

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF
SOLIDARITY
WITH THE
PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

1 December 2020



Israeli policies and practices and their social and economic impact in the occupied Palestinian territory



UNITED NATIONS

الاستقرار

ESCWA

Shared Prosperity Dignified Life



Movement Restrictions and Isolation

Occupied Palestinian Territory

Gaza closures/blockade since 2007

- undermine civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights
- erode the productive base of the economy of Gaza
- delay reconstruction in Gaza

Complex permit regime for Palestinians to leave Gaza

- Lack of transparency
- Decline in permits for patients and health workers

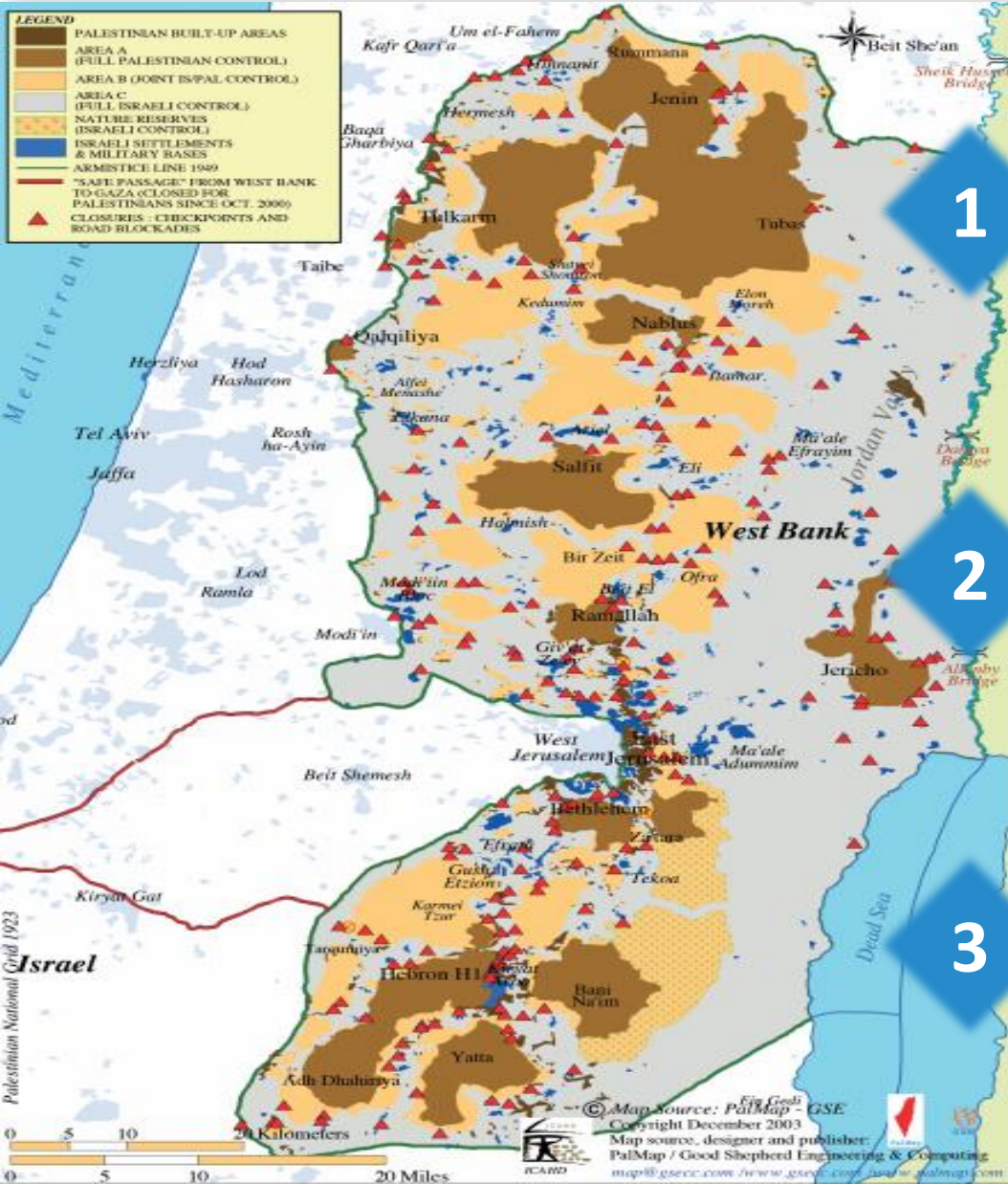
Imports not sufficient for the needs Exports fraction of per-blockade levels

Buffer zones by land and sea as “access-restricted areas”



Movement Restrictions and Isolation

Occupied Palestinian Territory



1

Municipal Boundaries of Settlements in the West Bank

Enclose more than 10% of total area (Off-limits to Palestinians)

2

Area seized for military purposes in the West Bank

Assigned 18% of total area (Off-limits to Palestinians)

3

Obstacles: Checkpoints and Road Blockades

- 140 fully or occasionally-staffed checkpoints
- Around 96 roadblocks in West Bank

Movement Restrictions and Isolation

Occupied Palestinian Territory



Wall will isolate around 9.4% of the West Bank pending completion

[Final Step of Israeli Occupation: West Bank Annexation \(insamer.com\)](http://insamer.com)

**At least 11,000
Palestinians stranded in
the Seam Zone**

**West Bank Fragmented into
more than 100 cantons and
hinder interaction between
Palestinian communities**





Settler Violence

- ❑ 143 settler attacks recorded first five months of 2020
- ❑ Harassment of Palestinians
- ❑ No deterrence
- ❑ Accompanied by Israeli soldiers in some cases
- ❑ Resulting in casualties and damage to property

[Unprotected: Settler Attacks Again Palestinians on the Rise Amidst the Outbreak of COVID-19 - OCHA Article - Question of Palestine](#)



Great March of Return

- ❑ Over 7,000 live ammunition limb injuries (156 resulting in amputations)
- ❑ Over 36,100 injured (8,800 children) 212 killed (46 children)
- ❑ Around 10,400 people will suffer severe mental health problems

[Two Years On: People Injured and Traumatized During the "Great March of Return" are Still Struggling - Question of Palestine \(un.org\)](#)



Israeli army and police

- ❑ Violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law
- ❑ Targeting civilian structures
- ❑ Use of force in policing situations (ie. Illegal use of snipers in GMR)
- ❑ Almost full impunity



Violence against Women and Children

- ❑ Verbal, physical, sexual assault
- ❑ Harassment and intimidation
- ❑ Discouraging their movement and the pursuit of normal life

Detention and Ill Treatment

Occupied Palestinian Territory



- ❑ 4,207 Palestinian security detainees (end Aug 2020)
- ❑ Administrative detention without charge
- ❑ Persistence of ill-treatment and torture of detainees, including women and children, older persons, and persons with disabilities
- ❑ At least 8,000 Palestinian children arrested and prosecuted since 2000 by the Israeli military
- ❑ 72% of 641 detained children reported physical abuse

Detention and Ill Treatment in Light of the Pandemic

Occupied Palestinian Territory

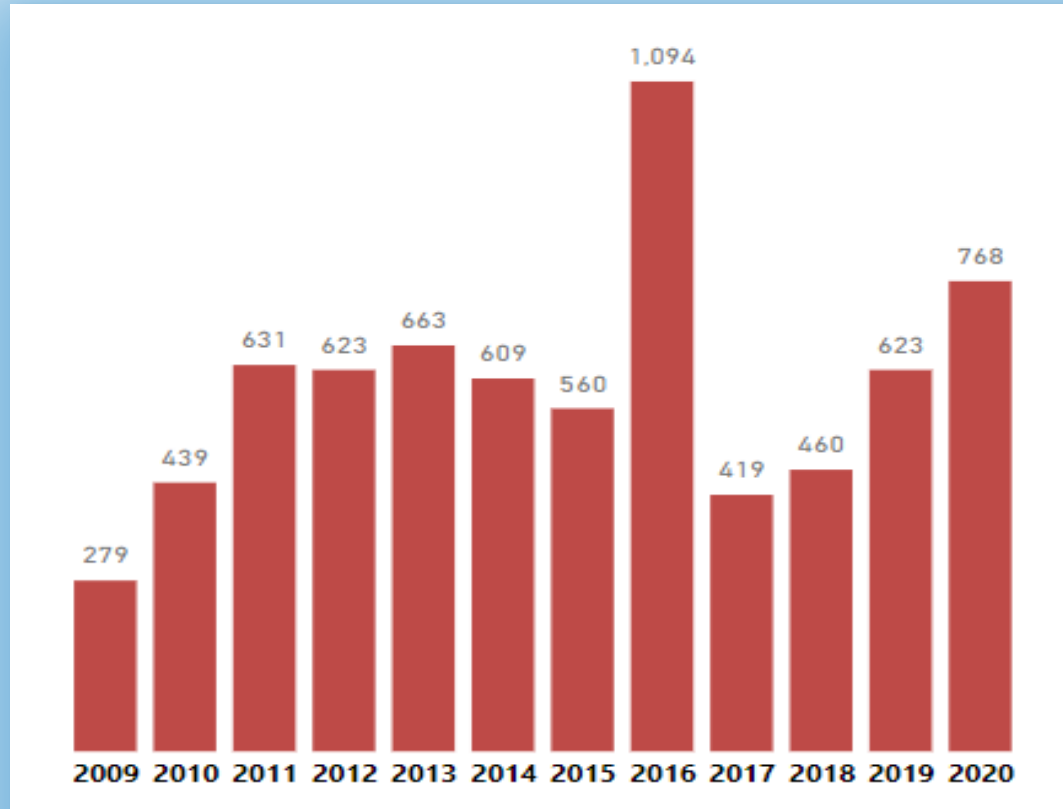


- ❑ 700 prisoners suffering from various illnesses more vulnerable to COVID-19
- ❑ In one prison, around 73 Palestinian prisoners have tested positive for Covid-19 (November 2020)

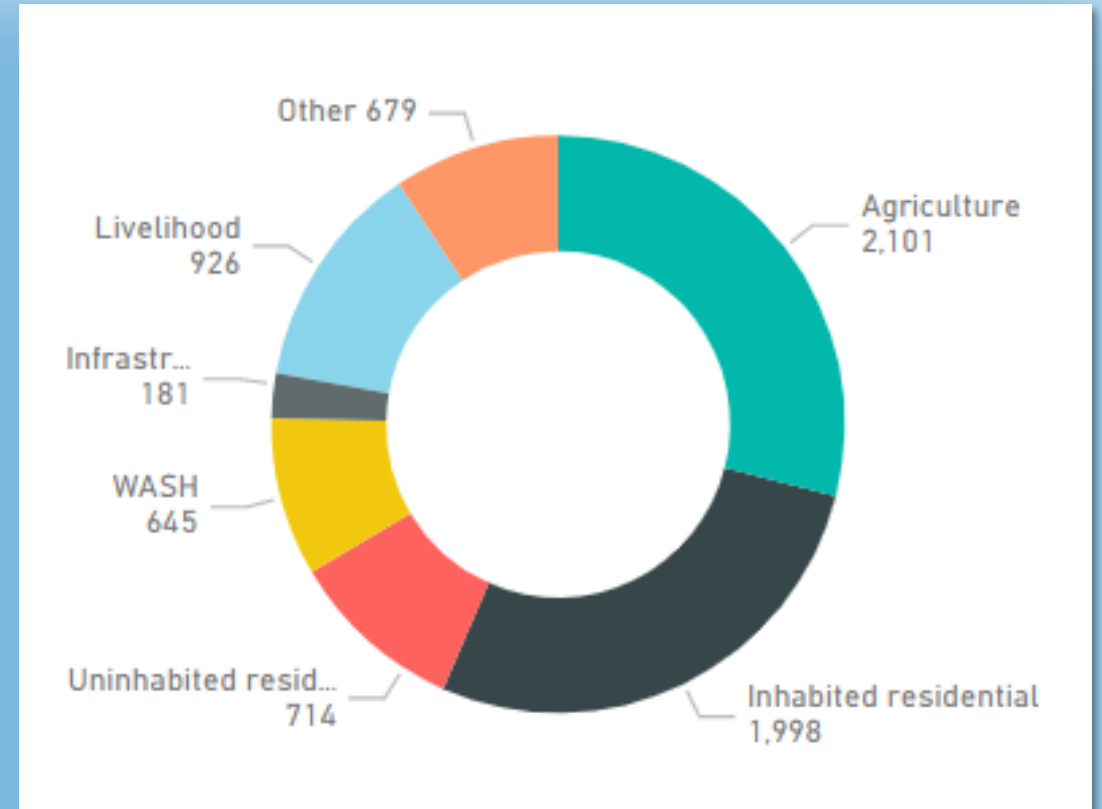
Overview on Demolitions and Displacement

Occupied Palestinian Territory

Demolished Structures by Year



Demolished Structures by Type (2009-2020)



Demolition and Displacement in oPT

Occupied Palestinian Territory



Since 1967

25,000+ homes destroyed

160,000+ Palestinians displaced



01

Settlements West Bank by end of 2018

- ❑ Approximately 671,007 Israeli settlers resided in the West Bank
- ❑ 150 settlements
- ❑ 26 inhabited outposts (unofficial settlements)

02

Settlement Growth in 2019

- ❑ Israeli settlement expansion more than doubled in Area C
- ❑ Advancement of plans for 13,700 settlement units
- ❑ Bidding for the construction of 1,200+ housing units in the Givat Hamatos settlement

03

Violations and Obstructions

- ❑ Violations: UN Security Resolutions Councils
- ❑ Obstructions: Economic and social development in oPT

Destruction and Confiscation of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Structures (WASH)

Occupied Palestinian Territory

Between Jan 2009 and Nov 2020

- ❑ Around 300,000 Palestinians in Area C directly affected by Israeli restrictions and practices



645

WASH Structures Destroyed

- ❑ At least 180 Palestinian communities in Area C have no connection to a water network



21

Donor-Funded WASH Structures

- ❑ 95,000 people in Area C receive less than 50 liters per person per day




39

WASH Structures Confiscated

Structures include (WHO): Healthcare Facilities and Clinics, Reservoirs, Wastewater Management Sites...

Exploitation of Natural Resources – Agriculture


Occupied Palestinian Territory



Agricultural
Structures
Demolished

2,097

Since 2009



Land Levelling
Violations

26

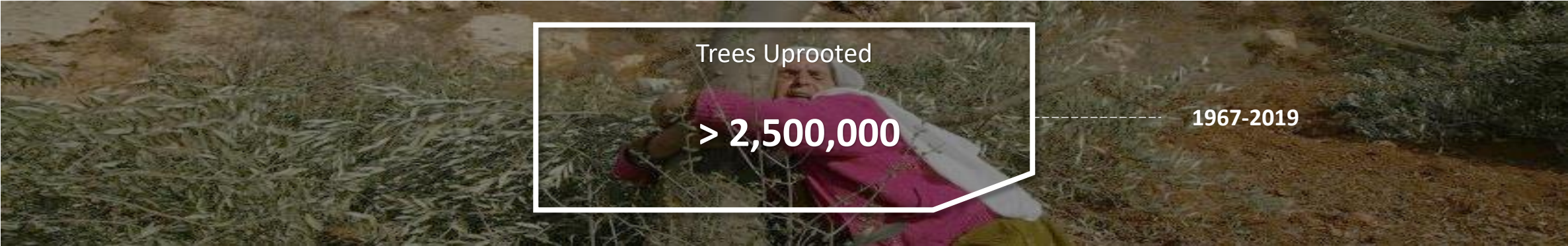
1 Jan 2020 – 1 Oct 2020



Agricultural
Land
Confiscated

≈ 110,000
dunums

1967-2019



Trees Uprooted

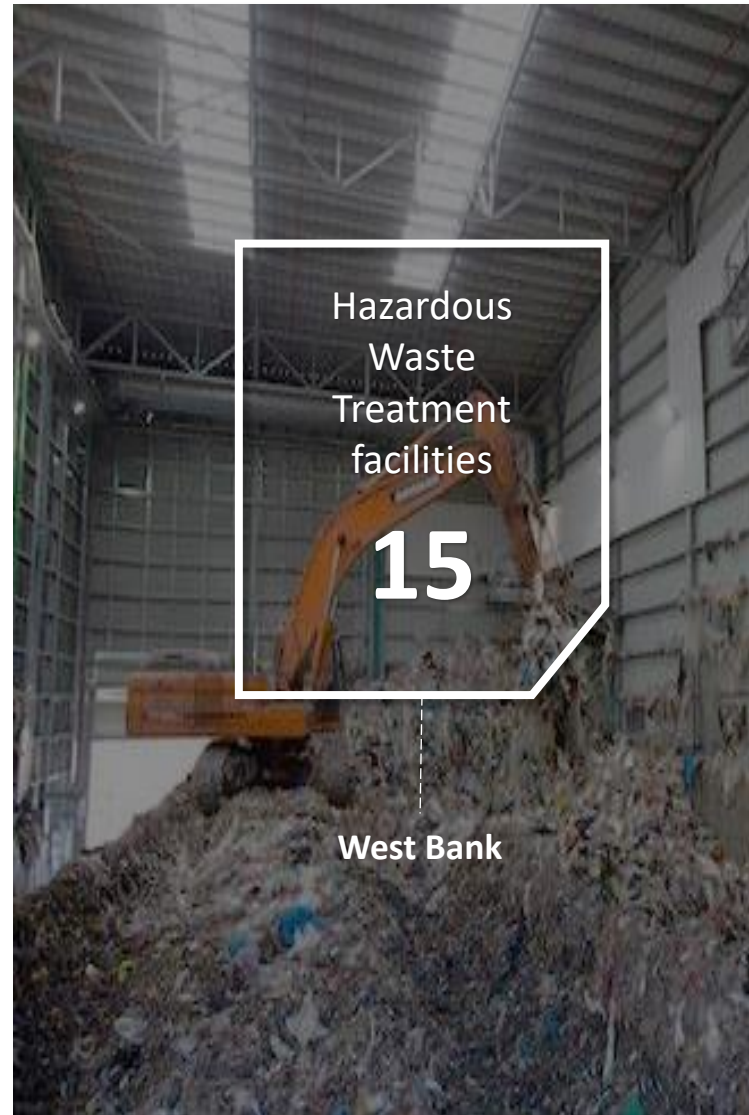
> 2,500,000

1967-2019

Data on demolition and displacement in the West Bank | United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs - occupied Palestinian territory (ochaopt.org)

Exploitation of Natural Resources – Pollution

Occupied Palestinian Territory



[Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the OPT, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan.pdf \(reliefweb.int\)](#)

[Palestine: Solid waste management under occupation | Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung | Palestine and Jordan \(boell.org\)](#)



Unemployment

- ❑ Hyper Unemployment in Gaza at 45.1%
- ❑ Growing labor force
- ❑ Depression-Level unemployment rate increase from 31% 2018 to 33% 2019 (oPT)



Poverty

- ❑ Approx. 1.4 million people living in poverty
- ❑ 22% of Palestinians below national poverty line (2017-latest available data)
- ❑ No control over fiscal and monetary tools needed



Food Insecurity

- ❑ 1.7 million Palestinians considered food – insecure
- ❑ 62% of households food-insecure in Gaza
- ❑ 82 children treated for severe acute malnutrition in first half of 2019



Education

- ❑ Attacks on schools
- ❑ Insufficient classrooms
- ❑ Demolition of schools
- ❑ Threats of attacks against school staff and students
- ❑ 416,000 people in need of education-related assistance



Health

- ❑ High risk of contagion due overcrowding
- ❑ Inadequate sanitation
- ❑ Restricted movement of essential medical equipment and supplies to Gaza
- ❑ Attacks on medical facilities and staff

Constricting Factors

- ❑ Depletion of and limited access to natural resources
- ❑ Strong dependence on foreign aid
- ❑ Low investments
- ❑ Erosion of Palestinian productive sectors
- ❑ De-industrialization of the Palestinian economy

Estimated annual leakage of Palestinian fiscal resources to the Israeli treasury at 3.7% of GDP or 17.8% of total tax revenues

Economic dependency on Israel

Donor budget support fell from a high 32% of GDP in 2008 to 3.5% in 2019



- ❑ COVID-19 pandemic added up to a reality of diminished capacity of the healthcare system caused by Israel's systemic failure to respect and protect the right to health of Palestinians in a context of prolonged occupation.
- ❑ More than 9000 patients need Israeli exit permits to leave the Gaza Strip each year for treatment that is unavailable locally, a quarter of whom are patients with cancer.
- ❑ The insufficient amount of equipment needed to treat COVID-19 in the oPT
 - ❑ 87 intensive care unit beds with ventilators for nearly 2 million people
- ❑ 19,898 confirmed (8,933 active) Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) cases in Gaza
 - ❑ 350 hospital beds to treat COVID-19
 - ❑ Facilities for up to 2000 cases were set up
- ❑ Israel's recent targeting of homes and even water, sanitation and hygiene facilities in the oPT violates international law and undermines efforts to curb the coronavirus pandemic.

Conclusion

Occupied Palestinian Territory

The protracted Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territory

- Detrimental effect on the living conditions of Palestinians.
- Multilayered and cumulative repercussions with long term effects.
- SDGs will be almost impossible to attain.
- Resulting humanitarian crises divert aid from development to relief.
- Jeopardizing to the health and safety of thousands of Palestinians.

Israel continues to employ policies contrary to international law

- Discriminatory policies.
- Forcible transfer.
- Collective punishment.

Adherence to international law is imperative for peace



Thank you



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