



Situation Report #35: Occupied Palestine

28 April – 5 May 2025 (until 10:00 AM)

The Government Communication Center at the Prime Minister's Office issues the Situation Report once a week. The next Situation Report will be issued on 12 May 2025.

Key Developments

ISRAEL'S ONGOING GENOCIDE AGAINST GAZA

The occupying Power has maintained its blockade of the Gaza Strip for the 64th consecutive day, preventing the entry of aid, including fuel, food, medicine, and medical equipment. All forms of humanitarian operations have been disrupted since Israel resumed its genocide in the Gaza Strip on 18 March, waging successive massacres through daily bombardments targeting civilians across the Strip, including tents housing displaced families, humanitarian workers, and fishermen trying, despite the dangers, to secure access to food. In April, multiple [incidents](#) occurred where the Israeli occupation forces (IOF) shelled or fired at fishing boats near the shore, killing and injuring several fishermen. Moreover, with the shortage of medical aid and the large number of injuries, the healthcare system is on the brink of collapse, unable to provide care for them and other patients suffering from chronic diseases such as kidney dialysis and cancer, as well as for pregnant women and children in need of essential vaccines that are unavailable due to the blockade.

AT LEAST 57 CHILDREN STARVED TO DEATH IN GAZA. INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS WARN: "BLOCKING AID KILLS"

With the worsening humanitarian situation and the renewed threat of hunger and malnutrition, statistics from the [Ministry of Health](#) indicate that deaths attributed to starvation and malnutrition have increased, reaching 57 children, including the child, [Janan Skafi](#). This number only includes cases that reached hospitals, recognizing that additional cases did not reach hospitals and remain unrecorded. Medical sources in Gaza have confirmed that the Israeli occupation continues to block the entry of infant formula, nutritional supplements, and all forms of humanitarian aid. As a result, over 70,000 children have been hospitalized due to severe malnutrition. In addition, intestinal and skin diseases, including scabies, are rapidly spreading among patients in overcrowded and under-resourced hospitals. [Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator Tom Fletcher](#) said, "Blocking aid starves civilians. It leaves them without basic medical support. It strips them of dignity and hope. It inflicts a cruel collective punishment." He emphasized: "Blocking aid kills." On Saturday, [the World Food Programme](#) announced, "WFP's food stocks inside Gaza are depleted."



GAZA'S SHRINKING SPACE: ISRAEL FLATTENS RAFAH

Consequent to Last Monday's [report](#) that Israel "is considering setting up a new humanitarian zone" in Rafah, [Reuters](#) reported Palestinians in Gaza fear that the flattening of what remains of Rafah city, home to 300,000 Palestinians, means it's "a plan to herd the population into confinement in a giant camp on the barren ground." According to [UNOCHA](#), since 18 March, nearly 70% of the Gaza Strip has been subject to displacement orders or designated as a 'no-go' zone. This includes areas along Gaza's perimeter and along Wadi Gaza, where the IOF has re-deployed since 20 March, accounting for approximately 50% of the Gaza Strip.

HEARINGS AT THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE COMMENCE TO QUESTION ISRAEL'S OBLIGATIONS TOWARDS UN ORGANIZATIONS IN OCCUPIED PALESTINE

Public hearings for an advisory opinion on Israel's obligations towards the United Nations and its agencies in occupied Palestine began last Monday at the [International Court of Justice](#) in The Hague (Netherlands). The proceedings extended from 28 April to 2 May 2025, involving 38 nations and four international organizations. This move is based on a [resolution](#) adopted by the UN General Assembly last December, calling on the ICJ to issue an advisory opinion on Israel's obligations to facilitate urgent humanitarian supplies to the Palestinian people, ensuring unobstructed access.

ISRAEL'S CONTINUED VIOLATIONS IN OCCUPIED JERUSALEM

Last Monday, Israeli far-right minister Ben-Gvir issued [an order to shut down the offices of the Jerusalem Fund and Endowment in occupied Jerusalem](#), marking another belligerent measure aimed at suffocating Palestinian life in the occupied Palestinian capital. In addition to the ongoing desecration of the Al-Aqsa Mosque Compound by Israeli settlers, including more than 10,000 in April 2025 alone, the [Israeli occupation authorities banned the Isha \(night\) call to prayer](#) through the loudspeakers of the Al-Aqsa Mosque Compound by severing the cables before speeches by Israeli officials at the adjacent Al-Buraq Wall last Tuesday. Furthermore, the occupation authorities will move this week to close [UNRWA's](#) six schools in occupied Jerusalem, which provide education to 800 students.

ISRAEL CONTINUED AGGRESSION AGAINST THE NORTHERN WEST BANK

Amid ongoing military assaults, arrests, and the forced displacement of Palestinian citizens, the occupation's aggression against Jenin and its refugee camp has persisted for 105 consecutive days, 99 days against the city of Tulkarem and its refugee camp, and 86 days against the Nour Shams refugee camp. So far, over 46,000 Palestinians have been displaced in Jenin and Tulkarem. On Thursday evening, the IOF notified 106 homes and buildings in [Tulkarem's refugee camps](#) of their impending demolition within 24 hours.



Summary

The majority of Palestinian martyrs in Gaza are women, children, and the elderly. In the past 24 hours, the IOF has killed 40 Palestinians and injured 125 others. Many remain trapped under the rubble.

Figure 1: Gaza Strip (Since 7 October 2023)

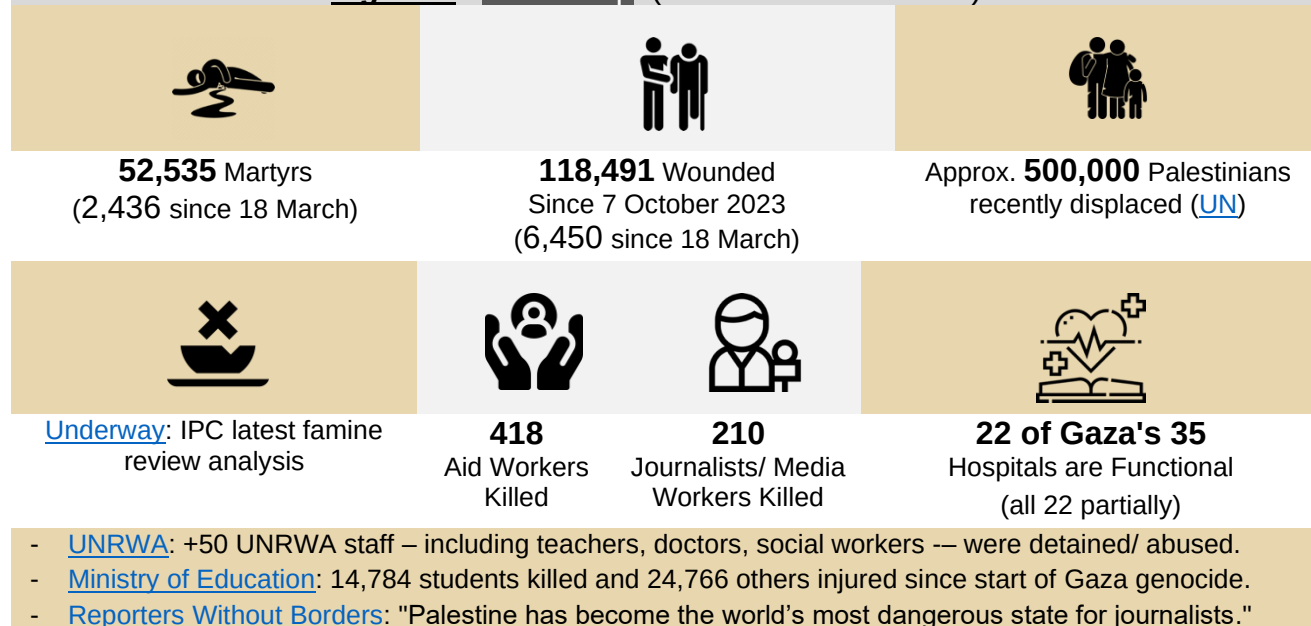
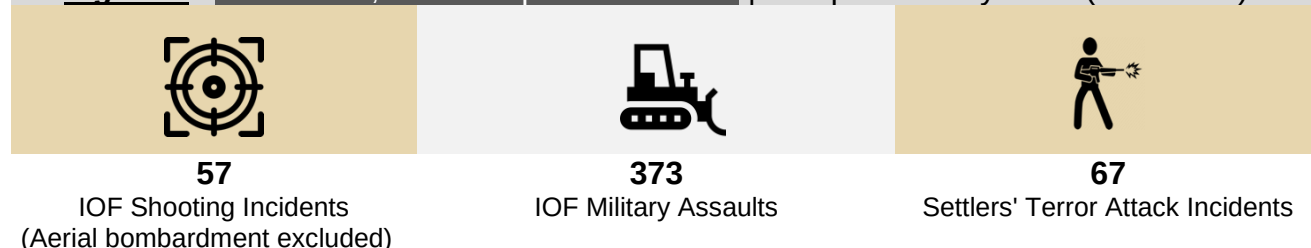


Figure 2: West Bank, incl. occupied Jerusalem (Since 7 October 2023)



Figure 3: West Bank, incl. occupied Jerusalem | 28 April – 4 May 2025 (until 8 AM)



Sources: Ministry of Health, [PCBS](#), [Wafa](#), [Maan News](#), [UNOCHA](#), [NAD's Palestinian Monitoring Group](#), [Palestinian Prisoners' Society](#), [Palestinian Journalists Syndicate](#)



In Focus

A. Israel's Colonial Settlement Enterprise

- A report by [the PLO's National Bureau for Defending Land and Resisting Settlements](#) states that the Israeli occupation authorities are implementing a dangerous project that will change the character of the West Bank and advance the imposition of Israel's de facto "sovereignty" over the Oslo-defined "Area C." The report adds that over the past year, the occupation government allocated approximately \$838 million to pave hundreds of kilometers of new roads between Palestinian areas, connecting Israeli settlements in the West Bank to cities inside Israel, thereby contributing to the implementation of the Israeli annexation project. An [investigation conducted by the Israeli group Shomrim](#) uncovered several methods for funding illegal roads, utilizing the budget from Israel's Ministry of Settlements that supports the "Land Reconnaissance Departments" run by Israeli settlement councils in the West Bank. According to Peace Now, the report noted that between mid-2023 and mid-2024, 139 illegal roads were built in the West Bank, totaling 116 kilometers in length.
- Palestinians in Al-Auja town in the Jericho Governorate are facing a catastrophe as their main lifeline [—the only spring in the area— has unexpectedly dried up and stopped flowing for the first time since 2019](#). According to the mayor of Al-Auja, Fakhri Al-Nujum, the decrease in rainfall may explain the drop in the water level of this spring; however, its drying up is a direct result of ongoing attacks by Israeli settlers. In recent years, several artesian wells have been constructed around the spring, with most of the water diverted for the benefit of Israeli settlements. These illegal withdrawals, as well as the large pipes installed by settlers around the spring, have drastically reduced the natural flow of the spring, ultimately rendering it dry and cutting off a critical water source.

B. Israel's Violations & Crimes Against Palestinian Journalists

Coinciding with World Press Freedom Day, the [Palestinian Journalists Syndicate](#) revealed during a press conference on Sunday horrific facts about the targeting of Palestinian journalists. The Syndicate presented conclusive evidence that the Israeli occupation has been targeting journalists during its genocidal war against the Palestinian people.

- At least **2,994** crimes and violations were documented against the Palestinian press corps, showing systematic attacks on and deliberate killings of journalists and their family members and the destruction of their workplaces and homes.



- As of early May 2025, **210** journalists and **665** of their family members have been killed, **152** of their homes destroyed, and many others wounded. The IOF directly bombed and destroyed **112** media institutions and press offices, forcing their closure and causing extensive human and material damage.
- On the first day of the Gaza genocide, IOF airstrikes targeted media headquarters, forcing journalists to work from their homes. Israeli missiles pursued them there, killing approximately **90** journalists, some still under rubble. Another **29** journalists were targeted and killed in their tents, while dozens more were wounded, suffering serious injuries, including amputations.
- Journalists injured by shrapnel from rockets and live ammunition outnumbered those injured by tear gas canisters and sound bombs. This brought the total number of fatal injuries to **178**, some of whom had their limbs amputated.
- Approximately **179** cases of arrest and detention were recorded in Israeli military detention centers. Dozens of those arrested in the first days of the genocide remain in detention without fair trials, family visits, or even visits from the ICRC. In addition to starvation and denial of medical treatment, they are subjected to the most brutal forms of physical and psychological torture. Many journalists were subjected to enforced disappearances. The fate of some remains unknown.
- In the West Bank, the IOF has resorted to confiscating content and shutting down institutions: **825** incidents of press crews being detained and prevented from working have been documented, including detention before or during coverage, abuse, confiscation, and destruction of their equipment, and assaulting them with physical violence, verbal abuse, and threats.
- Settler violence against journalists has increased and includes various crimes such as shootings, physical assaults, verbal abuse, and incitement on social media. Additionally, there have been documented cases of Israeli military vehicles attempting to run over journalists during their news coverage, with many of these incidents captured on camera.
- To harm Palestinian journalists, tear gas canisters have been intentionally fired at them. Journalists have faced unfair military courts based on false charges, fines, travel bans, and summonses for interrogation.

The Palestinian Journalists Syndicate emphasized that these violations constitute systematic crimes against the press in occupied Palestine. It called for the formation of an independent international investigation committee, the immediate release of detained journalists, and



pressure to allow injured journalists to travel for treatment. Additionally, the Syndicate urged holding the occupation forces accountable for their crimes before international courts, providing international protection for journalists and media organizations, and supporting the documentation of Israeli violations on an international level.

Government Updates

- On the 100th day of the Israeli aggression and siege of Jenin, the [Ministry of Health](#) stated that the doors of Jenin Government Hospital remained open despite all attempts to restrict access and cut off electricity and water. The Jenin Government Hospital stated: "We have been performing our humanitarian duty for more than three consecutive months amidst the siege and invasion. Matters are not proceeding normally here. Instead, we are working at a relentless emergency pace, as if 'emergency' has become a permanent routine."
- The [Palestinian Cabinet](#) discussed the recommendations of the Minister of Economy regarding essential financial and economic interventions in the targeted northern governorates to strengthen the resilience of citizens and support the private sector. To alleviate the suffering of Palestinian citizens, the Cabinet instructed government institutions to enhance field interventions, including relief efforts in the agriculture and trade sectors, temporary shelters, and improvements to infrastructure. Additionally, the Cabinet approved a preliminary agreement to develop a project for a 265-megawatt power plant in Jenin.
- During the past week, [Prime Minister Dr. Mohammad Mustafa briefed UK officials](#) on developments in occupied Palestine. [Dr. Mohammad Mustafa also met with UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer and Foreign Secretary David Lammy](#). In addition to signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) establishing a framework for strategic cooperation and high-level dialogue across sectors of mutual interest, both sides emphasized their commitment to working towards the two-State solution, affirming that ending the Israeli occupation is the only path to achieving a just, and lasting peace in the Middle East.
- Regarding the demolition of homes and private properties in the occupied West Bank, especially in the northern governorates, the [Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates](#) said in a statement that "These acts constitute war crimes and crimes against humanity, aimed at eroding the national and human presence of the Palestinian people in their homeland through one of the most brutal forms of forcible transfer and annexation."