

# IT'S TIME



## END THE OCCUPATION

Time to End the Occupation  
Time to Recognize Palestine



HOW PALESTINE WAS  
WIPE OFF THE MAP



# HOW PALESTINE WAS WIPED OFF THE MAP



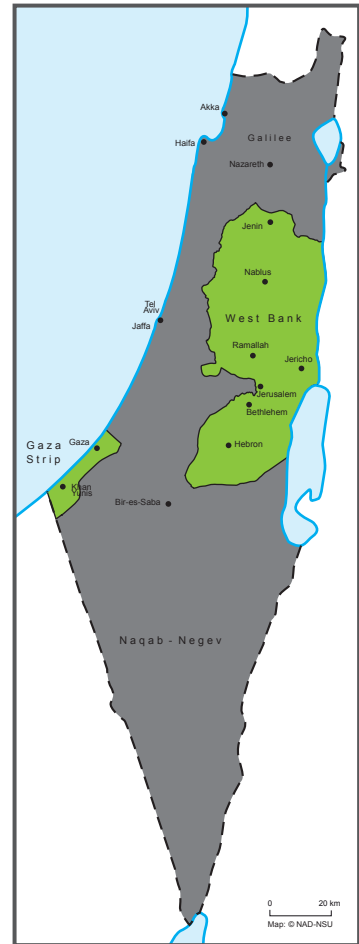
Pre 1948

100% of Historic Palestine



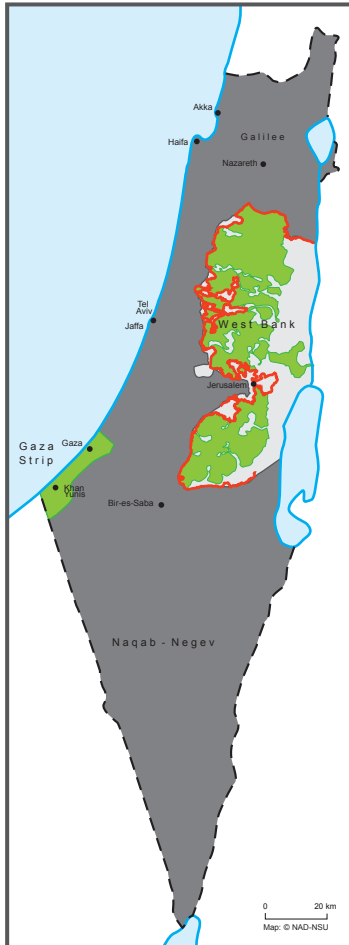
1947

UN Partition Plan  
48% of Historic Palestine

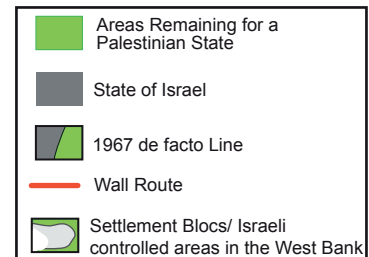


1967

De Facto Line  
22% of Historic Palestine



Historic Palestine is a small country in size. Since the mid-twentieth century, it has been gradually wiped off the map. This began on 29 November 1947, when the United Nations General Assembly adopted an unprecedented and never-repeated resolution (Resolution 181 (II)) to partition Palestine into two states; Palestine and Israel. To date, Palestinians continue to be denied their basic right to self-determination and the establishment of their own State. In fact, the 22% of historic Palestine the world agrees must be the territory of the State of Palestine is shrinking by the day.



2014

The Wall

12% of Historic Palestine

# THE CONFLICT



*Photo by Ibraheem Abu Mustafa/Reuters*

IT'S ABOUT THE PEOPLE,  
NOT REAL ESTATE

“ It would be an offence against the principles of elemental justice if these innocent victims of the conflict were denied the right to return to their homes. ”



*Count Folke Bernadotte  
September 1948*

Count Folke Bernadotte was the United Nations' first official mediator in the Middle East. In May 1948, he succeeded in achieving a truce in the first Israeli-Arab war, during which Israel forcibly expelled the majority of the Palestinian population and destroyed over 400 villages and towns.

Bernadotte worked on presenting a political plan for a solution to the conflict, which included justice for Palestinian refugees. On 17 September 1948, Bernadotte was assassinated by a militant Zionist group called Lehi, which was headed by Yitshak Shamir. His proposed formula for a solution was embodied in subsequent United Nations resolutions, including resolution 194 (III), and remains part of the internationally-accepted framework for a solution to the conflict.

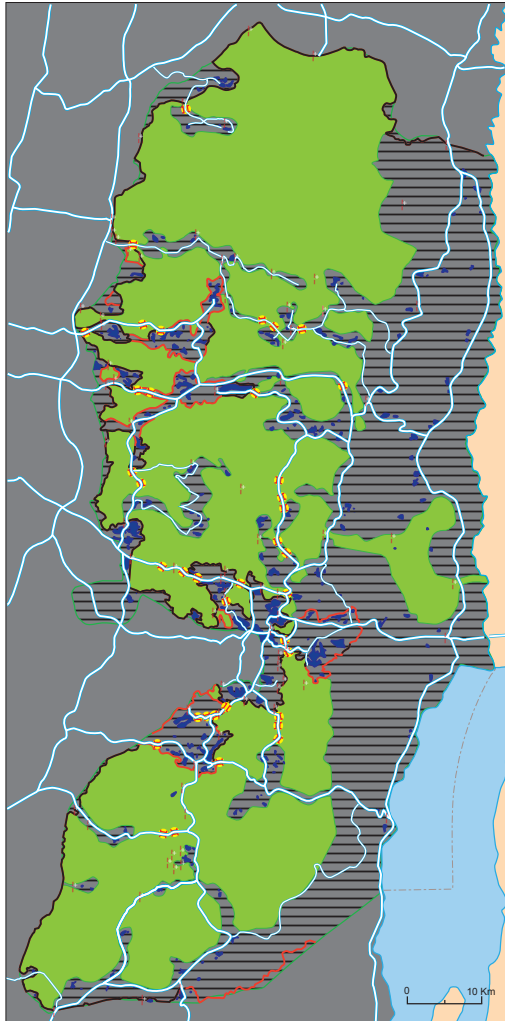


UN Photos

# FACT CHECK

- ✓ In 1948, Israel forcibly expels nearly 800,000 Palestinians (67% of population) from their homes in Palestine. Palestinians refer to this as Nakba, or Catastrophe.
- ✓ Between 1947 and 1949, Israeli forces drove out about 90,000 Christians, almost two thirds of the Palestinian Christian population.<sup>1</sup>
- ✓ On 11 December 1948, the UN General Assembly adopted Resolution 194 III affirming the right of Palestinian refugees to return to their homes and receive compensation for their losses.
- ✓ Palestine accepts Resolution 194 as the basis of a just solution for refugees.
- ✓ Israel rejects the Resolution and denies refugees their rights.
- ✓ It is estimated that 7 of the roughly 11 million Palestinians around the world are refugees, almost two-thirds of the population

# Reality On The Ground



Inside the occupied territory of Palestine, Israel has constructed at least 200 settlements that house over 600,000 settlers. These settlements control and in effect expropriate 46% of the occupied West Bank.<sup>2</sup>

Additionally, Israel bars Palestinians from access and use of approximately 70% of the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem.<sup>3</sup> Most of this area, known as Area C, contains the most fertile land, water resources, minerals, and other unexploited riches in the occupied Territory.

- Areas Remaining for a Palestinian State
- State of Israel
- 54.5% of the West Bank  
Areas off limits to Palestinians  
(Wall regime, checkpoints, Israeli military bases, settlements, and the Jordan Valley)
- Wall Route  
(Planned and Constructed)
- 1967 borders

Meanwhile, Israel's wall surrounds Palestinian cities and cuts them off from one another. The settlement and Wall regime are maintained by a system of military checkpoints and other obstacles that restrict and in some cases ban Palestinians' movement and access to their own land. This fragmentation has a devastating impact on the lives and livelihoods of Palestinians, whose land is confiscated to build and expand these settlements.

The Gaza Strip, which is an integral part of the occupied Palestinian land and economy, has been under siege since 2006. This siege, which is an act of collective punishment, has devastated the economy. At least a third of Gaza's farmland and 85% of its fishing waters are wholly or partially inaccessible due to the Israeli siege. Further exacerbating the situation is a chronic water crisis, whereby over 90% of the water from the Gaza aquifer is unsafe for human consumption without treatment due to bombardment of sewage and water treatment plants and the lack of spare parts to repair them. A United Nations study has warned that if the siege continues, Gaza will be unlivable by 2020.<sup>4</sup>

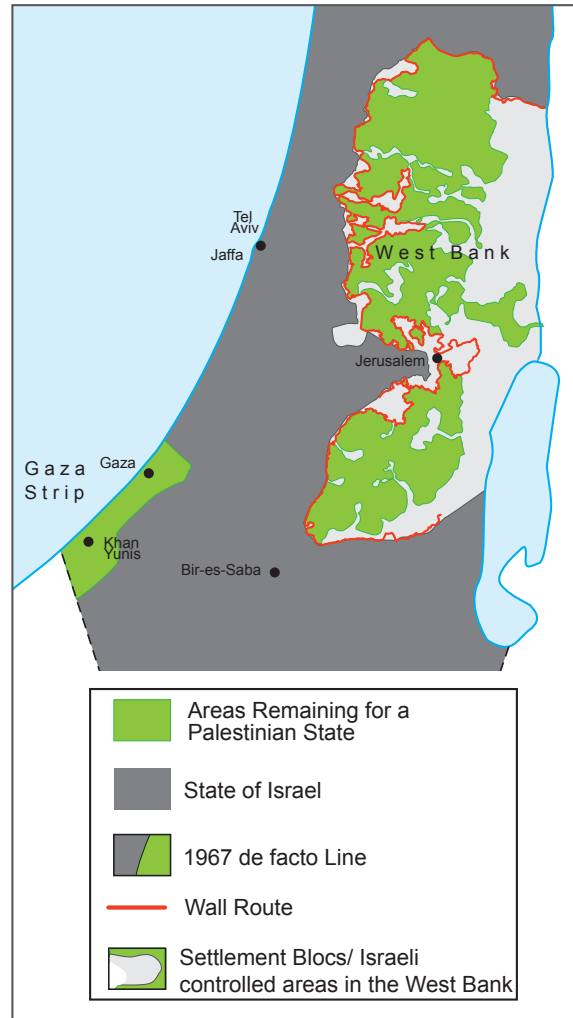




Photo by Mohamed Badarne/Connect

# JERUSALEM



*Photo by Mohamed Badarne/Connect*

THE HEART OF  
PALESTINIAN STATEHOOD,  
IDENTITY

# Jerusalem, The Heart of Palestinian Statehood, Identity

Jerusalem is the political, spiritual, and geographic heart of Palestine. Occupied East Jerusalem is a socio-economic and political center, with 35% of the Palestinian economy dependent on the metropolitan Jerusalem area. It is an integral part of occupied Palestine and crucial to the viability and contiguity of the Palestinian state.

In recent years, Israel has stepped up settlement construction and expansion in Jerusalem, with more than a third of all settlers residing in the City while Palestinians are denied access and economic possibility. Additionally, the Wall, which is constructed inside the city, as well as the various settlements, de facto annex large areas of Jerusalem.

Israel confines Palestinian construction to only 11% of land in the city on condition of obtaining special permits. In recent years however, Israel has rejected 94% of Palestinian applications for construction.<sup>5</sup> Palestinians in Jerusalem who build without these permits run the real and

ultimately devastating risk of having their homes demolished. Currently, 90,000 Palestinian Jerusalemites are under threat of home demolition.<sup>6</sup>

Since 1967, Israel has treated Palestinian Jerusalemites as foreigners living in Jerusalem, banishing thousands from the City. From 1967 to 2010 Israel revoked the residency rights of 14,526 Palestinian Jerusalemites, with the vast majority of these revocations, 79%, happening between 1995 and 2011.<sup>7</sup>





TOOLS OF OCCUPATION

## TOOLS OF OCCUPATION

Over the years, successive Israeli governments have adopted policies to entrench the military occupation of Palestine, employing measures and practices that aim at denying Palestinians their basic human and national rights. The structure of the occupation regime is multi-layered and intricate, designed to affect every aspect of Palestinians' lives.

- Settlement and Wall Construction
- Home Demolition & Forced Displacement
- Unlawful Imprisonment
- Water Deprivation
- Siege



Photo by APA

# TOOLS OF OCCUPATION

## SETTLEMENTS & WALL CONSTRUCTION

Since 1967, successive Israeli governments have constructed, funded, and supported the expansion of Israeli settlements in occupied Palestine, particularly East Jerusalem, including the facilitation and even encouragement of transferring Israeli citizens to the occupied territory. Today, almost 600,000 Israeli settlers live in nearly 200 settlements, built in contravention of international law on occupied Palestinian land.

Starting in 2002, this structure of land grab and control was further compounded by the construction of a Wall, which penetrates deep into the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and separates it from parts of itself. Designed to run 712 km and towering 8 meters high in many areas, the Wall divides families and destroys livelihoods.

Settlements are connected by Israeli-only roads, and infrastructure, which cut through and disconnect Palestinian land, undermining the practicability of establishing a viable Palestinian state. The settlement and Wall regime are maintained through a regime of hundreds of gates and checkpoints impeding Palestinian movement, a permit system restricting the access of Palestinians to their own land, as well the confiscation and demolition of Palestinian property.

Combined, the Israeli settlement and wall regime now effectively control and de facto annex nearly half of the occupied West Bank, including Jerusalem. This regime also institutes a practical regime of separation between Palestinian cities and the isolation of several communities, which threaten these communities' economic and social viability.



# TOOLS OF OCCUPATION

## HOME DEMOLITION & FORCED DISPLACEMENT

Israel uses home demolition and destruction as a form of collective punishment against Palestinian families. This long-standing policy has been a hallmark of the military occupation, starting immediately after the occupation in 1967, when Israel demolished 6000 Palestinian homes.<sup>8</sup> Since the beginning of its occupation, Israel has demolished and bombarded at least 45,000 Palestinian homes under different pretexts.

The issue of home demolition and displacement is especially relevant in occupied East Jerusalem, where Israel employs several policies aimed at diminishing the number of Palestinian residents in the city and changing its cultural and demographic character. Since 1967, Israel has demolished at least 2,000 Palestinian homes in Jerusalem alone.<sup>9</sup>

In 2013, there was a 43% increase in Israeli demolition of Palestinian homes across the West Bank, including Jerusalem, by Israeli forces and 74% rise in displacement compared to the previous year.<sup>10</sup>



TOOLS OF OCCUPATION

## UNLAWFUL IMPRISONMENT

Israel has employed imprisonment as a tool of subjugation against Palestinians since the onset of the occupation. Since 1967, approximately 800,000 Palestinians have been imprisoned by Israel, with 40% of male Palestinians having been prisoners of Israel at least once in their lifetime.

Presently, there are approximately 5000 Palestinian political prisoners in Israeli jails, including women, children as young as 10 years, and so-called administrative detainees. Tens of thousands of Palestinians have experienced what is known as 'Administrative Detention', an administrative process by which Israeli military authorities imprison Palestinians without charge or trial for an indefinite period of time, renewable every 6 months.<sup>11</sup>

Most Palestinian prisoners are held in prisons outside of occupied Palestine, in grave violation of international law. All prisoners, including minors are tried in military courts and often convicted on so-called secret evidence that defense attorneys are not allowed access to.



*Photo by Reuters*

# TOOLS OF OCCUPATION

## WATER DEPRIVATION

The free access to and use of water is a basic human right. Water is also a weapon in Israel's arsenal used to maintain the occupation. Israel extracts water resources illegally from West Bank aquifers and has refused to change the water allocated to Palestinians since 1967. Currently, Israel allocates a mere 14% of Palestinian water resources for Palestinian use.

Additionally, the discrepancy in water allocations between Israeli settlers and Palestinian households is nothing short of scandalous. On average, Palestinian daily water consumption is between 20 and 60 liters per capita, although the WHO recommended minimum is 100. Meanwhile, Israeli settlers consume about 6 times that amount. To make up for the shortage, Palestinians are forced to buy their own stolen water resources from Israel at above-market price, sometimes paying as much as ten times more than Israelis do.



*Photo by AFP*

# TOOLS OF OCCUPATION

## SIEGE








In the past 7 years, Israel has launched 3 large-scale assaults on 1.8 million Palestinians living in the Gaza Strip while maintaining an illegal siege on the population. In addition to the devastating consequences of the siege, which has crippled the economy, the offensives have left Gaza in ruins. Prior to the latest onslaught in 2014, around 72% of households in Gaza suffered from food insecurity, with 66% of the total population receiving food assistance, and the overall unemployment rate hovering around 45%.

In the last assault on Gaza, Israeli bombardment displaced 500,000 civilians and destroyed over 18,000 homes.<sup>12</sup> Even before the last assault, UN agencies had warned that without a drastic change in the reality, including the immediate lifting of the siege, the Gaza Strip would be “uninhabitable” by 2020. Under current circumstances, aid agencies have warned reconstruction of Gaza could take up to 20 years.



# LEGAL REALITY CHECK

## LEGAL REALITY CHECK

-  Acquiring territory by force is illegal (United Nations Charter) <sup>13</sup>
-  Settlement construction in occupied territory and transfer of population are war crimes (Rome Statute) <sup>14</sup>
-  Collective punishment like home demolition and deprivation of water are war crimes (Rome Statute) <sup>15</sup>
-  Forced Displacement of civilians is illegal (Rome Statute and )<sup>16</sup>
-  Annexing occupied territory is illegal (United Nations Charter) <sup>17</sup>
-  Denying a people their right to self-determination is illegal (United Nations Charter) <sup>18</sup>
-  Imprisonment without trial, and imprisonment outside occupied territory are illegal (Rome Statute) <sup>19</sup>



# PALESTINE AND THE WORLD

## **1947**

29 November: United Nations adopted resolution 181 (II), which partitioned historic Palestine into two states. But Members States did not act to guarantee the establishment of a Palestinian state.

## **1967**

22 November: The UN Security Council adopted resolution 242, which rejected Israel's acquisition of territory by force and demanded a full withdrawal from that territory as well as reaching a just and lasting peace between all parties of the conflict.<sup>20</sup> The resolution was adopted in response to Israel's military occupation of the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip as well as the Syrian Golan Heights and Egypt's Sinai Peninsula in June 1967. This resolution has become a cornerstone of the peace process and Palestinian policy regarding ending the conflict.



## **1974**

13 November: The United Nations recognized the Palestinian people's inalienable right to self-determination and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. The UN General Assembly then adopted a resolution granting the PLO observer status.

## **1988**

15 November: The Palestine National Council, the PLO's legislative body, formally adopted the two-state solution as its political platform. In the declaration of independence, the PLO outlined the nature of the democratic and secular state Palestinians aspired to establish on 22% of historic Palestine. Shortly afterwards, the UN General Assembly, convening in Geneva especially to receive the late leader Yasser Arafat, welcomed the declaration and further upgraded PLO status.

## **1993**

13 September: The PLO and Israel signed the Declaration of Principles at the White House. The historic declaration, under the auspices of then-American President Bill Clinton, resolved to phase out Israeli withdrawal from the Occupied Palestinian Territory over five years during which time the parties committed to reaching a final status agreement that would end the conflict and establish the Palestinian state.



## **2002**

28 March: The Arab League, convening in Beirut, Lebanon, announced the Arab Peace Initiative. It offered Israel peace, recognition, and normalized relations with the Arab League's 22 members in exchange for ending the occupation of all Arab territories it occupied in 1967, the establishment of the Palestinian State, and a just and agree-on resolution to the plight of refugees based on UN General Assembly resolution 194 (III). In April of the same year, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation OIC endorsed the initiative, promising Israel peace and normal relations with 57 Islamic states in exchange for ending the occupation. The UN Security Council also endorsed the initiative in resolution 1515, adopted on 19 November 2003. Israel has never formally accepted the initiative.

## **2004**

9 July: The International Court of Justice issued a landmark advisory ruling affirming that the Wall constructed by Israel deep inside the Occupied Palestinian Territory was illegal, violates Palestinian people's right to self-determination, and must be dismantled. The Court also found that all states have a legal and moral obligation to protect and realize the Palestinian right to self-determination.



## **2011**

23 September: The State of Palestine submitted an official application for membership at the UN. The application was accepted by the United Nations but it has yet to complete the necessary internal process at the organization, specifically the Security Council. Despite the setback, Member States of the UNESCO, the UN Organization in charge of culture and education, voted in favor of making the State of Palestine a Member State on 31 October of the same year.



## **2012**

29 November: On the international day of solidarity with the Palestinian people, the UN General Assembly overwhelmingly voted to upgrade Palestine's Status to Observer State.

## **2014**

1 April: President Mahmoud Abbas signed Palestine's accession to 15 international conventions on human rights, including Fourth Geneva Convention.

- The Four Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and the First Additional Protocol
- The Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations
- The Vienna Convention on Consular Relations
- The Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in armed conflict
- The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
- The Hague Convention (IV) respecting the Laws and Customs of War on Land and its annex: Regulations Concerning the Laws and Customs of War on Land
- The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- The Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties
- The International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
- The Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
- The United Nations Convention against Corruption
- The Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide
- The International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid
- The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
- The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights



ISRAEL'S NO-PEACE PLAN

## ISRAEL'S NO-PEACE PLAN

- ✗ NO Palestinian state
- ✗ NO Palestinian sovereignty
- ✗ NO resolution to the conflict – maintain the status quo
- ✗ NO justice for refugees
- ✗ NO halt to settlement construction
- ✗ NO return to the 1967 border
- ✗ NO Palestinian control over occupied East Jerusalem
- ✗ NO Palestinian control over the Jordan Valley

"I'm not seeking the solution, I am looking for a way to manage the conflict"<sup>21</sup>

- Moshe Ya'alon, *Israeli Defense Minister*

"I think the Israeli people understand now what I always say: There cannot be a situation, under any agreement, in which we relinquish security control of the territory west of the River Jordan"<sup>22</sup>

- Binyamin Netanyahu, *Israeli Prime Minister*

"My positions are very clear: I never hide the fact that I categorically oppose a Palestinian state inside our country"<sup>23</sup>

- Naftali Bennett, *Israeli Minister of the Economy*



*Photo by Mahfouz Abu Turk/Reuters*

# PALESTINE PEACE PLAN

- ✓ Two sovereign and democratic states living side by side in peace and within secure and mutually recognized borders
- ✓ Respect for international law and relevant UN resolutions
- ✓ Ending Israeli occupation that began in 1967 of West Bank, including Jerusalem, and Gaza Strip
- ✓ A just and agreed-on solution to the plight of refugees based on UN resolution 194
- ✓ Recognition of Palestine's right to exist



#### PARAMETERS:

- ✓ Two sovereign and democratic states living side by side in peace and within secure and mutually recognized borders
- ✓ Respect for international law and relevant UN resolutions
- ✓ Ending Israeli occupation that began in 1967 of West Bank, including Jerusalem, and Gaza Strip
- ✓ A just and agreed-on solution to the plight of refugees based on UN resolution 194
- ✓ Recognition of Palestine's right to exist



#### ACTION PLAN:

- ✓ Set timetable for end of occupation
- ✓ Negotiations based on international law to demark territory and agree on withdrawal plan
- ✓ Sign final agreement guaranteeing Israeli respect for Palestinian sovereignty and rights



UN Photos

# INTERNATIONAL VISION FOR PEACE



Two states living side by side in peace and within secure and mutually recognized borders



Respect for international law and relevant UN resolutions



Ending the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 of the West Bank, including Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip



A just and agreed-on solution to the plight of refugees based on UN resolution 194



TIME TO RECOGNIZE  
THE STATE OF PALESTINE



135 States, representing over 80% of world population recognize Palestine



Recognition is a sovereign decision taken by individual states



Self-determination is a basic right for all nations, not subject to negotiations



Recognition of Palestine affirms commitment to peace and justice



Recognition is a positive step that supports the two-state vision



Vision of two states requires the emergence of the State of Palestine

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# RECOGNIZE PALESTINE