

EAST JERUSALEM TODAY

Palestine's Capital: The 1967 border in Jerusalem and Israel's illegal policies on the ground



NAD-PLO (© JFF)

The 1967 **B**order

The June 4, 1967 border (the green line) is the internationally recognized border between the occupied State of Palestine and the State of Israel. This line separates the territory occupied by Israel during and since the June 1967 War, an occupation that has been condemned by the international community time and again, through

resolutions such as UN Security Council Resolutions 242, 338 that taken in the Nakba of 1948 and the ICJ advisory opinion in 2004 on the illegality of the Wall and Settlements.

The 1967 borders of Palestine include the Gaza Strip and the West Bank. The Jordan Valley, the Latrun area, the northern shores of the Dead Sea and Palestine's capital, East

Jerusalem -are all an integral part of the 1967 border.

This boundary was established through the signing of armistice agreements between Egypt and Jordan on the one hand, and Israel, on the other, following the Nakba in 1948, and the subsequent creation of the State of Israel on 78% of historic Palestine.

Palestine's Position On The 1967 Border

In 1988, the PLO declared the independence of the State of Palestine on the basis of UNGA 181 and UNSC 242, two states, living side by side on the 1967 border, or the "Green Line". The Palestinian acceptance of the 1967 border, which includes East Jerusalem, is a painful compromise: It is the acceptance of the State of Palestine over only 22% of historic Palestine.



"United Jerusalem is Israel's eternal capital," . "We have full rights to build in it. We have built in Jerusalem, we are building in Jerusalem and we will continue to build in Jerusalem."

**Benjamin Netanyahu,
October 23rd, 2012**

Palestine's Position On East Jerusalem

In June 1967, Israel occupied the remainder of Jerusalem, or East Jerusalem including the old city of Jerusalem. Only weeks later, Israel unilaterally extended the municipal borders of East Jerusalem from a 6 square kilometer area to an approximately 70 square kilometer area and applied its laws, administration and jurisdiction over the newly expanded municipal borders. This unilateral illegal annexation violated the prohibition against acquiring territory by force and was declared of "no legal validity" by the UN Security Council. Israeli annexation measures culminated in the 1980 "Basic Law" by which Israel sought to declare "Jerusalem complete and united" as the capital of Israel.

Jerusalem has always been and remains the political, administrative and spiritual heart of Palestine. Occupied East Jerusalem is the natural socio-economic and political center for the future Palestinian state given its historical significance, wealth in religious and cultural heritage sites, its commercial vitality, and its geographic centrality connecting the northern and southern parts of the occupied State of Palestine.

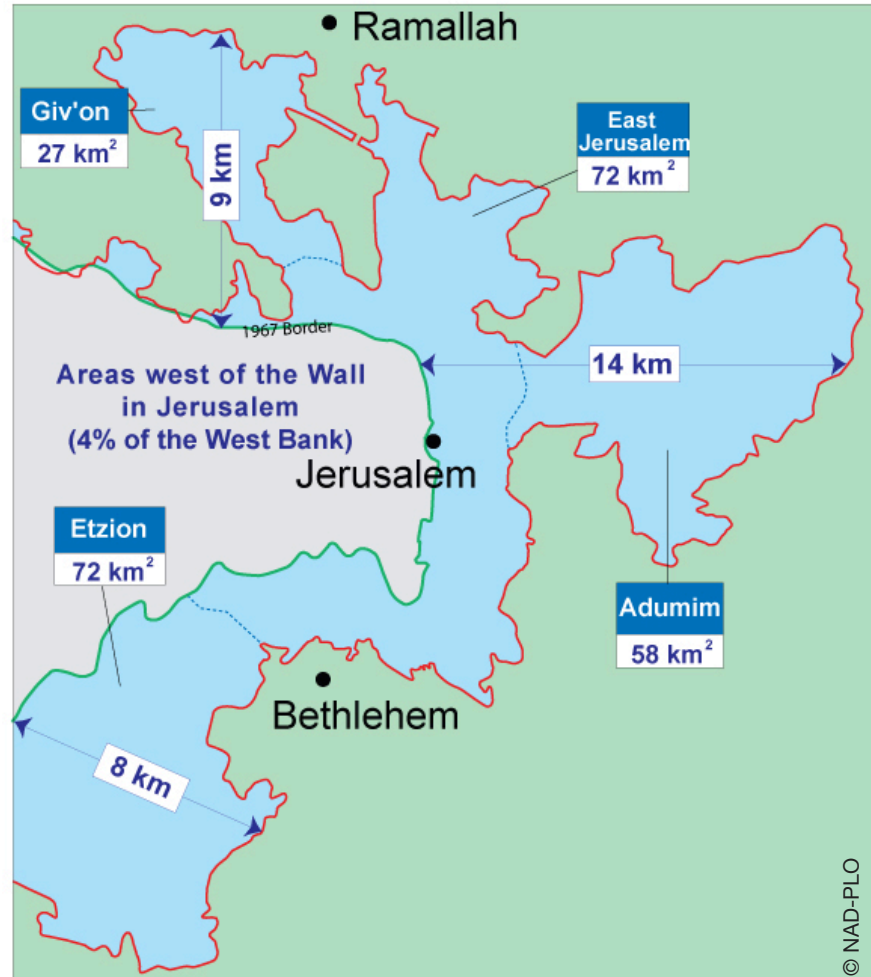
If there is a political will, there is a way to reach a negotiated solution on Jerusalem. However, Israeli policies and practices in occupied East Jerusalem aiming to forcibly maintain a Jewish majority and to completely annex all parts of the city from Palestine have prejudiced and will continue to prejudice the outcome of a negotiated solution. Regardless of the impact of Israel's policies in altering the geographic and demographic realities of Jerusalem, any political settlement over the future of Jerusalem must incorporate both Palestinians' basic rights and their national aspirations of having East Jerusalem as the capital of the Palestinian state. Without such provisions, neither a two state solution nor peace in the Middle East will be attainable.

Israel however, continues with various policies that render peace impossible and undermine the very basis of an acceptable agreement. These policies are multifarious but generally aim to annex Jerusalem and contain Palestinian presence in it. They include but are not limited to: heavy settlement activity in rings around the city; the Annexation Wall as an imposed and de facto concrete border; the forced eviction of Palestinians and the demolition of their family homes; the removal of people's right to live in their own city through unreasonable residency requirements; and deliberate neglect of services in Palestinian areas of East Jerusalem.

The Annexation and Separation Wall and Illegal Israeli Settlements

Since 1967 Israel has made serious efforts to change the status quo of the territory it occupied, primarily through the proliferation of the illegal build-up of settler-colonies.. Israel has developed a comprehensive policy of settlement construction and associated infrastructure, in order to transfer its own civilian population into occupied Palestine. . This includes movement restrictions, bypass/exclusive roads for settlers, and the annexation Wall, among others.

Over the past 46 years of occupation, Israel has employed numerous strategies to control Palestinian lands in East Jerusalem by manipulating urban planning and restricting building permits for Palestinians. As mentioned above, in furtherance of these strategies, Israel unilaterally and illegally expanded the municipal boundaries of Arab East Jerusalem from the original 6.5 square kilometers during Jordanian rule to 72 square kilometers, reaching far deeper into the West Bank. Of this expanded area, 35% of the 72 square kilometers (25.2 square kilometers) has been expropriated by Israel for settlements and settlement expansion, 30% (21.6 squares kilometers) is unplanned area where no construction is allowed, 21% (15.1 squares



Map Of Israel's Illegal Settlements In Greater Jerusalem

kilometers) is defined by Israel as “Green areas,” where no construction is allowed, which leaves only 14% of the land (10 squares kilometers) for Palestinian use. The result of such illegal settlement construction has been to increase the almost negligible pre-1967 Jewish population to over 200,000 in East Jerusalem.

The route of the illegal Wall in and around occupied East Jerusalem splits the West Bank into two distinct areas and completely isolates occupied East Jerusalem from the rest of the West Bank. The Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice on the Legal Consequences of the Construction of the Wall in

the Occupied Palestinian Territory, rendered on 9 July 2004, deemed the Wall illegal and stated that the Wall, along with the illegal settlement regime, amounted to de facto annexation of Palestinian territory, thus breaching international law. Therefore, the route of the separation and annexation wall is the most recent and obvious on the ground measure Israel has conducted to physically enforce its illegal annexation of occupied East Jerusalem. In addition to settlement activity, Israel has developed a permit regime in order to prevent free Palestinian movement within the State of Palestine. This imposes additional restrictions on Palestinians.

ISRAELI ILLEGAL SETTLEMENTS IN GREATER JERUSALEM

Percentages are deceiving: What matters are the value and location of land. While East Jerusalem accounts for just 1.3% of the West Bank, it represents the economic, cultural and religious capital of the Palestinian people, without which no Palestinian state could be viable. The Wall in the Jerusalem area de facto annexes ~230 km², or 4% of the occupied West Bank, thereby isolating some 303,000 Palestinian Jerusalemites from the rest of the West Bank, and severing another 2.5 million Palestinians living on the “eastern” side of the Wall from East Jerusalem. The Wall will effectively annex to Israel three major settlement “blocs” surrounding metropolitan East Jerusalem—Giv’on, Adumim, and Etzion—on land critical to Palestinian population growth and economic development needs. It is worth noting that the settler population around Jerusalem is almost half of the settlers population throughout the West Bank.

LOCATION	BLOC	NO.	NAME OF SETTLEMENT	YEAR	POPULATION
EAST	Adumim	1	Allon	1990	40,556
		2	Almon (Anatot)	1982	
		3	Kfar Adumim	1979	
		4	Mishor Adumim	1974	
		5	Nofei Porat	1979	
		6	Ma'ale Adumim	1975	
NORTH WEST	Givon	1	Bet Horon	1977	18,444
		2	Giv'on	1978	
		3	Giv'on HaHadasha	1980	
		4	Har Shmuel (Nebi Samuel)	1996	
		5	Giv'at Ze'ev	1983	
		6	Har Adar (Giv'at HaRadar)	1986	
SOUTH WEST	Gush Etzion	1	Alon Shevut	1970	59,384
		2	Bat 'Ayin (Tzoref)	1989	
		3	El'azar	1975	
		4	Geva'ot	1983	
		5	Gush Etzion-Efrat Industrial Zone	N/A	
		6	Hadar Betar	1985	
		7	Har Gilo	1972	
		8	Kfar Etzion	1967	
		9	Migdal Oz	1977	
		10	Neve Daniel	1982	
		11	Qedar	1985	
		12	Rosh Tzurim	1969	
		13	Efrata (Efrat)	1980	
		14	Betar 'Illit	1985	
CENTER	Jerusalem Municipality	1	Atarot Industrial Park	1970	203,000
		2	East Talpiyot	1973	
		3	French Hill (Giv'at Shapira)	1968	
		4	Gilo	1971	
		5	Giv'at HaMatos	1997	
		6	Har Homa	1997	
		7	Jerusalem Airport	1970	
		8	Ma'alot Dafna-East (Qiryat Arye)	1968	
		9	Mt. Scopus (Hebrew U. & Hadassah Hosp.)	1968	
		10	Neve Ya'aqov	1972	
		11	Old City - Jewish Quarter	1968	
		12	Pisgat Ze'ev & Pisgat Amir	1985	
		13	Ramat Eshkol - East (Givat HaMivtar)	1968	
		14	Ramat Eshkol - West	1968	
		15	Ramat Shlomo (Rekhes Shu`afat)	1995	
		16	Ramot Allon	1970	
TOTAL	Settlements	42	Population (Estimated)		321,384

Positions On Israel's Attempts To Redraw Border Around East Jerusalem

Palestine's Position

Palestine's vision for Jerusalem is rooted in deep historical, political, cultural, social, religious and economic ties to Jerusalem that span centuries. Pursuant to our vision, East Jerusalem, as defined by the pre-1967 municipal boundaries, shall be the capital of Palestine and West Jerusalem the capital of Israel, with each state enjoying full sovereignty over its respective part of the city. East Jerusalem's connections to the remainder of the occupied Palestinian territory should be fully restored and the city should be fully integrated into the territory of the State of Palestine.

Each city should have its own municipality taking responsibility for and managing municipal and daily affairs. The open city concept, however, is an essential element to ensure the prosperity and centrality of the city. In the spirit of peaceful coexistence and cooperation, a joint development council, composed of an equal number of representatives from both sides should be established by the parties to oversee cooperation between Israel and Palestine in both parts of Jerusalem, including with respect to planning and zoning, water, waste water and the environment, roads and industrial zones. A central objective of such cooperation should be to minimize practical impediments to the free movement and access of people, vehicles, services and goods arising from the existence of an international boundary running through the city. Notwithstanding this cooperation, each state shall enjoy full sovereignty over its respective part of Jerusalem.

International Community Position

The international community views Occupied East Jerusalem as Palestinian, in accordance with international law, and recognizes that East Jerusalem as Palestine's capital is a vital element of the two-state solution which it endorses. Shortly after Israel created its "Basic Law", the UN Security Council adopted resolution 476 which declared that all 'measures which have altered the geographic, demographic and historical character and status of the Holy City of Jerusalem are null and void'. Any attempt to redraw the border by Israel is therefore condemned worldwide. This is the longstanding position of the international community, including the United States and the European Union. Only recently, the EU issued guidelines prohibiting the awarding of grants, prizes and financial instruments to the territories occupied by Israel since June 1967, which includes East Jerusalem.

Despite these positions, the international community of states, particularly the United States and Europe has failed to take actions that make Israel's occupation and illegal annexation of East Jerusalem costlier in material and diplomatic terms. The de facto silence on these issues has given Israel the carte blanche it needs to continue with its destructive policies. Israel's impunity must be brought to an end if we are to safeguard the two-state solution and ensure to the emergence of a viable, sovereign and independent Palestinian state, living side by side with Israel in peace and security.



“Deeply concerned over the enactment of a "basic law" in the Israeli Knesset proclaiming a change in the character and status of the Holy City of Jerusalem, with its implications for peace and security" and "Decides not to recognize the "basic law" and such other actions by Israel that, as a result of this law, seek to alter the character and status of Jerusalem...”

United Nations Security Council Resolution 478 (1980)

Due to the newly placed annexation Israeli wall placed on “Jerusalem” side, several isolated communities with West Bank Identification Cards were created. For all the communities, no relatives or friends are allowed to visit and they hold no weddings or wakes. These communities need either a special permit or to be on a coordination list to be able to commute through military checkpoints.

Combined Total population is about 1,500 West Bank ID holders.

No.	Name Of Community	Municipality/ Area C
1	Qatanna - Nijem Faqih's House	Area C
2	Al-Khalayla (includes a bedouin community)	Area C
3	An Nabi Samuel (includes a bedouin community)	Area C
4	Bir Nabala Bedouins, Tel Al-Adasa	Municipality
5	Dahiyat Al-Barid	Area C and Municipality
6	Beit Hanina -Younis Sheikh's House	Area C
7	Beit Hanina -Jamal Suleiman's House	Area C
8	Hizma -Al Khatib & Askar Families	Municipality
9	Al Tur Bedouins	Area C
10	Surkhi and Qunbar Families	Municipality
11	Khirbet Khamis (Tantour Area)	Municipality
12	An Nu'man	Municipality
13	Um Al Asafir	Municipality
14	Ash Shayyah	Area C
15	Ash Shayyah - Um al Zarazir	Municipality
16	Anata -Ras Shihadeh Bedouins	Municipality
17	Qalendia Village - Awadallah Family	Municipality



“The EU does not recognise Israel's sovereignty over... the Golan Heights, the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem... and does not consider them to be part of Israel's territory, irrespective of their legal status under domestic law,”

Official Journal of the European Union (Guidelines on the eligibility of Israeli entities and their activities in the territories occupied by Israel since June 1967 for grants, prizes and financial instruments funded by the EU from 2014 onwards)

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Currently there are **14** Israeli permanent military checkpoints are placed around Occupied East Jerusalem controlling Palestinian entry to the city. This is part of Israel's policy to change Jerusalem's status quo turning it into an exclusive Jewish city: settlements, bypass roads construction and the annexation Wall are all part of the same Israeli goal. In addition to settlement policies, Israel has pushed for policies targeting Palestinian life in the city, varying from home demolitions, ID confiscation, Rejection of family unifications, home evictions, closing Palestinian institutions and attacks against Christian and Muslim freedom of worship. Since the beginning of 2013, Israeli occupation authorities have demolished more than **44** homes and structures in the city, displacing **161** persons and affecting **261** persons, including **126** children. On top of that Israel barred more than **16,000** Palestinians from Jerusalem by revoking their residency rights in East Jerusalem, a number that will be increased by Israeli attempts to further withdraw the residency rights of more than **100,000** Palestinian from Jerusalem living in the Eastern side of the Annexation Wall. Such illegal Israeli policies against Palestinian land and people aim at effectively change the status quo of Jerusalem in order to turn it into an exclusive Jewish city. A key ingredient for such a goal is to make impossible the administrative division of the city, something that effectively destroys the internationally endorsed goal of two sovereign and independent states, Palestine and Israel, living side by side on the 1967 border.