Heba Al-Wahoush

Land Research Centre

Habitat International Coalition

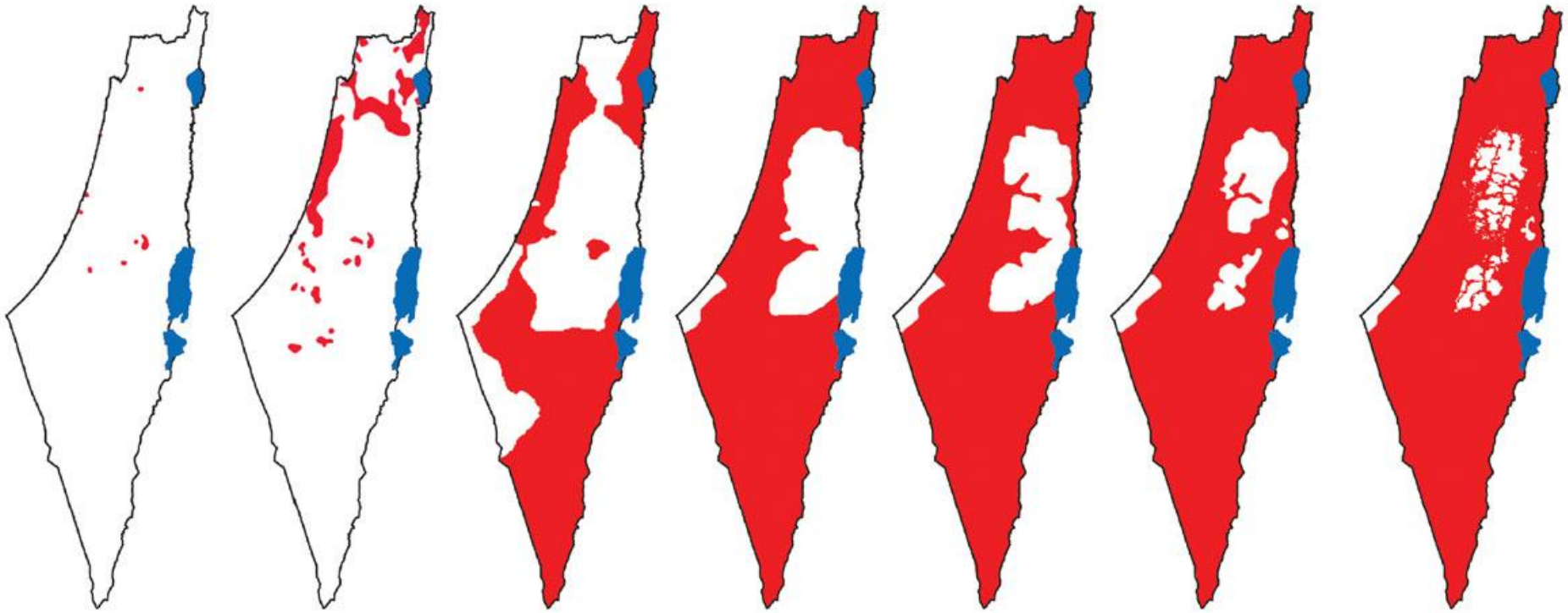
Training sit-in in support of Gaza – Third meeting

27 آب 2025


A colonial idea
" The creation of the Occupying Power “Israel” in the heart of the Arab world
فلسطين
أيسلندا
السويد
فنلندا
النرويج
روسيا
المملكة المتحدة
الدنمارك
أيرلندا
بولندا
روسيا البيضاء
ألمانيا
فرنسا
النمسا
إيطاليا
إسبانيا
البرتغال
اليونان
تركيا
سوريا
العراق
إيران
أفغانستان
باكستان
تركمانستان
أوزبكستان
قرغيزستان
كازاخستان
منغوليا
الصين
كوريا الجنوبية
البحر الأبيض المتوسط
تونس
المغرب
الجزائر
ليبيا
مصر
الصحراء الغربية
المملكة العربية السعودية
عمان
اليمن
السودان
موريتانيا
مالي
النيجر
تشاد
بوركينا فاسو
غينيا
نيجيريا
غانا
جنوب السودان
إثيوبيا
الصومال
خليج عدن
بحر العرب
خليج البنغال
الهند
نيبال
ميانمار (بورما)
تايلاند
فيتنام
الفلبين
ماليزيا
خليج تايلاند
خليج غينيا
دريك لاكاديو

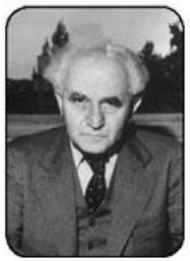

لبنان
سوريا
صفد
عكا
بحيرة
طبريا
البحر الأبيض
المتوسط
حيفا
الجليل
طبريا
الناصرة
بيسان
الخضيرة
جنين
نتانيا
طولكرم
نابلس
تل أبيب
يافا
اللد
رام الله
الرملة
أريحا
القدس
أشدود
عسقلان
بيت لحم
البحر
الميت
غزة
الخليل
خان يونس
رفح
بئر السبع
الأردن
النقب
مصر
إيلات
خليج العقبة

98.5% 92% 44% 22% 13% 11% 8%



1917 1945 1947 1948 2000 2003 2012

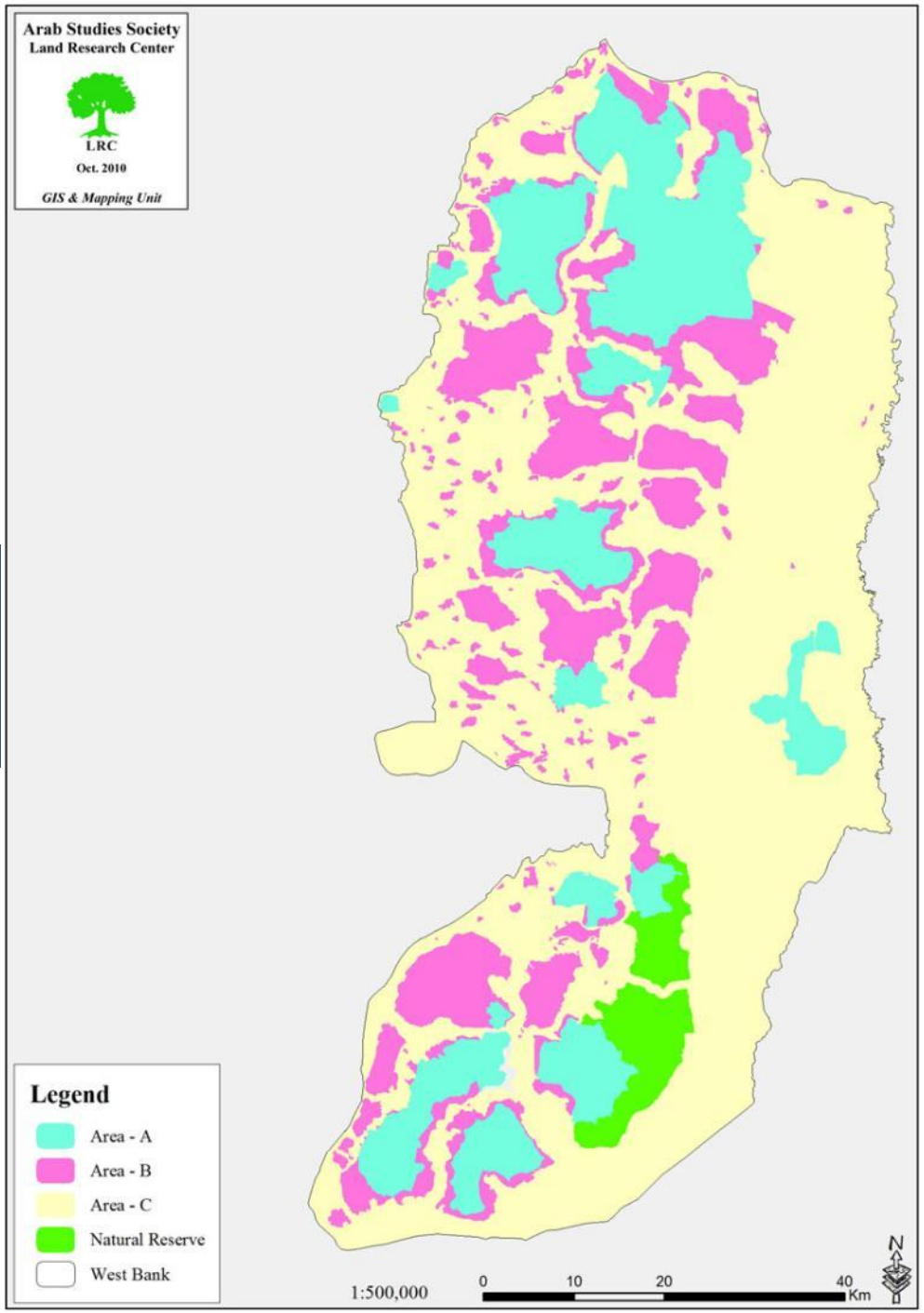


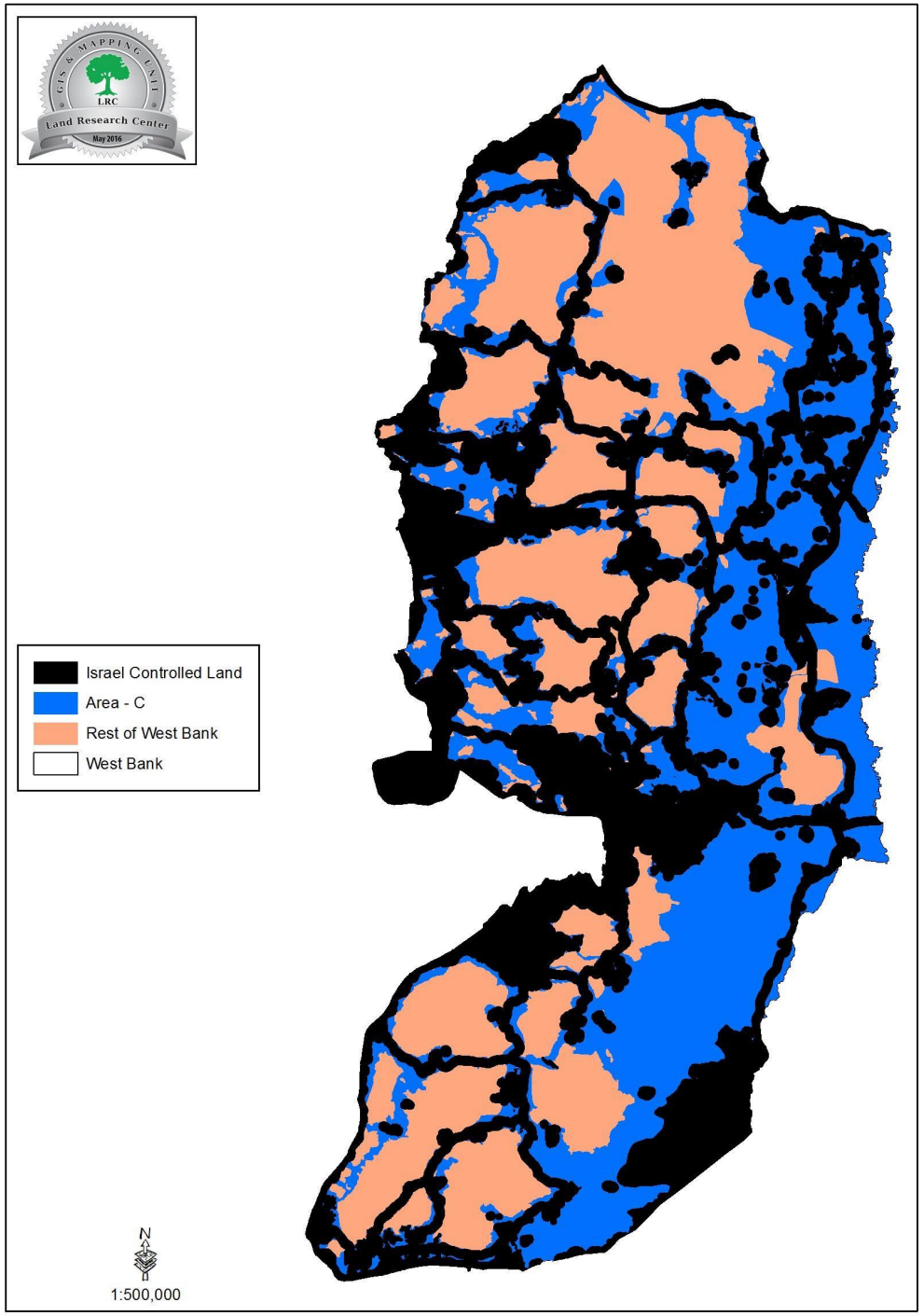






The West Bank according to the Oslo Accords:

Area A	**17.7%**
Area B	**18.4 %**
Nature reserves	**3 %**
Area C	**60.9 %**





Israeli settlements = 200,000 dunams

Buffer zones for settlements = 622,388 dunams

Structural plans for settlements = 486,137 dunams

Colonial settlements = 13,283 dunams

Israeli army camps = 54,258 dunams

Buffer zones for army camps = 314,114 dunams

Bypass roads = 96,423 dunams

Buffer zones for bypass roads = 878,727 dunams

Under the existing wall = 43,244 dunams

Buffer zones east of the existing wall = 191,592 dunams

Behind the wall – if completed = 723,709 dunams

Total land area – including overlaps = 3,611,297 dunams

Total land area – without overlap = 2,196,907 dunams

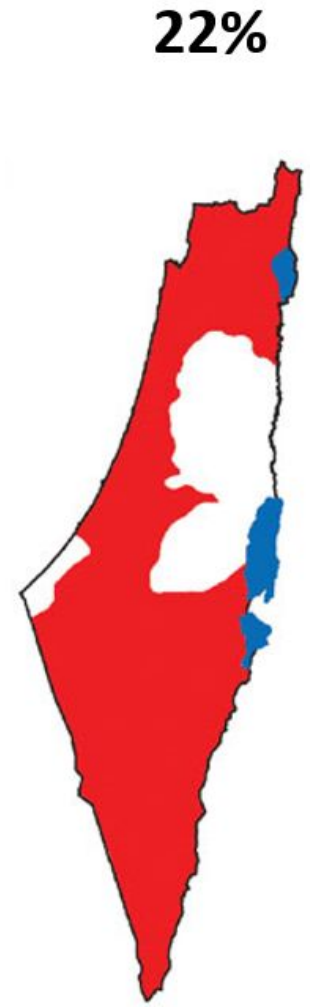
Israeli-controlled territories = 40% of the West Bank

Areas A and B = 36.1% of the West Bank

Disputed areas between the settler state and the Palestinian state

25.1% of the West Bank

Right to housing, land and natural resources:



In 1999, according to the Oslo Accords, the State of Palestine was supposed to declare full sovereignty over the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The Israeli occupation has doubled Jewish settlement on Palestinian land, doubled land confiscation and annexation, and doubled the demolition of homes

This has undermined the two-state solution.

- The Palestinian leadership submitted a request for recognition of the State of Palestine to the Security Council twice, but its request was rejected due to the American and British veto.

- After the Security Council failed to recognise Palestine, the Palestinian leadership turned to the United Nations General Assembly, and on 29 November 2012, the world agreed to recognise the State of Palestine as an observer member.

.

Israeli occupation violations against land, housing and natural resources:

In the West Bank, the occupation has escalated its settlement expansion, demolition of homes, confiscation of land, uprooting of trees, and threats of annexation, which is already happening on the ground, making life impossible for the indigenous people and threatening to expel and displace them.

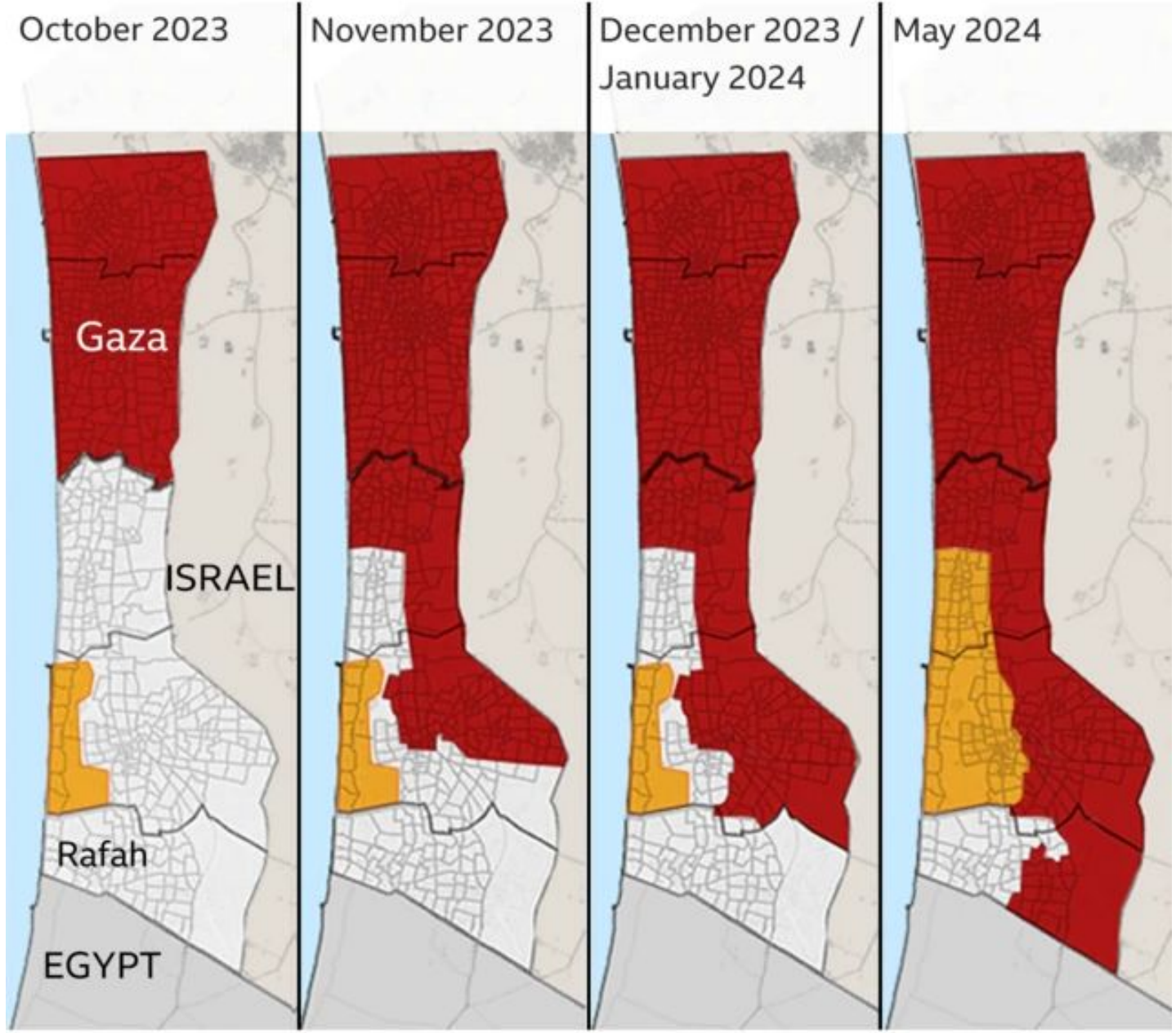
Demolition of dwellings:

- Gaza Strip: The occupying state of Israel has waged eight wars on Gaza, and the latest war is still ongoing.
- Gaza has been more than 90% destroyed.
- The destruction targeted homes, buildings of various kinds, infrastructure, roads, schools, hospitals, etc.

(457,000 Palestinian homes in the Gaza Strip have been demolished), representing approximately 231% of the original number of homes owned by Palestinians in Gaza.


Before
planet
After


Mediterranean Sea
Gaza City
PALESTINE (Gaza Strip)
Deir al-Balah
Wadi Gaza
ISRAEL
Khan Younis
Rafah
EGYPT
Town
River and Wadi
National border
1950 Armistice Line
0
5 km



Source: BBC analysis of data on evacuation instructions issued by the Israeli army

BBC

Since the 1967 war, the Israeli occupation has demolished 21,440 homes in the West Bank, which were inhabited by approximately 140,360 Palestinians – about 5% of the estimated number of Palestinian homes.


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The occupation uprooted (2,630,000) trees/seedlings, most of which were olive trees.




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Crime against Palestinian olives in the village of Al-Mughayir



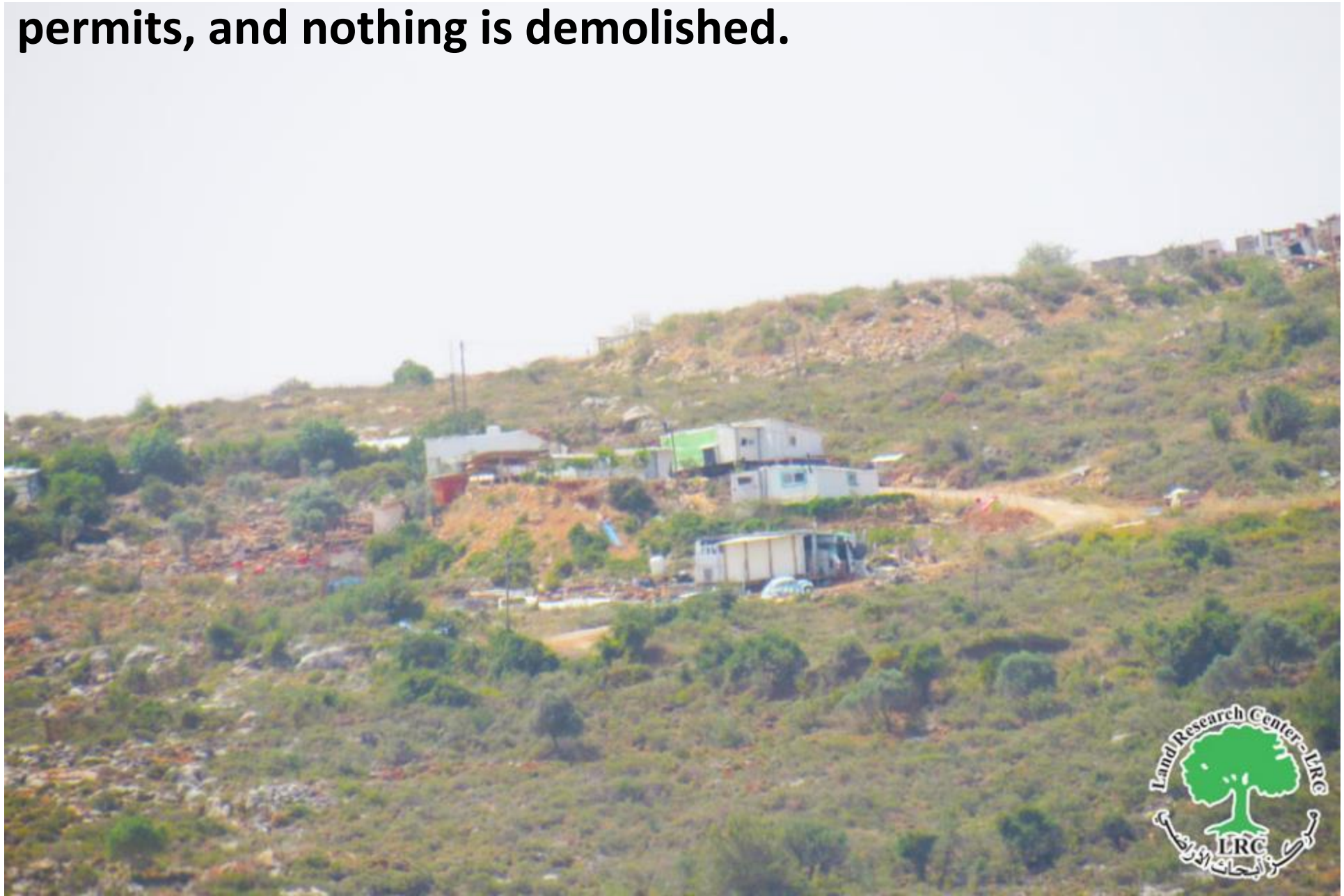

15/8/2025


25/8/2025

Settlement on West Bank land
The total number of Israeli settlements reached 227, with 480 .outposts, including 176 added between 2020 and 2025



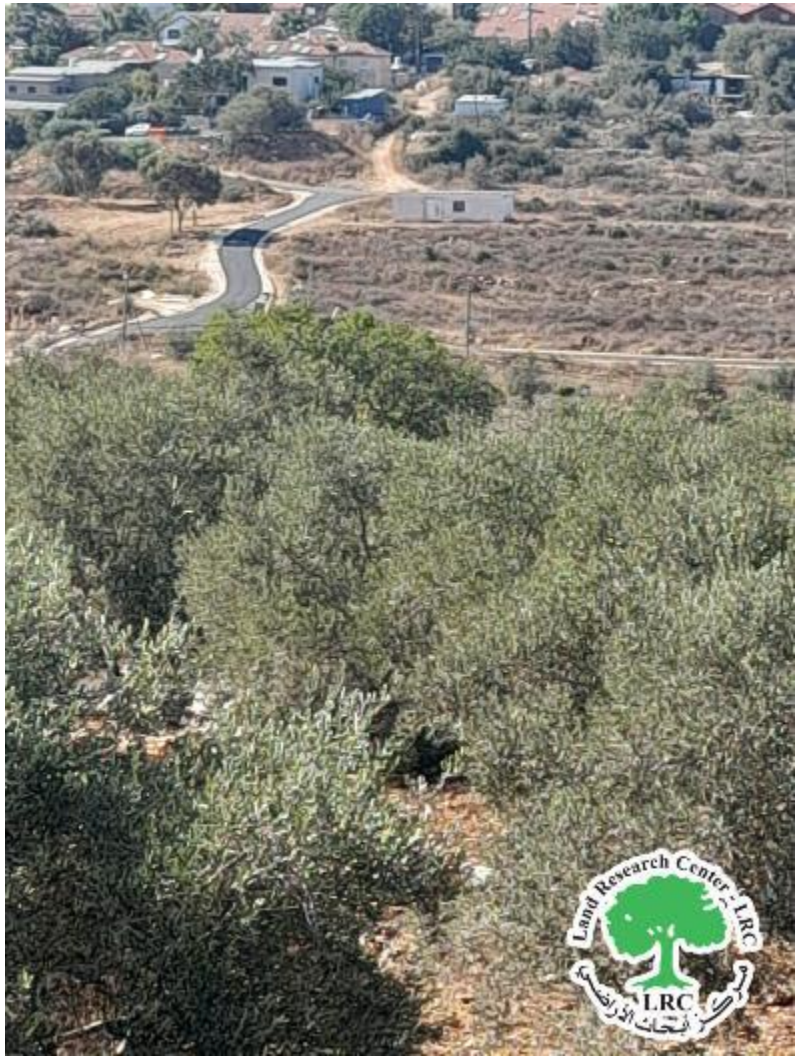
Settlement begins randomly and chaotically without any permits, and nothing is demolished.

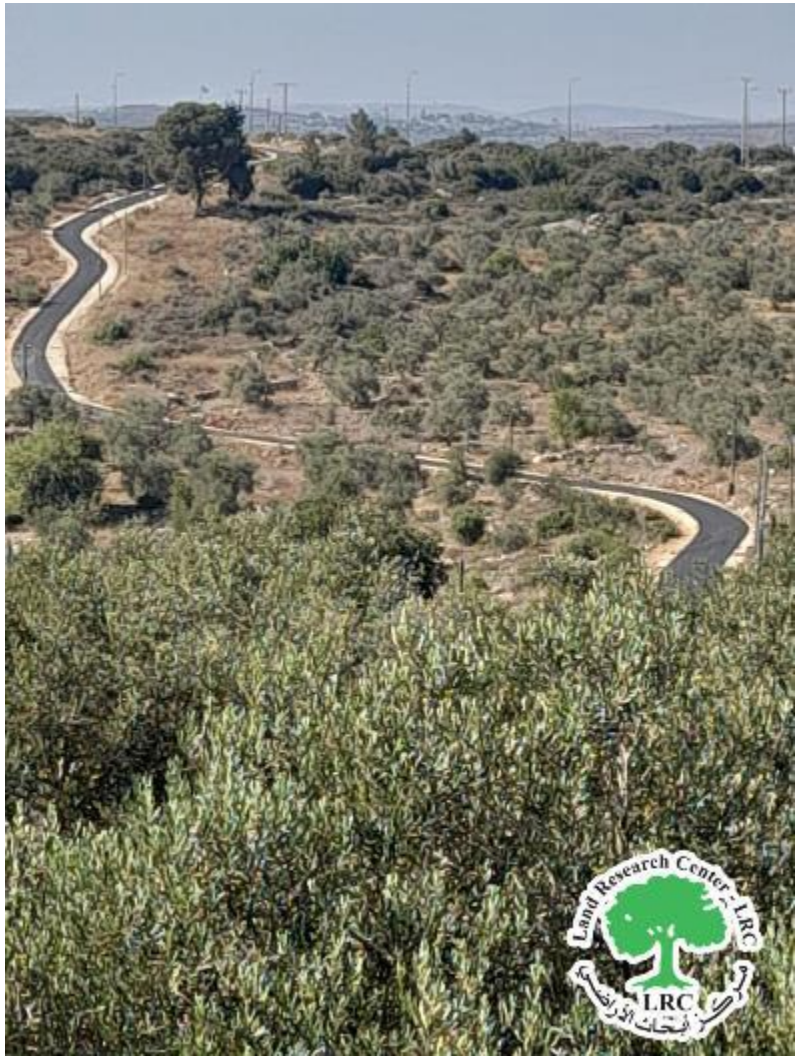


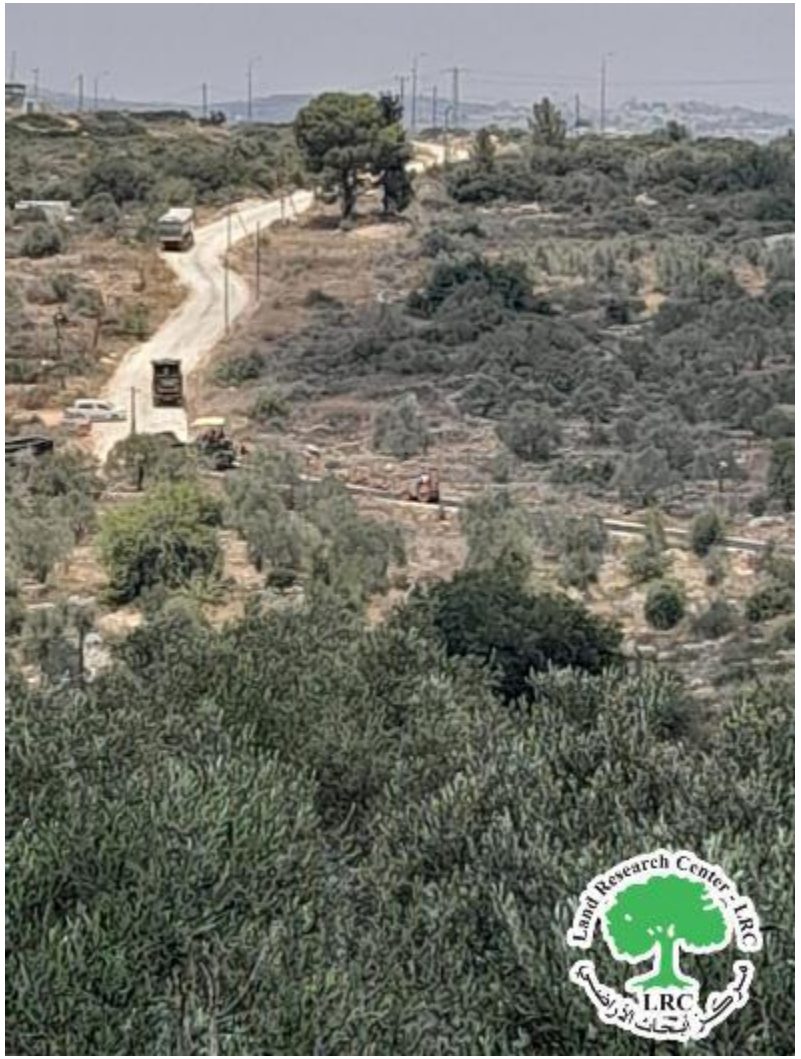
Whereas if the Palestinian landowner's construction violates the permit, they demolish it regardless of what it is: an agricultural building, a sheep .pen, a cave, etc



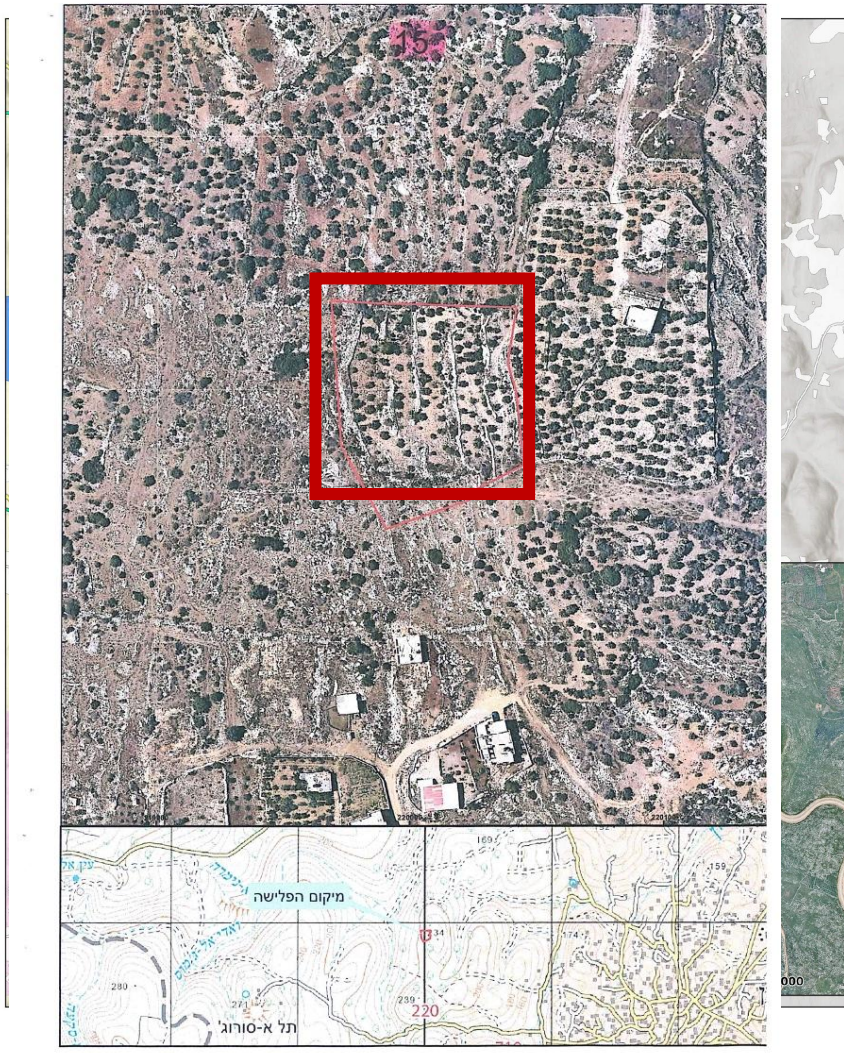
The colony is established randomly, so the Israeli Ministry of Finance rushes to support it with money and open budgets, the Israeli army provides full protection and security for it, the Israeli Ministry of Works builds roads to it, and the Israeli Ministry of Energy and Transport provides water, communications and electricity lines.

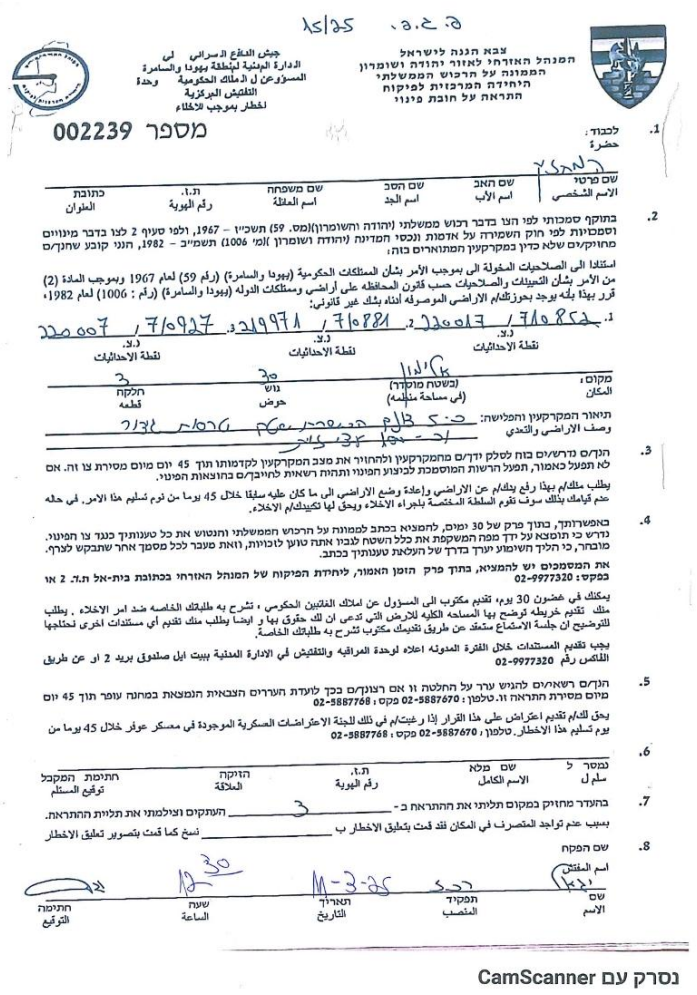






While Palestinians are prevented from reclaiming their land, cultivating it, or even digging wells to collect rainwater for drinking or irrigation, Israeli law states that groundwater and rainwater belong to the occupying state.





While Palestinians are prevented from reclaiming their land, cultivating it, or even digging wells to collect rainwater for drinking or irrigation, Israeli law states that groundwater and rainwater belong to the occupying state.






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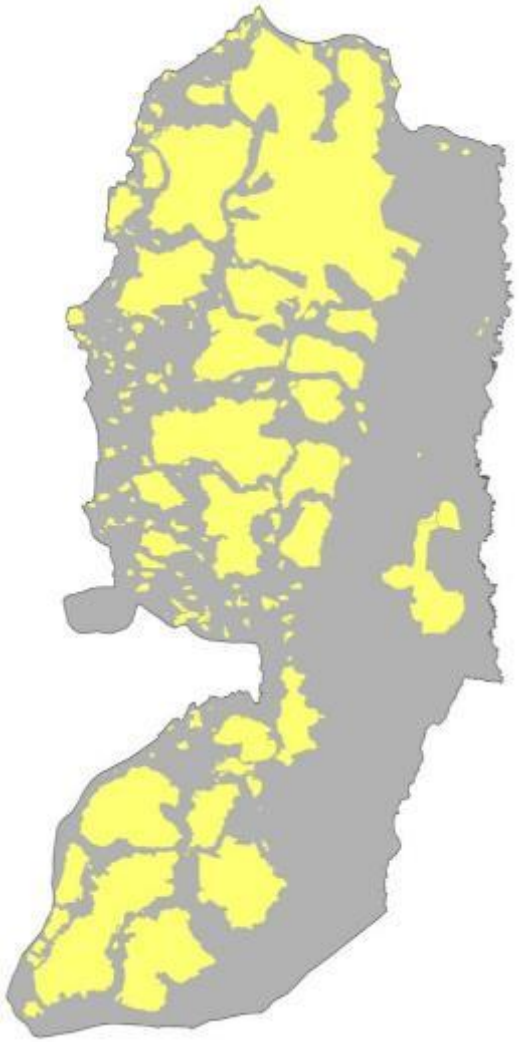

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Palestinians do not have access to water for drinking or irrigation unless they purchase it from the Israeli company Mekorot, paying three times what Israelis pay.



All roads are open to Jewish settlers, who move around freely whenever they want, while Palestinians, the owners of the land, are prevented from moving around and .the roads are closed with 1,000 checkpoints, gates and earth barriers

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Palestinians are now in closed and isolated prisons.

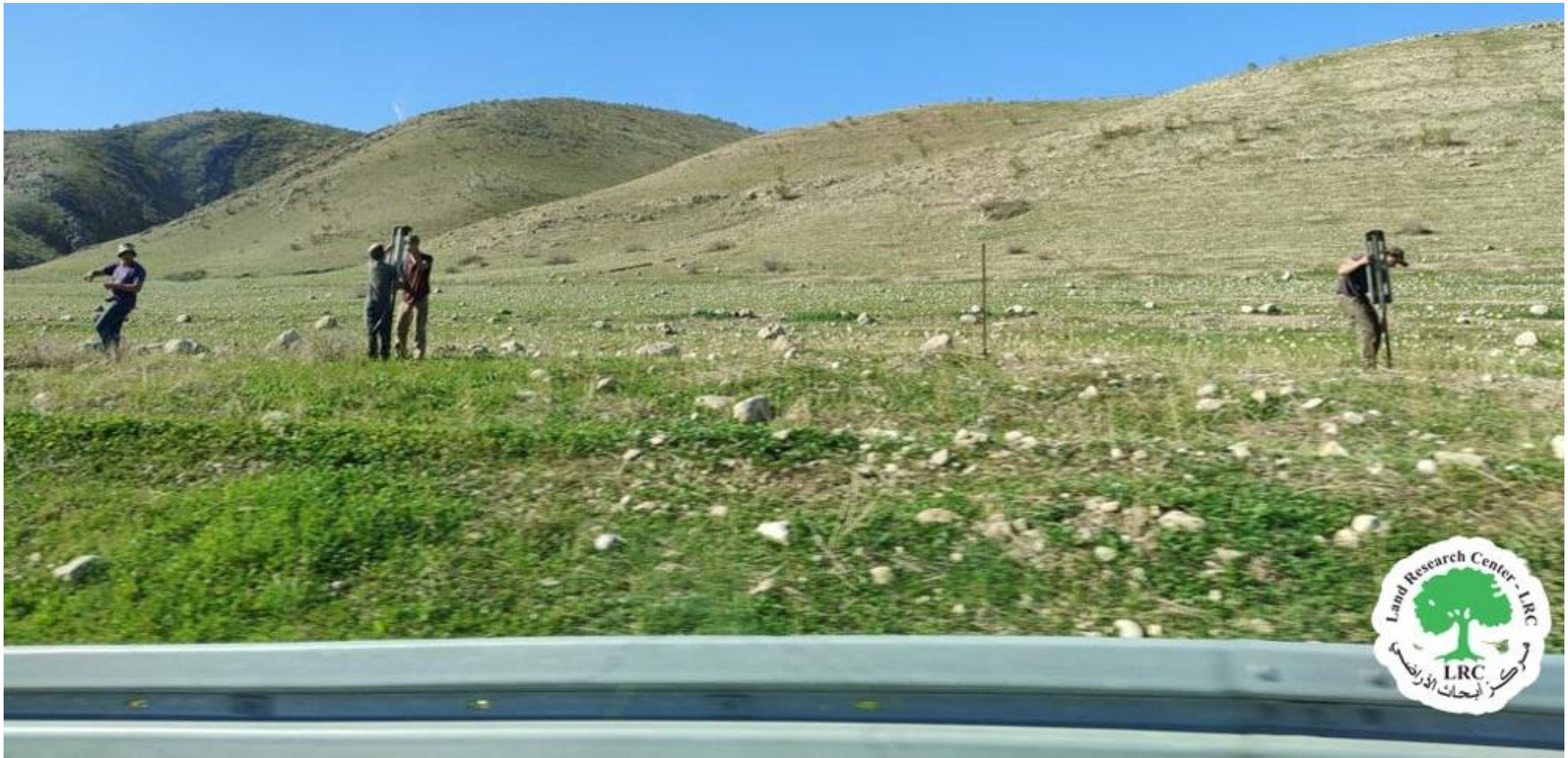



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From this we find that racial discrimination is clear

There is no such discrimination in the universe

The land controlled for settlement covered an area of 200,000 dunams. The infrastructure serving the settlements brought 40% of the West Bank under settlement control. Now, under pastoral settlement control, more than 50% of Palestinian land is in the hands of the colonisers

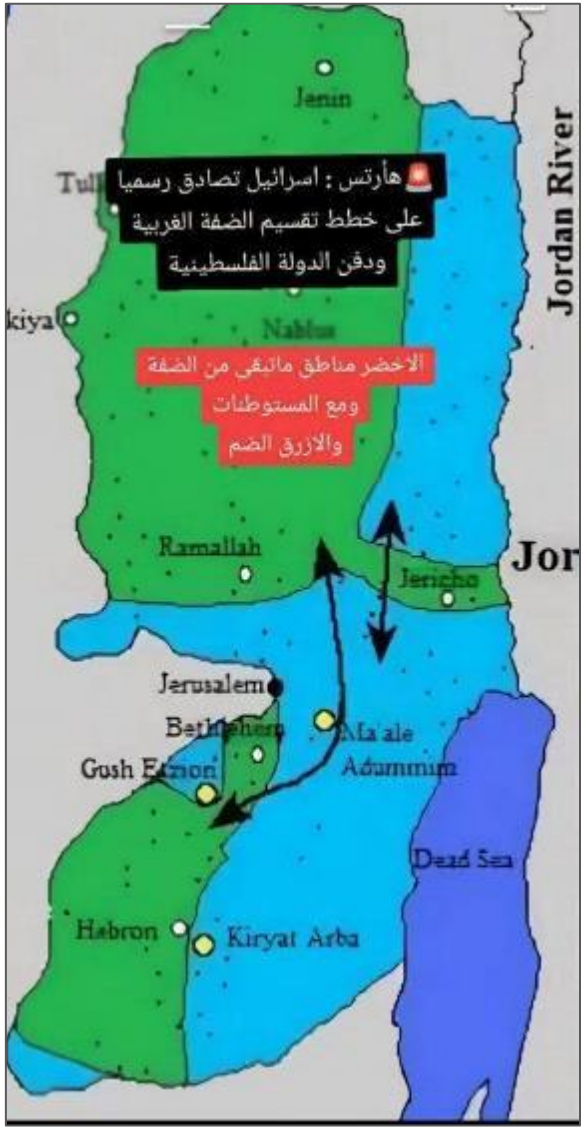


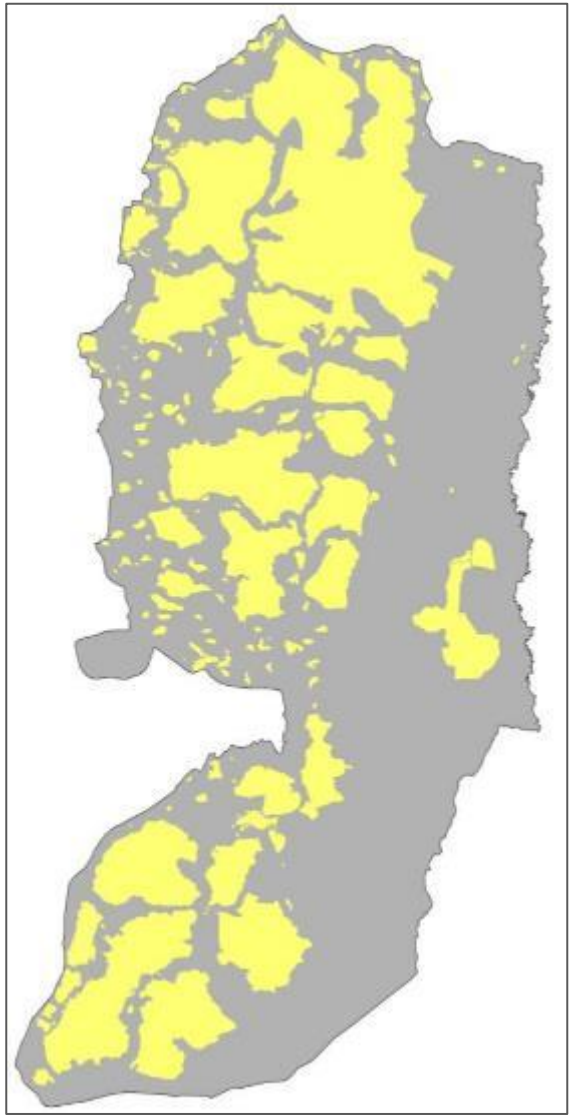

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The sum of the realities imposed on the ground have made the two-state solution impossible, which is one of the goals of the Israeli government, and they have succeeded in this.






The Palestinians, the original owners of the land, have been struggling against Israeli occupation for decades.
Today, with its colonialist plans, Israel is burying the Palestinian state and reviving the creation of Greater Israel, which was established by colonialist powers 77 years ago.
فلسطين
أيسلندا
السويد
فنلندا
النرويج
روسيا
الدنمارك
المملكة المتحدة
أيرلندا
ألمانيا
فرنسا
إسبانيا
البرتغال
كازاخستان
منغوليا
قرغيزستان
تركمانستان
أفغانستان
إيران
العراق
باكستان
الصين
كوريا الجنوبية
البحر الأبيض المتوسط
تونس
المغرب
الجزائر
ليبيا
مصر
الصحراء الغربية
موريتانيا
مالي
النيجر
تشاد
السودان
المملكة العربية السعودية
عمان
اليمن
الهند
ميانمار (بورما)
تايلاند
فيتنام
الفلبين
ماليزيا
بوركينا فاسو
غينيا
نيجيريا
غانا
جنوب السودان
إثيوبيا
الصومال
خليج عدن
بحر العرب
خليج البنغال
خليج تايلاند
خليج غينيا
دريای لاکادیو

.The occupation is not limited to Palestine alone

At a time when it is targeting the whole of Palestine, it is declaring that it wants to expand at the expense of Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Lebanon, Jordan and Syria. It is a danger not only to the Palestinians .alone, but to humanity as a whole

All the peoples of the world are called upon to work to save humanity .from it



Open Floor
Debate abierto
Discussion ouverte
مناقشة مفتوحة



How **water apartheid** is operationalised in the oPt

Cómo se aplica **el apartheid del agua** en los territorios palestinos ocupados

Comment **l'apartheid hydrique** est mis en œuvre dans les territoires palestiniens occupés

كيف يتم تطبيق الفصل العنصري في مجال المياه في الأراضي الفلسطينية المحتلة

Asma Samaan

Palestinian Hydrology Group

Habitat International Coalition
Coalición Internacional del Hábitat
Coalition Internationale de l'Habitat
Coalizão Internacional do Habitat
التحالف الدولي للموئل
अंतरराष्ट्रीय पर्यावास गठबंधन

water injustice and apartheid in Palestine

Understanding Palestine – What's habitat got to do with it?

August. 2025



In Palestine, water does not always flow when you turn the tap!



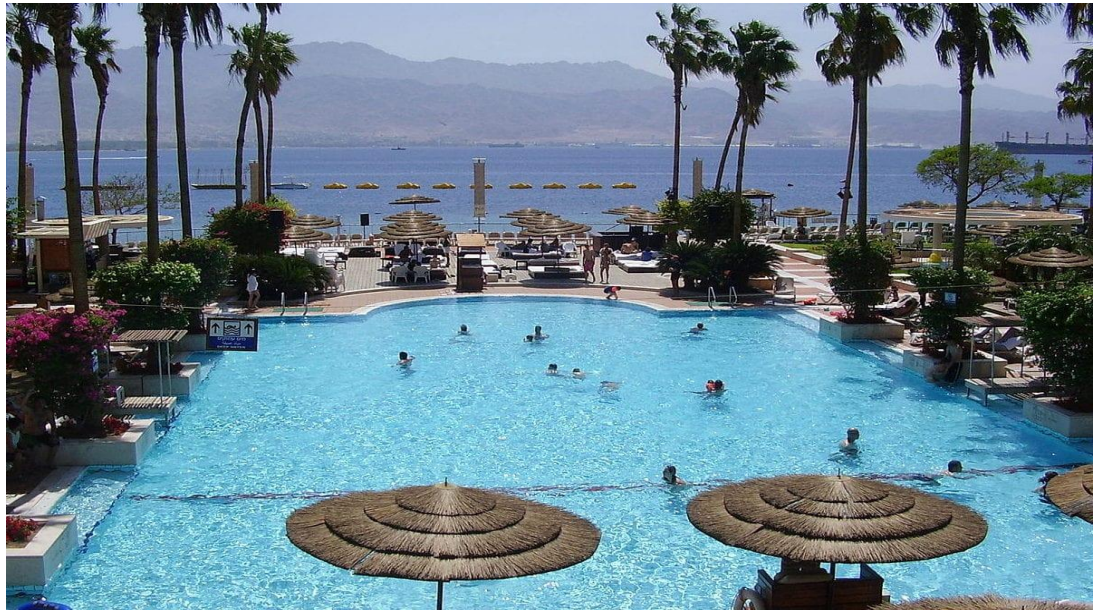


Israeli settlement luxury water vs. Palestinian water crisis

Israeli confiscation and control of Palestinian water is a key feature of the occupation.

It creates inequality between Israelis, settlers and Palestinians.

This policy denies Palestinians their human right to safe and adequate water and blocks sustainable development.





Main Water Sources in Palestine (Before the Occupation)

Region	Main source	Description
West Bank	Jordan River	Largest surface water source for the West Bank, vital for drinking and agriculture.
West Bank	Mountain Aquifer	Rainwater infiltration in central highlands (90% of recharge inside West Bank). Main groundwater source for the West Bank.
Gaza Stripe	Coastal Aquifer	Rainwater infiltration along the coastal plain from Ashkelon to Rafah. Main source for Gaza, fresh and drinkable before occupation, covered over 90% of needs.

Timeline of Israeli Control over Palestinian Water:



(**Before 1964)**

Palestinians freely used water from rivers, springs, and wells in both the West Bank and Gaza.



(1964)

Israel built the National Water Carrier and diverted most of the Jordan River into Israel. Palestinians lost access to this river.



(**1967)**

After the occupation, Israel issued military orders taking full control of all water and making permits mandatory for any new wells or repairs.



(1982)

Israel gave control of West Bank water systems to its national company, Mekorot, and drilled deep wells for Israeli use.

Timeline of Israeli Control over Palestinian Water (Cont.):



(1995)
Oslo II gave Palestinians limited water rights (about 20% of the Mountain Aquifer). Most resources remained under Israeli control.



(2000s)

Israeli military destroyed Palestinian water infrastructure during conflicts. Access to many wells and springs was blocked.



(2002_ Now)

Palestinians became highly dependent on buying water from Mekorot, with Israel controlling price and quantity.



(2023_2025)

In Gaza, 85% of water facilities were destroyed; water supply fell to 3–5 liters per person per day.

Key Features of Water Apartheid:

Unequal Control of Water Resources

- Israel controls 100of% the Jordan River and over 80% of the Mountain Aquifer, using 85% of the West Bank water.



Consumption Gap

- Water Use: Settler ~600 L/D, Israeli ~300 L/D, Palestinian ~85 L/D (below the international standard of 100_120 L/D)



Unequal Supply

- Continuous, subsidized water for settlement, while Palestinians face irregular supply and frequent cut.



Key Features of Water Apartheid (Cont.):

Restricted development
No permits for drilling or repairing wells and bans on rainwater harvesting or building dams.



Wall and blockade policies
The Separation Wall and movement restrictions cut villages off from water sources and raise prices by blocking tanker access.



Role of Mekorot
Israel's water national company controls much of Palestine's water, It supplies settlers without limits while restricting Palestinian access and setting prices.



Mekorot: Israel's Colonial Water Company

- Main arm of Israel's water sector, operating under the ministry of energy and the Israeli Water Authority.
- Founded in 1937 under the Jewish Agency, Jewish National Fund and Agricultural Organizations.
- Built on the false racial premise that settlers were more entitled to land and water than indigenous Palestinians, embodying Israel's institutionalized apartheid system.
- Became a state-owned company in 1949.
- 1950s _ 1964: Played a leading role in the construction of the National Water Carrier.
- 1982: Israel transferred the west bank water infrastructure to Mekorot for just 1 NIS.









Mekorot: Israel's Colonial Water Company

- Since 1982, Mekorot become the **main water supplier for Palestinians** and giving it full control over the West Bank network.
  - Prevents Palestinians from drilling or renewing wells.
  - Supplies settlements freely, while severely restricting Palestinian villages.
- Mekorot's policy is based on **"pillage and resale**
  - Extracts water from Palestinian land.
  - Sells it back to Palestinians at higher prices than to Israelis/settlers.

2000s–Now: Expanded globally, partnering with governments in Africa, Latin America, Europe and India, **normalizing its colonial role.**

Export Israeli "water technology" including desalination, wastewater reuse and smart water management system.

West Bank Water Situation:

•Palestinians were banned from drilling new wells or rehabilitation old ones, while Israeli settlements were allowed to drill deep wells and tap into the aquifers.

•The Israeli water company **Mekorot** extracts the majority of this water and diverts it to Israel and the settlements, leaving Palestinians with a small share.

- Palestinians in the West Bank access **less than 15% of their natural water resources.**
- Heavy reliance on **purchasing water from Mekorot** entrenches dependency.
- An Israeli settler consumes **4–6 times more water** than a Palestinian on average.
- During summer, water cuts and reductions are frequent in Palestinian towns and villages, while settlements receive continuous supply.





Root Causes of Gaza's Water Crisis:

1. Forced population transfers → extreme demand beyond aquifer recharge

Forced population transfers concentrated a large refugee population in Gaza, pushing water demand far beyond the Coastal Aquifer's safe recharge; groundwater levels have fallen, and salinity increased.

2. Agricultural pumping & border wells → depletion of fresh water

Decades of intensive agricultural pumping (including pre-2005 settlements inside Gaza and deep wells along/near the border) intercept flows of the shared Coastal Aquifer and deplete Gaza's fresh water.

3. Blocked natural recharge + blockade & damage → aquifer cannot recover

Upstream diversions/dams reduce Wadi Gaza's freshwater inflows; blockade and repeated damage restrict materials, power and repairs—causing sewage infiltration and preventing the aquifer's natural recharge.

Gaza Strip Water Situation:

- Result: seawater intrusion and widespread contamination; 97% of groundwater unfit for drinking in recent year
- **Before 2023 war:** Over 50% of drinking water from Mekorot (3 supply points).
- **Seawater desalination:** 3 small plants provided limited water.
- **Since war:**
  - Mekorot supply cut, later one line reconnected with less water.
  - Desalination plants partially/completely destroyed, some run at very low capacity due to fuel shortage.
- **Current reality:** People survive on 3–5 liters/day — far below the 15-liter humanitarian minimum.



By taking control of Palestinian natural resources, Israel denies Palestinians their basic right to self-determination.

Its full control over water in the occupied territories keeps the Palestinian economy weak and enforces a system of apartheid based on discrimination and separation.

This situation allows Israeli companies to profit while Palestinians suffer from water shortages but also serves as a tool of pressure designed to restrict daily life, undermine resilience and ultimately push Palestinians to leave their land.



In a world that values equality and dignity, there should be **no place for water apartheid.**

Asma Samaan

Palestinian Hydrology Group (PHG)





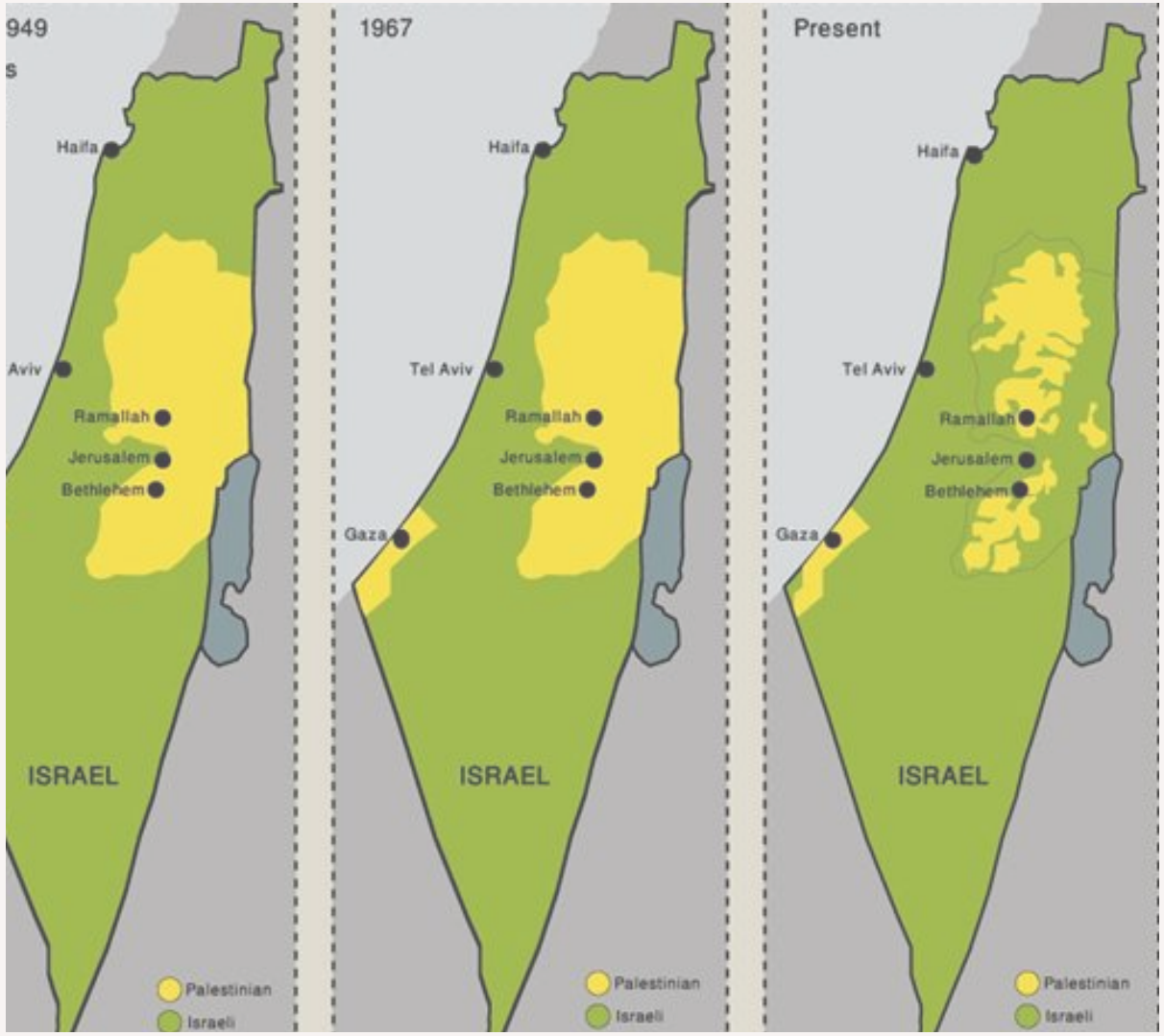
Open Floor / Debate abierto / Discussion ouverte / مناقشة مفتوحة

Thank You!
See you in session 4!
Solidarity and action with Palestine and beyond
Wednesday 10th September 2025

¡Gracias!
¡Nos vemos en la sesión 4!
Solidaridad y acción con Palestina y más allá
Miércoles, 10 de septiembre de 2025

Merci!
Rendez-vous à la session 4!
Solidarité et action avec la Palestine et au-delà
Mercredi 10 septembre 2025

!شكراً لكم
!نراكم في الجلسة الرابعة
التضامن والعمل مع فلسطين وما وراءها
الأربعاء 10 سبتمبر 2025





Thank you very much!

¡Muchas gracias!

Merci beaucoup!

Muito obrigado!

شكرا جزيلا