



# Timeline – Israel's 20th Knesset

## The Reality in Occupied Palestine VS. International Actions (Examples)

April 2015 – March 2019

During the campaigning for upcoming Israeli elections, no mainstream candidate has called for a comprehensive peace agreement with Palestine. In fact, the main candidates have campaigned on the preservation and expansion of Israeli settlements, a commitment to further annexation of Palestinian land, reaffirmation of Jerusalem as the exclusive capital of Israel, the dehumanization of Palestinians and the denial of their rights. These candidates, whether from the current government or the opposition, rely upon the perpetuation of the culture of impunity allowing Israel to act without consequence. Indeed, despite the fact that Israel has systematically violated international law and UN resolutions, rather than being threatened or served with sanctions, Israel receives growing international support.

With the exception of the approval of UNSC Resolution 2334 in 2016, which condemned the settlement enterprise and affirmed its illegality, no major international measures to hold Israel accountable for its systematic violations and crimes have been implemented during the time period covered. Although it is important to note the responsible resolutions by both the parliaments of Ireland and Chile which voted to ban products produced in illegal Israeli settlements from entering their respective markets. While not comprehensive, or in any way inclusive of Israeli violations, this report highlights some examples of Israeli practices and policies in violation of international law and other actions, and the corresponding or subsequent actions by the international community.

Israel has never recognized, let alone implemented, any resolution by the United Nations.

Year	The Reality in occupied Palestine	International Action	
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**2015** ○ **June**

During the first week of June, Israel demolishes 31 Palestinian structures, including ten homes, displacing or otherwise affecting at least 120 Palestinians.

**July**

Israeli settlers burn to death the Dawabshe family, killing 18-month-old toddler Ali Dawabshe and his parents.

**August**

Israel resumes construction of its illegal Annexation Wall in the Cremisan Valley, Beit Jala. (Despite international protests).

UN excludes Israel from the list of countries that commit grave violations against children in armed conflict.

The Pacific Alliance (Chile, Peru, Colombia and Mexico) welcomes Israel as an observer member, announces opening an office for scientific cooperation with Israel. Palestine's request for admission is rejected.

**November**

EU publishes Guidelines to label Israeli settlement products. (Not yet enforced).

**2016** ○ **January**

Within one month, the Israeli Occupying Forces demolish nearly 80 Palestinian structures throughout the occupied West Bank, including 28 homes, displacing or otherwise affecting one thousand Palestinians.

**March**

Israel declares 2342 dunums (nearly 580 acres) of Jericho "state land", thereby confiscating it as its own.

**April**

Israel approves at least 200 new settlement units in the occupied West Bank.

**June**

The Israeli occupying forces opened fire at a Palestinian car with teenagers inside, killing Mahmoud Badran (15-years-old), in an act that may amount to an unlawful killing.

Martin Schulz, President of the European Parliament, allegedly tells Israeli counterparts that labeling settlement products would "harm Palestinian workers who make a decent wage there".

UN Human Rights Council adopts resolution 31/36 calling for the UN to publish a database of companies involved in business activities with Israel's settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. The database's release has been delayed year after year and has not yet been published.

French Initiative is launched towards pushing the Middle East Peace Process forward through a multilateral framework.

Group of Latin American diplomats visit occupied East Jerusalem, including an illegal colonial-settlement in Silwan, accompanied by Israeli officials.

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2017	<p><b>July</b> Israel announces the construction of 770 new settlement units in the illegal colonial settlement of Gillo.</p> <p><b>October</b> Israeli Government approves the construction of a new colonial settlement in the Nablus Governorate.</p> <p><b>December</b> Israel's "Justice" minister Ayelet Shaked announces her party's intention to annex the illegal colonial settlement of Ma'ale Adumin, located at the eastern gateway of occupied Jerusalem.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Quartet publishes its report; equalizing responsibilities of occupier and occupied (alleged Palestinian incitement with colonial-settlement construction).</li> <li>▪ Paraguayan President Cartes visits Occupied East Jerusalem as part of his visit to Israel.</li> </ul> <p>Italian PM Matteo Renzi supports Israeli position on UNESCO resolution regarding occupied East Jerusalem: "We cannot continue with these motions aimed at attacking Israel. If there is to break out of European unity because of this, then so be it."</p> <p>The UN Security Council adopts Resolution 2334 reaffirming the illegality of Israeli settlements, the importance of the 1967 border and calling upon the international community to make a differentiation between Israel and occupied territory.</p>	
	<p><b>February</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Israel endorses "Judea and Samaria Settlement Regulation" Law, legalizing theft of Palestinian land by Israeli settlers.</li> <li>▪ Israeli court imposes excessively lenient sentence on Israeli soldier responsible for the extrajudicial killing of Abdel-Fattah al-Sharif.</li> </ul>	<p>President Donald Trump states after meeting with PM Netanyahu "So I'm looking at two-state and onestate, and I like the one that both parties like."</p>	

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	<p><b>July</b> Israel installs metal detectors at the entrances of Al Aqsa Mosque Compound, violating the historic "Status Quo" Agreement. Palestinians refuse to accept installations, leading to nearly two weeks of peaceful demonstrations until their removal.</p> <p><b>August:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Israeli government announces its intent to demolish and forcibly transfer the Palestinian villages of Khan Al Ahmar and Susiya.</li> <li>▪ Israel establishes a municipal entity for its illegal colonial-settlements in the occupied old city of Hebron.</li> </ul> <p><b>November</b> Israeli minister Ze'ev Elkin announces Israeli plans to have a million settlers in the occupied West Bank.</p> <p><b>December 16</b> Israeli Minister of Housing Yoav Gallant announces plans to build three new Israeli settlements in the Jordan Valley.</p>	<p>Joint meeting of the VISAGRAD countries (Hungary, Poland, Slovak Republic, and the Czech Republic) and Israel ignores Palestinian human rights and Israeli violations of international law. The final statement affirmed their "...shared universal values and principles of human rights and fundamental freedoms, democracy, market economy, the rule of law and good governance.."</p> <p>Secretary General of the Organization of American States Luis Almagro praises Israel as "a full-fledged democracy, fully committed to democratic principles, constitutional order and the rule of law."</p> <p>British Prime Minister Theresa May participates in celebration of 100 years of the Balfour Declaration, which promised the land of historic Palestine to the Zionist movement.</p> <p><b>December 6</b> US Recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital.</p> <p><b>December 16</b> US vetoes Security Council resolution on Jerusalem. The resolution reaffirmed the illegality of Israel's annexation.</p> <p><b>December 21</b> The UNGA adopts a new resolution rejecting the US declaration of Jerusalem as Israel's capital and considers the move as "null and void". The resolution reiterates the legal status of Jerusalem as occupied territory and objects the relocation of any embassy in Israel to the holy city.</p>	

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**2018** ○ **January 1**

Israel's parliament approves amendment to Basic Law "Jerusalem is the capital of Israel", requiring a majority vote of 80 members of parliament, out of 120, to any further amendments to the Basic Law.

**January 21**

Construction began in the settlement of Amichai, first new settlement after the Oslo Interim Agreement since the construction of Har Homa settlement (on Jabal Abu Ghneim) in 1996.

**January 25**

Israel continues to violate the "Status Quo" Agreement: imposes taxes on church properties. This led Christian denominations and Heads of Churches to close the Church of the Holy Sepulcher for the second time since 1967.

**February**

Israel announces two new colonial-settlements, one west of Bethlehem and the other in the Jordan Valley.

**March 30**

The launch of the "Great March of Return" in Gaza, demanding the right of return of the Palestinian people in accordance with UNGA Resolution 194.

**May 16**

Israel's ministry of "Defense" announces plans for the construction of 2,500 settlement units in the occupied West Bank.

**July**

Approval of Israel's "Nation-State" Basic Law, declaring that only Jews have the right to self-determination, supporting settlements and the annexation of Jerusalem, and institutionalizing Israel's Apartheid regime.

**January 16**

US freezes \$65 million in aid to UNRWA.

**January 24**

President Trump affirms: "we took Jerusalem off the table (...) so we don't have to talk about it anymore".

**March**

United Kingdom announces boycott of Item 7 of the Human Rights Council on the Israeli human rights violations in the territories it occupies since 1967.

**May 14**

The inauguration of the US Embassy in occupied Jerusalem; with the attendance of a number of diplomatic representatives (including Austria, Australia, Honduras and Togo). On this day, Israel killed 59 Palestinians in Gaza.

**May 16**

Guatemala opens its embassy in Jerusalem.

Irish Parliament approves (in the first reading) a bill banning Israeli settlement products.

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	<p><b>October</b> In violation of international law, Hebron Protocol of 1997, and the sanctity of Hebron as a world heritage site, Israel approves the construction of a new settlement compound in the heart of Hebron's old city (the first fully-fledged settlement building from the ground up since 1979).</p> <p><b>November</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Israel's "High Court of Justice" rules for the ethnic cleansing of hundreds of Palestinians in occupied East Jerusalem.</li> <li>▪ The Israeli Occupying Forces demolish almost 20 Palestinian shops in Shu'fat Refugee Camp, affecting at least 50 Palestinian families.</li> </ul> <p><b>December</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Israeli settlers try to establish a new colonial-installation in the heart of the Battir World Heritage Site.</li> <li>▪ Speaker of Israeli Parliament Yuli Adelstein calls for the annexation of Hebron.</li> </ul>	<p>Australian PM Scott Morrison announces his intention to move the Australian Embassy to Jerusalem, in violation of UNSC resolution 478.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Czech Republic opens office with diplomatic status in Jerusalem as part of their embassy to Israel.</li> <li>▪ Chilean Parliament approves a resolution calling upon its government to review its agreements with Israel in order not to benefit the Israeli occupation, to establish tourism guidelines and to put in place a mechanism to ban Israeli settlement products.</li> </ul> <p>Israel, Greece, and Cyprus conduct a trilateral summit whose final declaration ignores the Israeli occupation of Palestine and calls for the enhancement of EU-Israeli relations, stating that "Israel and Europe share common values of democracy and the rule of law"</p>	
2019	<p><b>January</b> In violation of the Hebron Protocol and UNSC 904, Israel decides to expel the Temporary International Presence in Hebron (TIPH), the only official mission of international observers in the occupied Palestinian territory.</p> <p><b>February</b> Palestinians reopen Bab Al Rahmeh (Gate of Mercy) of Al-Aqsa Mosque Compound, closed by Israel since 2003.</p>	<p>Lithuanian PM suggests that his country is considering moving its embassy in Israel to Jerusalem.</p> <p>The Trump Administration and the Polish Government hold the Warsaw Conference. The US tries to use the conference as a tool for deviating attention from the occupation of Palestine and normalizing relations between Israel and other countries in the region.</p>	

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	<p><b>March</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Arab Center for the Advancement of Social Media (7amleh) releases the Index of Racism and Incitement in Israeli Social Media 2018: an inciting post against Palestinians is shared every 66 seconds.</li> <li>▪ Within one month, the Israeli Occupying Forces fully demolish 35 Palestinian structures throughout the occupied West Bank, including 11 homes, displacing over 50 Palestinians.</li> </ul> <p><b>March</b> PM Netanyahu suggests that US recognition of Israel's sovereignty over the Golan Heights would have consequences regarding the occupied West Bank.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Closure of US Consulate General in Jerusalem. Inaugurated as a diplomatic mission in 1844, the consulate had served Palestinians for almost 175 years.</li> <li>▪ Hungary, Slovakia and Honduras announce the opening of diplomatic missions in "Jerusalem – Israel."</li> <li>▪ Denmark and the United Kingdom announce their boycott of Item 7 in the Human Rights Council, on Israeli violations of human rights in the territories it occupied since 1967. Both countries, in addition to Australia, vote against the three resolutions under this item, including the Palestinian right to self-determination.</li> </ul> <p><b>March 25</b> US Recognition of the illegal Israeli annexation of the Golan Heights.</p>	

### Israeli Violations in Numbers between: 1 April 2015 and 31 March 2019:

	Key Violations	Total
	Killings	722 Palestinians
	Injuries	at least 16,000 Palestinians
	Detentions	at least 23,000 Palestinians
	Military Raids	nearly 25,000
	Israeli Fire Attacks	at least 19,000
	Fully Demolished Structures (including Homes)	over 2,170 (including at least 410 donor-funded) over 3,000 Palestinians were displaced <sup>1</sup>
	<b>Settlement Activities</b>	at least 2300 for the construction of <b>nearly 27,000</b> <sup>2</sup> settlement units

Source: Palestinian Monitoring Group (PMG).

<sup>1</sup> UNOCHA

<sup>2</sup> Peace Now, Israeli settlement units announced/ promoted between 2015 till the end of 2018.