A section of the 712 km long Israeli Barrier (constructed and projected) next to the Palestinian town of Abu Dis. The Barrier has reduced the access of Palestinians to workplaces and essential services. Agriculture-based livelihoods of thousands of families have been undermined, and access of service providers to communities behind the Barrier, including ambulances and fire brigades, has also been impaired. In its 2004 Advisory Opinion, the International Court of Justice established that the sections of the Barrier which run inside the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, together with the associated gate and permit regime, violate Israel’s obligations under international law. © Photo by OCHA.
OVERVIEW
Israel retains direct control over Area C, which encompasses more than 60 per cent of the West Bank and is home to approximately 300,000 Palestinians (OCHA, 2013 VPP survey). The restrictive planning regime applied by Israel in Area C makes it virtually impossible for Palestinians to obtain building permits, impeding the development of adequate housing, infrastructure and livelihoods. Public (also called ‘state’) land has been automatically allocated to Israeli settlements or for military training, while most private Palestinian land is zoned as agricultural land, where construction is severely restricted. Along with other constraints, this regime contributes to the creation of a coercive environment on residents, leading to risk of forcible transfer.

Less than 1% of Area C is covered by an Israeli-approved planning scheme allowing Palestinians to obtain building permits.

DEMOLITION ORDERS AGAINST PALESTINIANS IN AREA C BY STATUS: 1988-2017

- Ready for execution: 3%
- Executed: 21%
- On hold due to legal proceedings: 18%
- File closed: 1%
- In Process: 59%

16,796 DEMOLITION ORDERS

Source: Israeli Civil Administration

DEMOLITION AND DISPLACEMENT IN AREA C

- Demolished structures
- Displaced people*

* Only includes people who had their home demolished or confiscated. People affected by the demolition of other types of properties are not included.

PALESTINIANS IN AREA C BY TYPE OF COMMUNITY (2013)

- Village: 125,460 (42%)
- City/Town: 122,189 (41%)
- Refugee Camp: 17,795 (6%)
- Hamlet/Encampment: 31,456 (11%)

About 300,000 PALESTINIANS
OVERVIEW

- Settlements are illegal under international humanitarian law as they violate Article 49 of the Fourth Geneva Convention, which prohibits the transfer of the occupying power’s civilian population into occupied territory.

- Violence by Israeli settlers against Palestinians and their property is a longstanding concern, which has undermined the physical security and livelihoods of Palestinians, and generated the need for assistance and protection measures by the humanitarian community.

- Forms of violence by Israeli settlers include raids into Palestinian communities, physical assaults and shooting, stone throwing at vehicles and homes, vandalizing of trees and other property, and takeover of land.

- Gaps in the enforcement of the rule of law by the Israeli authorities against violent settlers have been a longstanding concern of the humanitarian community and are believed to contribute to the persistence of high levels of settler violence. This is despite efforts made by the Israeli authorities in recent years to address this phenomenon.

- Official endorsement by the Israeli authorities of the illegal takeover of Palestinian land by settlers has facilitated the proliferation of settlement outposts, some of which have been a consistent source of attacks against Palestinians.

- Israeli settlers have been regular targets of Palestinian violence, including stone throwing at vehicles, stabbing and shooting attacks. Some settler violence against Palestinians has been carried out in retaliation to such attacks.

The map was developed based on 10 years of data on Incidents resulting in Palestinians casualties or property damage.
A total of 44 Palestinian schools across the West Bank have pending “stop work” or demolition orders, which place them at risk of being fully or partially demolished, due to lack of building permits which are near impossible to obtain. These include 36 schools in Area C, affecting 3,708 students, and 8 in East Jerusalem, affecting 1,138 students. The orders prevent both the maintenance and expansion of school infrastructure.

Number of Students Affected by the Orders*

- Full demolition/stop-work order
- Partial demolition/stop-work order

Governorate capital
Barrier
Israeli unilaterally declared East Jerusalem municipal boundary
Palestinian community
Settlement built-up, outer-limit and municipal area
Oslo Areas A and B
Oslo Area C

Data source: Education in Emergencies Working Group (EIE WG)

* The number of affected students in schools at risk of partial demolition does not indicate the overall number of students in these schools.
WEST BANK DEMOLITIONS
2009 - 2018

**EAST JERUSALEM**
East Jerusalem encompasses about 70 sq. Kilometres annexed to Israel in 1967 in contravention of international law. 35% of the land in East Jerusalem has been confiscated for Israeli settlement use; only 13% is zoned for Palestinian construction, much of which is already built up.

**AREA C**
Area C covers over 60% of the West Bank, where Israel retains exclusive control over planning and zoning and less than 1% has been planned for Palestinian development.

- **5,773** demolished structures
- **9,033** displaced people
- **51,491** affected people
- **100** Area A, B demolitions
- **4,621** Area C demolitions
- **1,052** East Jerusalem demolitions
- **959** donor funded structures

Structures that were dismantled and/or confiscated are counted as demolished.

**DEMOLITIONS IN WEST BANK BY TYPE**
- Agriculture: 1,678
- Inhabited residential: 1,655
- Uninhabited residential: 500
- WASH: 513
- Infrastructure: 153
- Livelihood: 709
- Other: 565

**DEMOLITIONS IN WEST BANK 2009 - 2018**

East Jerusalem encompasses about 70 sq. Kilometres annexed to Israel in 1967 in contravention of international law. 35% of the land in East Jerusalem has been confiscated for Israeli settlement use; only 13% is zoned for Palestinian construction, much of which is already built up.

Area C covers over 60% of the West Bank, where Israel retains exclusive control over planning and zoning and less than 1% has been planned for Palestinian development.

Demolitions and affected people are counted in the chart. The chart shows the number of demolitions and affected people by year from 2009 to 2018.
1. In 1997, pursuant to an agreement with the PLO, Israel handed control over 80% of the city (H1) to the Palestinian Authority.
The impact of the Israeli military occupation of the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, continues to impact Palestine refugees: continuous Israeli security force operations throughout the West Bank, including in and around camps – exposing Palestinian refugees and non-refugees alike to the risk of injury and death, and an increasingly coercive environment for those living in Area C and East Jerusalem – with restrictions imposed by the Government of Israel on access to land and property.

### West Bank Facts and Figures

- **836,550** registered refugees in the West Bank
- **29.2%** registered refugees
- **50.6%** females
- **18%** youth 15 - 24 years

Where do Palestine refugees live in the West Bank?

- **30%** Camps
- **60%** Other areas
- **10%** Area C

### Food Security

- More than **70,000** refugee individuals in the West Bank are living on $1.79/day
- **186,579** refugees living in the West Bank are below the poverty line
- **24%** refugee unemployment rate inside camps

### Health

More than **40** refugee community face challenges in accessing health services

- **54** Bedouin communities were provided with mental health and psychosocial support

### Protection Concerns (as of 31 October 2018)

- Over **5,700** Israeli security operations across the West Bank, 570 occurred in and around refugees camps, around 40% resulted in violent confrontations.
- **63%** of confrontations in camps used tear gas, **43%** of all injuries in camps are attributed to live ammunition

### Risk of forcible Displacement (Khan Al-Ahmar Abu al Helu) (as of 31 October 2018)

The community is considered to be one of the most vulnerable due to high risk of displacement, especially after the latest court decision approving the demolition and transfer of the community

- **188** Bedouin individuals (53% of which are children) are at risk of displacement.
- **95%** of community residents are registered refugees
- **Around 41** counselling sessions and mental health activities between January-November for 479 participants, of which 74% were children
- **More than 60%** of persons in Bedouin communities are food insecure, which increases their vulnerabilities
KEY CONCERNS

Around 320,000 Palestinians currently reside in East Jerusalem, in addition to over 210,000 Israeli settlers who reside in the settlements which have been constructed and expanded since 1967, contrary to international law. Approximately 4.5 million Palestinians from the remainder of the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) are prohibited from residing in East Jerusalem and, with certain age exceptions, cannot enter the city without Israeli-issued permits, which are difficult to obtain. Those who obtain permits can only expanded since 1967, contrary to international law. Approximately 4.5 million Palestinians from the remainder of the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) are prohibited from residency status.

In East Jerusalem, the Barrier divides Palestinian neighbourhoods from each other and from the urban centre, resulting in diminished services, increasing lawlessness, impeded access and uncertain residency status.

Over 130,000 Jerusalem ID holders are walled out from the urban centre.

Approximately 1,400 West Bank residents in 17 communities have been placed on the ‘Jerusalem’ side of the Barrier, but are denied residency and access to work and services in East Jerusalem.

Residency, Planning, Zoning & Demolitions

Due to inadequate planning, and extreme difficulty in obtaining building permits, Palestinian residents of East Jerusalem face a serious shortage in housing, leaving residents with no choice other than to build structures ‘illegally’ and risk demolition.

Over 14,600 Palestinians have had their Jerusalem residency revoked by the Israeli authorities, since 1967 due to their lack of a secure legal residency status.

At least 33% of all Palestinian homes in East Jerusalem lack building permits.

Only 13% of East Jerusalem is zoned for Palestinian construction, much of which is already built up.

Over 1,700 houses and other structures in East Jerusalem have been demolished since 2000. Over the last 10 years, nearly 7,000 people have been displaced or affected as a result.

Over 100,000 residents are at potential risk of displacement.

Barrier

In East Jerusalem, the Barrier divides Palestinian neighbourhoods from each other and from the urban centre, resulting in diminished services, increasing lawlessness, impeded access and uncertain residency status.

Over 130,000 Jerusalem ID holders are walled out from the urban centre.

Approximately 1,400 West Bank residents in 17 communities have been placed on the ‘Jerusalem’ side of the Barrier, but are denied residency and access to work and services in East Jerusalem.

East Jerusalem Eviction Summary by Community

Approximately 200 Palestinian households in East Jerusalem are are at risk of forced displacement due to eviction cases filed against them, mostly by Israeli settler organizations. The Old City, Silwan and Sheikh Jarrah are the most affected neighbourhoods.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community</th>
<th>Structures</th>
<th>Households</th>
<th>Palestinians</th>
<th>Children</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Beit Hanina</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old City - Al Khuliliyah &amp; Al Qaram</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Old City - Aqda As Saruq</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Old City - Bani Ali Landing</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ras Al Amud</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sheikh Jarrah - Um Hamor</td>
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<td>Sheikh Jarrah - Ram Al Juwane</td>
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<td>Sheikh Jarrah</td>
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<td>Silwan - Bani Al Hawa</td>
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<td>Beit Safafa</td>
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<td>88</td>
<td>36</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>837</td>
<td>391</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: OCHA 2016 field survey

UN position on East Jerusalem

Israel’s annexation of East Jerusalem is not recognized by the international community. The UN Security Council has declared in numerous resolutions (inter alia, resolutions 252, 267, 471, 476 & 478) that all legislative measures and actions taken by Israel to alter the character and status of Jerusalem are null and void. The legal situation in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, remains one of belligerent military occupation.
Many Palestinians across the occupied West Bank, particularly in Area C, East Jerusalem, and the settlement area of Hebron city (H2), are at risk of forcible transfer. Certain Israeli policies and practices applied in these areas create a coercive environment, which generates pressure on Palestinians to leave their communities. These include the demolition and threat of demolition of homes, schools and livelihoods; forced evictions; denial of service infrastructure; access restrictions on farming and grazing land; poor law enforcement on violent settlers; promotion of ‘relocation’ plans; and revocation of residency rights, among others.

1. "Forcible transfer does not necessarily require the use of physical force by authorities, but may be triggered by specific circumstances that have individuals or communities with no choice but to leave; this is known as a coercive environment." Human rights situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, Report of the Secretary-General, A/HRC/24/38, para. 27-28, 16 March 2017.