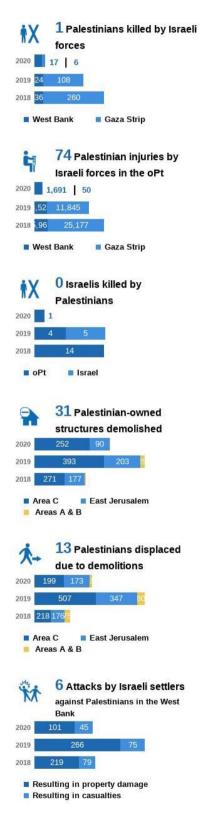


Protection of Civilians occupied Palestinian territory

30 June - 13 July 2020

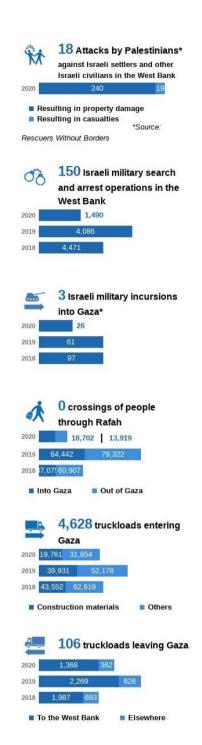
Biweekly highlights

- On 9 July, Israeli forces shot and killed a 33-year-old Palestinian man, and injured another, next to the West Bank village of Kifl Haris (Salfit). Israeli official sources said that the soldiers opened fire at two Palestinians seen throwing a Molotov cocktail at a military post, one of whom was injured, while the other fled. The former was later on evacuated by a Palestinian ambulance. Palestinian sources said that the man killed was a bystander. The Israeli authorities opened an investigation. This brings to 17 the number of Palestinians killed by Israeli forces in the West Bank since the start of 2020. Another Palestinian man was shot and injured by Israeli forces during clashes that erupted after the funeral. A gate at the main entrance to Kifl Haris, which was closed the day prior to the incident, remained closed until 12 July, disrupting the movement of over 4,300 residents.
- An additional 72 Palestinians were injured by Israeli forces in multiple clashes across the West Bank. Forty of these injuries occurred during search and arrest operations in Abu Dis town (Jerusalem), the East Jerusalem neighbourhood of Al 'Isawiya and Nablus city. Overall, there were 150 such operations across the West Bank, 30 per cent of which were in East Jerusalem and its surroundings. Another 30 injuries were recorded during various protests against settler-related activities, in 'Asira ash Shamaliya (Nablus), following the establishment of a new settlement outpost nearby; in Biddya (Salfit) protesting continued attacks on farmers (see below); and in Kafr Qaddum (Qalqiliya), against the longstanding access restrictions and settlement expansion in the area. One Palestinian was injured during a protest against Israel's annexation plan in Hebron city, and another at a Barrier checkpoint in the Tulkarm governorate. Three of the injuries were by live ammunition while the rest were due to tear gas inhalation, rubber bullets and physical assault.
- One of the main checkpoints controlling access to the restricted area of Hebron city was closed for several



hours almost every day during the period, disrupting the access of Palestinians to basic services in other parts of the city. The closures were implemented during and after almost daily anti-annexation protests and clashes, taking place near the checkpoint (outside the restricted area). These restrictions have exacerbated the coercive environment imposed on the over 1,000 Palestinians living in this area of Hebron city, where Israeli settlement compounds have been established.

- On 5 July, a Palestinian armed group fired three rockets towards southern Israel, following which Israeli forces attacked an armed group's position and several open areas in Gaza. None of the attacks resulted in casualties, while three Palestinian houses and a farm were damaged by Israeli air strikes.
- On at least 18 occasions, Israeli forces opened warning fire near Israel's perimeter fence around Gaza, and off its coast, presumably to enforce access restrictions. While no casualties were reported, in one incident, Israeli naval forces arrested four fishermen and confiscated two boats; the fishermen were later released. Also, in two incidents, Israeli forces arrested two Palestinians while they were attempting to enter Israel, one through the fence and, the other, from the sea. On three occasions, Israeli forces entered Gaza and carried out land-levelling and excavation operations near the fence.
- Thirty-one Palestinian-owned structures demolished or seized for the lack of Israeli-issued building permits, displacing 13 people and affecting the livelihoods of more than 100 others. In the Palestinian Bedouin community of Fasayil, in the Jordan Valley, the Israeli authorities demolished 12 homes and livelihood structures used on a seasonal basis. Another four targeted structures were located in four Bedouin communities within, or next to an area allocated for the expansion of the of the Ma'ale Adumim settlement (the E1 Plan). Two structures in the At Taybeh community (Hebron), also in Area C, were demolished on the basis of Military Order 1797, providing for the expedited removal of unlicensed structures deemed as "new". Nine structures were demolished in East Jerusalem, including two in Al 'Isawiya neighbourhood,



- where on 19 February 2020, the Jerusalem municipality announced a six-month freeze in demolitions.
- Israeli forces bulldozed agricultural land in two locations in Area C of the Hebron governorate, claiming the area was designated as "state land". In Al Baq'a, near Hebron city, four dunums of seasonal crops and a retaining wall were bulldozed and destroyed, while next to Sa'ir town, 70 olive trees were uprooted.
- Five Palestinians were injured, and dozens of trees and vehicles were vandalized by Israeli settlers. All the injuries occurred in two incidents in Biddya village (Salfit), when settlers attacked farmers working their land: three were shot with live ammunition, one was physically assaulted, and another bitten by a dog unleashed by settlers. Dozens of olive trees were set on fire in Burin village (Nablus) and a few others were uprooted in the As Seefer community (Hebron), located in the closed area behind the Barrier. Israeli settlers also raided Al Lubban ash Sharqiya village (Nablus) where they vandalized 12 vehicles.
- According to an Israeli NGO, four Israelis, including a child, were injured after being stoned by Palestinians while traveling on various West Bank roads; a total of 19 Israeli-plated vehicles reportedly sustained damage as a result of stone-throwing and one as a result of Molotov cocktail throwing by Palestinians.