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 consistent source of attacks against Palestinians. 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 settlements 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.

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