

EVOLUTION OF THE USE OF THE TERM “GENOCIDE” IN POLITICAL AND MEDIA DISCOURSE ON GAZA (2023-2025)



October 2023

Official Western Media

WIDESPREAD USE OF TERMS LIKE “WAR CRIMES” AND “TARGETING CIVILIANS” IN HUMAN RIGHTS MEDIA; OFFICIAL NARRATIVES EMPHASIZED “SELF-DEFENSE”, “COUNTER-TERRORISM” AVOIDING “GENOCIDE.”



January 2024

South Africa's Case before the International Court of Justice (ICJ)

FIRST FORMAL AND DIRECT LEGAL INVOCATION OF THE TERM “GENOCIDE” IN A LAWSUIT AGAINST ISRAEL UNDER THE GENOCIDE CONVENTION.



Apr–May 2024

Independent Palestinian Journalists (e.g., Mo'taz Azaiza, Bisan Owda) & Digital Platforms

RISE IN ALTERNATIVE DIGITAL MEDIA AND DAILY ON-THE-GROUND VISUAL COVERAGE USING THE TERM “GENOCIDE” FREQUENTLY AND CLEARLY.



Sep–Dec 2024

Parliaments and States from Europe and the Global South

COUNTRIES LIKE BELGIUM, CHILE, AND IRELAND ISSUED STATEMENTS USING TERMS LIKE “WAR CRIMES” AND “POTENTIAL GENOCIDE” CALLING FOR INTERNATIONAL INVESTIGATIONS.



Mar–Jun 2025

Human Rights Orgs, Civil Society Networks (e.g., FIDH, B'Tselem, EuroMed Rights), and States (Brazil, UK, etc.)

RISE IN THE TERM'S LEGAL/POLITICAL USE FOR ACCOUNTABILITY, FEATURING IN CAMPAIGNS FOR SANCTIONS AND BOYCOTTS. BRAZIL'S PRESIDENT CONDEMNS THE KILLINGS; UK AND OTHER WESTERN STATES SANCTION TWO ISRAELI MINISTERS FOR INCITING VIOLENCE.



Nov–Dec 2023

Human Rights Organizations: Amenesty Intl, Human Rights Watch, UN COMMISSION of Inquiry

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS REPORTS DOCUMENTED SYSTEMATIC PATTERNS OF DESTRUCTION AND KILLING THAT MAY AMOUNT TO GENOCIDE UNDER THE 1948 CONVENTION.



Feb–Mar 2024

UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

REPORTS REFERRED TO A “SYSTEMATIC HUMANITARIAN CATASTROPHE” WITH DESCRIPTIONS OVERLAPPING WITH THE CONCEPT OF GENOCIDE — THOUGH NOT EXPLICITLY LABELED AS SUCH.



Jun–Aug 2024

International Media Outlets: The Guardian, Al Jazeera English, Democracy Now!

INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING DOCUMENTED TESTIMONIES AND FOOTAGE FRAMING VIOLATIONS AS “SYSTEMATIC MASSACRES” — EMPLOYING TERMS LIKE “CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY” AND OCCASIONALLY “GENOCIDE.”



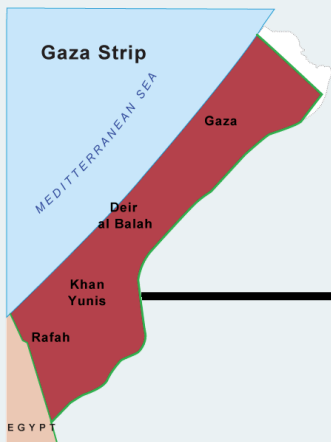
January 2025

International Criminal Court (ICC)

EXPANSION OF INVESTIGATIONS TO COVER LEGAL DIMENSIONS “THAT MAY AMOUNT TO GENOCIDE” BASED ON LEAKED PRELIMINARY REPORTS AND FIELD DEVELOPMENTS.



State of Palestine
Palestine Liberation Organization
Negotiations Affairs Department
Negotiations and Support Unit (NSU)



ISRAELI AGRESSION ON GAZA

GENOCIDE IN FIGURES

UNTIL JULY 9.2025

GENOCIDE

The Intentional Destruction of People

1

- **+12,000** MASSACRES
- **+57,680** KILLED
- **+137,409** INJURED
- **+11,200** MISSING
- CASUALTIES = **~10%** OF GAZA'S POPULATION
- **+2,200** FAMILIES (WIPED OUT FROM CIVIL RECORDS)
- **+ 5,120** FAMILIES LEFT WITH ONE SURVIVOR

FEMICIDE

The Erasure of Women in War

3

- **+28,000** WOMEN & GIRLS KILLED
- **+14,000** WOMEN WIDOWED
- **+150,000** PREGNANT & BREASTFEEDING WOMEN LACK BASIC HEALTHCARE

EDUCIDE

The Annihilation of Education

5

- **+16,019** SCHOOL STUDENTS KILLED
- **+703** SCHOOL STAFF KILLED
- **+23,913** SCHOOL STUDENTS INJURED
- **+3,015** SCHOOL STAFF INJURED
- **252** PUBLIC SCHOOLS SEVERELY DAMAGED
- **+118** SCHOOLS DESTROYED
- **93** UNRWA SCHOOLS ATTACKED AND DAMAGED
- **+1156** UNIVERSITY STUDENTS KILLED
- **+221** UNIVERSITY STAFF KILLED
- **+60** UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS DESTROYED

ECOCIDE

The Destruction of Gaza's Environment

7

- **100,000** TONS OF MUNITIONS DROPPED — EQUAL TO **7** HIROSHIMA BOMBS
- **+10,000** UNXPLODED ORDANCES (UXOS)
- UP TO **2.3** MILLION TONS OF ASBESTOS IN DEBRIS (MOSTLY FROM REFUGEE CAMPS)
- CARBON FOOTPRINT: **1.89** MILLION TCO₂E FROM ATTACKS **+ 31** MILLION TCO₂E EXPECTED FROM CLEANUP
- OVER **80%** OF TREE COVER & AGRICULTURAL LAND LOST

MOBILICIDE

The Strangling of Movement and Roads Devastation

9

- **81%** OF CLASSIFIED ROADS DAMAGED
- OVER **90%** OF VEHICLES (**~108,000**) DAMAGED OR UNUSABLE
- **95%** OF BOATS DESTROYED
- **+2** MILLION PALESTINIANS TRAPPED IN **365 KM²**

DIGITACIDE

The Erasure of Gaza's Digital Existence

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- **74%** OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE DESTROYED
- TOTAL INTERNET & TELECOM BLACKOUT SINCE **JUNE 12, 2025**

SPATIOCID

The Erasure of Place and Belonging

13

- **85%** OF GAZA UNDER MILITARY ZONES OR DISPLACEMENT ORDERS
- **~1.9** MILLION IDPs
- NEIGHBORHOODS & LANDMARKS DELIBERATELY ERASED

2

CHILDCIDE

The Targeting of Children

- **+18,000** CHILDREN KILLED (**27** DAILY)
- **+7,065** CHILDREN INJURED
- **31%** OF ALL FATALITIES ARE CHILDREN
- **+15** CHILDREN INJURED DAILY WITH DISABILITIES
- **+18%** OF AMPUTATION CASES ARE CHILDREN
- **+39,384** ORPHANED
- **+290,000** UNDER **5Y** NEED NUTRITION SUPPORT
- **+1 MILLION** NEED MENTAL HEALTH CARE

4

MEDICOCIDE

The Collapse of Health Systems

- **94%** OF HOSPITALS DAMAGED OR DESTROYED
- ONLY **18** OF **36** HOSPITALS STILL PARTIALLY FUNCTIONAL
- ONLY **63** OF **163** PHC FACILITIES ARE FUNCTIONAL
- **+1,580** HEALTH WORKERS KILLED
- **+188** AMBULANCES DAMAGED
- **+735** ATTACKS ON HEALTHCARE (**+125** FACILITIES AFFECTED **INCL. 34** HOSPITALS DAMAGED)
- **+7,700** NEWBORNS IN LIFE-THREATENING CONDITIONS
- **+2** MILLION PEOPLE AT SEVERE HEALTH RISK

6

AQUACIDE (Hydroicide)

The Weaponization/ Destruction of Water Infrastructure

- **92-95%** OF GAZA'S WATER UNSAFE TO DRINK
- **1.7** MILLION PEOPLE LACK RELIABLE SAFE WATER ACCESS
- ONLY **40%** OF DRINKING WATER FACILITIES FUNCTIONAL
- **50-65%** OF WATER LOST DUE TO DAMAGED NETWORKS
- AVERAGE WATER AVAILABILITY: **3-5 LITERS** PER PERSON PER DAY
- **80%** OF WASH FACILITIES (DESALINATION PLANTS, RESERVOIRS, WELLS) IN MILITARIZED OR DISPLACEMENT ZONES
- **130,000 M³** OF UNTREATED SEWAGE LEAKS DAILY INTO SEA AND GROUNDWATER

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DOMICIDE

The Destruction of Homes

- **+436,000** HOUSING UNITS AFFECTED **~92%** OF ALL HOMES (**160,000** DESTROYED **276,000** DAMAGED)
- **~54** MILLION METRIC TONNES OF DEBRIS (**>5,400** EIFFEL TOWERS)
- **~1.1** MILLION PEOPLE NEED EMERGENCY SHELTER

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MEDIACIDE

The Silencing of Witnesses

- **112** MEDIA OUTLETS DESTROYED
- **226** PALESTINIAN JOURNALISTS AND MEDIA WORKERS KILLED
- **41** JOURNALISTS DETAINED

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INFRACIDE

The Systematic Destruction of Infrastructure

- OVER **70%** OF INFRASTRUCTURE ASSETS DAMAGED OR DESTROYED
- **88%** OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY ENTITIES DAMAGED OR DESTROYED

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URBICIDE

The Killing of Urban Life

- MOST OF GAZA NOW UNINHABITABLE
 - **+173,000** BUILDINGS
 - **+828** MOSQUES, **3** CHURCHES
 - **+225** GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS
- DAMAGED OR DESTROYED



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