

# WEST BANK DEMOLITIONS AND DISPLACEMENT: AN OVERVIEW

MARCH -MAY



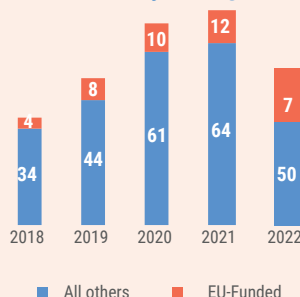
## HIGHLIGHTS

- Some 139 structures were demolished/seized and 196 people displaced during the three-month reporting period. This represents a 24 per cent reduction in destruction and a 22 per cent reduction in displacement compared to the monthly average in all of 2021.
- On 4 May, the Israeli High Court of Justice approved the eviction of Palestinians living in Masafer Yatta, putting 1,144 people, including 560 children, at imminent risk of forcible transfer.
- Thirteen of the structures demolished or seized in the reporting period were funded by the EU or its Member States. A further twelve are at risk of demolition due to stop-work or demolition orders.
- The high proportion of buildings demolished by their owners in East Jerusalem continues.

## OVERVIEW

### STRUCTURES DEMOLISHED/SEIZED

#### Monthly Averages



### FEBRUARY FIGURES

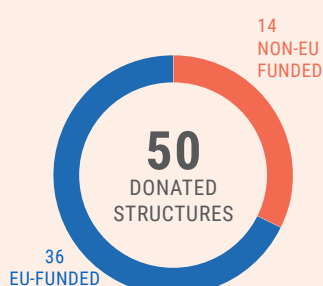
#### STRUCTURES TARGETED

East Jerusalem	34
Area C	98
Area B	3
Area A	4

#### PEOPLE IMPACTED

Displaced	196
Affected	8,185

### ASSISTANCE DEMOLISHED/SEIZED IN 2022



On 3 May, the Israeli High Court of Justice rejected the petition filed by 12 Palestinian herding communities of Masafer Yatta (Hebron) against the Israeli military's decision to use 30,000 dunums of their land as an active 'firing zone.' Consequently, there are no legal barriers to the planned expulsion of the residents of Masafer Yatta to make way for military training, effectively placing 1,144 Palestinians, including 560 children, at imminent risk of forced evictions, arbitrary displacement, and forcible transfer.

In the three-month period of March, April and May 2022, the Israeli authorities demolished, forced people to demolish or seized 139 Palestinian-owned structures across the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. This resulted in the displacement of 196 people, including 102 children, and affected the livelihoods, or access to services, of about 8,200 others. All but eight of the structures were targeted for lacking building permits, which are nearly impossible for Palestinians to obtain. This represents a 24 per cent reduction in destruction and a 22 per cent reduction in displacement compared to the monthly average in all of 2021.

In total, during the reporting period, thirteen of the structures targeted in Area C were funded by the EU or its Member States, for a total value of 71,830 euros. Most of the destruction occurred in Masafer Yatta (see below). An additional twelve structures funded by the EU or its Member States, valued at 40,000 euros, received stop-work or demolition orders.

Furthermore, 300 olive saplings, two water tanks and 17 solar panels, which were provided with EU funding to farmers in various communities, were destroyed, uprooted, or stolen by people known or believed to be Israeli settlers.

During the reporting period, the incident resulting in the most structures demolished occurred on 23 March, in the vicinity of the Barrier east of the city of Tulkarm, in Area C. The Israeli authorities demolished 15 commercial stalls and damaged a parking lot, citing the absence of Israeli-issued building permits. The stalls supported the livelihoods of 75 people, including 29 children.

The incident affecting the largest number of people took place on 30 May, when Israeli authorities sealed off a water well in Ras 'Atiya (Qalqiliya) in Area B, without prior notification. The well was the sole drinking water and irrigation source for about 4,000 dunums of cultivated lands. Some 7,200 Palestinians from 1,200 families in seven surrounding villages were affected.

Another six livelihood and agriculture structures in four Area C communities were demolished on the basis of Military Order 1797, which provides only a 96-hour notice and very limited grounds for legally

challenging a demolition. The incidents affected the livelihoods of 27 people, including 15 children. Since coming into effect in July 2019, Military Order 1797 has resulted in the demolition of 197 structures in Area C.

Overall in Area C, a total of 98 structures were demolished for lacking building permits, including 16 structures in two incidents on 11 May in Massafer Yatta, Hebron, designated by the Israeli authorities as a 'firing zone.' The structures, in the communities of Khirbet al Fakheit and Mirkez, included homes, animal shelters and storage units. Nine of these structures were funded by the EU or its member states. The Israeli authorities also demolished an under-construction mosque in the Bedouin community of Arab ar Ramadin al Janub (Qalqiliya), which would have benefited the whole community of an estimated 350 people. A total of 63 people, including 32 children, were displaced overall as a result of the demolitions in Area C.

Thirty-three structures, including 17 homes, were demolished in East Jerusalem, displacing 94 people, including 53 children. 19 of the structures were demolished by the Israeli authorities and 14 by the owners, following the issuance of demolition orders, to avoid financial penalties and the destruction of their belongings.

On 25 May, the Jerusalem Municipality delivered a final demolition order to the owners of a residential building, comprising 12 housing units, in Wadi Qaddum area of Silwan neighbourhood (East Jerusalem). Some 74 people, including 42 children, are at risk of displacement.

Also during the three-month period, the Israeli authorities demolished on punitive grounds, three homes in Silat al Harithiya village (Jenin), displacing four Palestinian families, comprising 14 people, including four children. The targeted properties were homes to the families of four Palestinians indicted for killing an Israeli settler in December 2021.

Finally, on 13 May, during a military operation in Jenin governorate, Israeli forces destroyed one residential structure consisting of four housing units, and damaged an adjacent structure, resulting in the displacement of twenty people, including eleven children. The destruction was reportedly part of a military procedure, whereby soldiers target a house where a suspect is hiding and refuses to surrender. A further three people were also affected and two vehicles severely damaged.

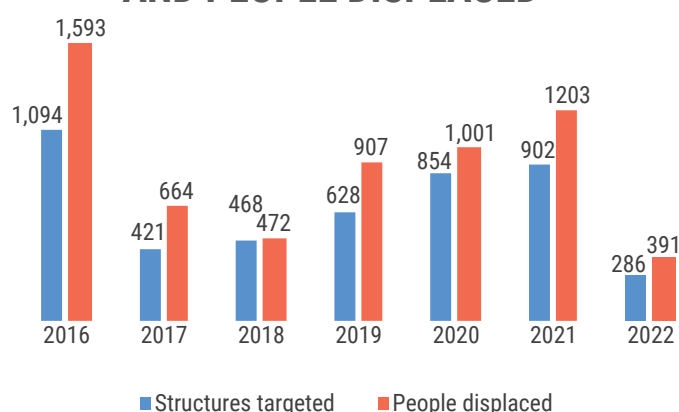
## WEST BANK DEMOLITIONS / SEIZURES MARCH-MAY 2022

	Structures demolished	People displaced*		People Affected**	
		All	Children	All	Children
East Jerusalem	34	99	56	155	76
Area C	98	63	32	809	364
Area B	3	2	0	7,207	3,173
Area A	4	32	14	14	6
<b>TOTAL**</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>8,185</b>	<b>3,619</b>

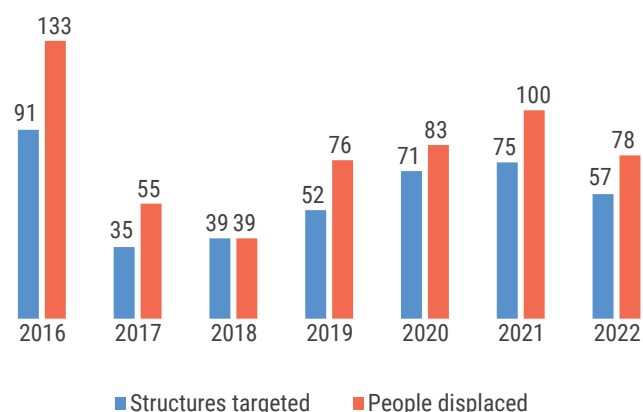
\* Includes all people who had a structure demolished which was used as their habitual place of residence.

\*\* Includes all people who had any of their property, other than their residence, demolished. Displaced and affected are mutually exclusive categories, i.e. people counted under the former are not included in the latter.

## TOTAL STRUCTURES TARGETED AND PEOPLE DISPLACED\*



## MONTHLY AVERAGES OF STRUCTURES TARGETED AND PEOPLE DISPLACED



## DEMOLITION/SEIZURE OF EU-FUNDED AID STRUCTURES MARCH-MAY 2022

Date	Community	Governorate	Type of structure	Number of structures	Type of incident	Estimated cost in Euros
20 March	Al Muarrajat Centre	Ramallah	Two solar panel systems	2	Demolition	7,063
12 April	Ein Samia	Ramallah	One residential and one livelihood tent	2	Confiscation	2,475.20
11 May	Khirbet al Fakheit	Hebron	Three Residential and two livelihood structures	5	Demolition	24,114
11 May	Mirkez	Hebron	Two Residential and two livelihood structures	4	Demolition	38,178
<b>Total</b>				<b>13</b>		<b>71,830.56</b>

\* Funded by Belgium, Denmark, DG ECHO, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Ireland, Luxembourg, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom.

## DEMOLITION/STOP-WORK ORDERS AFFECTING EU-FUNDED AID STRUCTURES MARCH-MAY 2022

Date	Community	Governorate	Type of structure	Number of structures	Type of incident	Estimated cost in Euros
15 March	Sh'ib Al Butum	Hebron	One animal shelter	1	Stop-work order	2,809
15 March	Sh'ib Al Butum	Hebron	One animal shelter	1	Stop-work order	2,809
27 March	At Tuwani	Hebron	Sixteen wooden electricity columns for streetlighting	-	Stop-work order	3,634
26 April	Al Ganoub	Hebron	One residential shelter	1	Stop-work order	11,000
16 May	An Nabi Musa	Jericho	Four residential structures, four mobile latrines, a water network	9	Demolition orders	19,607
<b>Total</b>				<b>12</b>		<b>39,859</b>

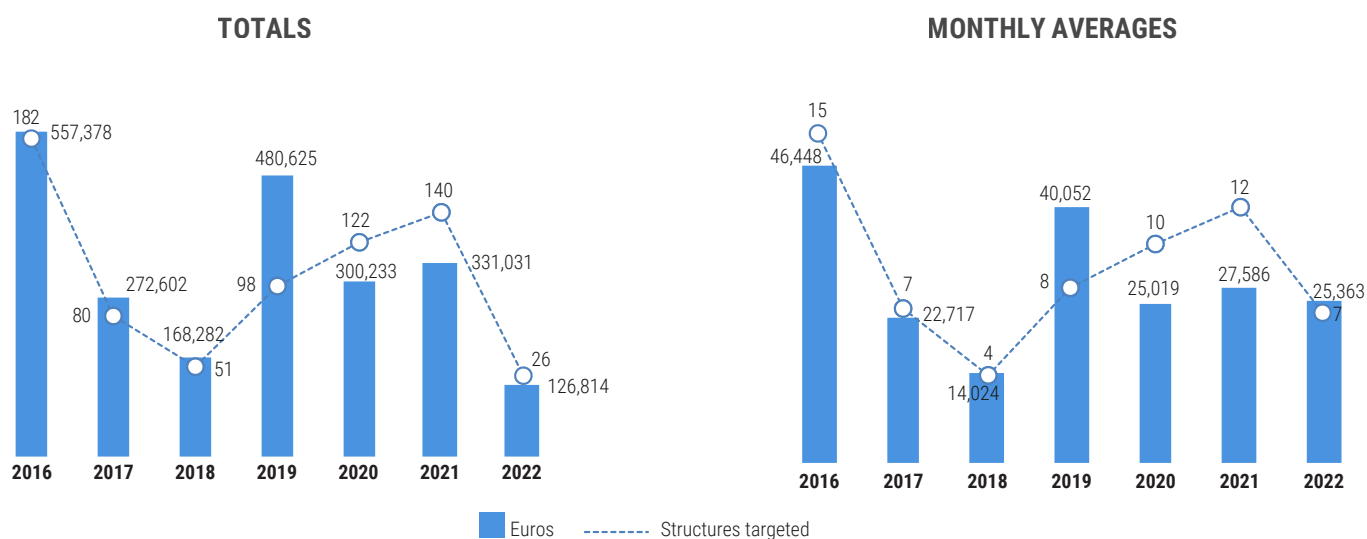
\* Funded by Belgium, Denmark, DG ECHO, France, Italy, Ireland, Luxembourg, Germany, Spain, Sweden, Finland, and the United Kingdom.

## OTHER AFFECTED EU-FUNDED ITEMS MARCH-MAY 2022

Date	Community	Governorate	Type of structure	Number of structures	Type of incident	Estimated cost in Euros
3 April	Ash Shuyukh	Hebron	Two water tanks and 30 olive saplings	32	Vandalized by Israeli settlers	506
19 April	Husan	Bethlehem	Fifty olive saplings	50	Vandalized by Israeli settlers	375
22 April	Al Janiya	Ramallah	Water pump	1	Vandalized by Israeli settlers	347.5
14 May	Turmus'ayya	Ramallah	198 olive saplings	198	Vandalized by Israeli settlers	1,685
30 May	Urif	Nablus	Seventeen solar panels and 20 olive saplings	37	Vandalized by Israeli settlers	1,933
<b>Total</b>				-		<b>4,846.5</b>

\*Funded by Belgium, Denmark, DG ECHO, France, Italy, Ireland, Luxembourg, Germany, Spain, Sweden, Finland, and the United Kingdom.

## EU-FUNDED AID STRUCTURES DEMOLISHED/SEIZED AND CUMULATIVE LOSSES\*



\* The amounts include the cost of items such as trees, water tanks, fencing units and uninstalled equipment, which are not counted as structures in OCHA's tracking system.