



## Situation Report #77: Occupied Palestine

23 February – 02 March 2026 (until 08:00 AM)

The Government Communication Center at the Prime Minister's Office issues the Situation Report once a week in English, Arabic, Spanish, and French. The next Situation Report will be issued on 09 March 2026.

### Key Developments

#### **DAY 143 SINCE THE CEASEFIRE DEAL: ISRAEL HAS KILLED 629 PALESTINIANS IN GAZA, BRINGING THE TOTAL TO 72,096 PALESTINIANS KILLED SINCE THE GENOCIDE BEGAN**

According to [Médecins Sans Frontières](#) (MSF), Israeli occupation authorities, despite the US-led peace plan, continue to heavily restrict and even deny access to water, shelter, and medical care in Gaza, compounding an already catastrophic humanitarian situation. [UNOCHA](#) further reports that in recent weeks, the entry of humanitarian supplies from Egypt has remained critically low due to high rejection rates by the Israeli occupation authorities. [Heavy winter rains](#) have recently flooded tents sheltering displaced families across the Gaza Strip during the holy month of Ramadan, exacerbating already dire living conditions—maintained at undignified levels—amid ongoing restrictions on the entry of shelter materials. Medical and local sources also report the continued use of lethal force, including the [killing of a Palestinian and injuries](#) to several others, following an airstrike targeting civilians in southern Gaza. Additional [casualties](#) were reported on Wednesday, including a young man who was killed and several others injured, while [seven Palestinians](#) were killed on Friday.

#### **ISRAEL PASSES NEW DECISIONS TO SEIZE MORE PALESTINIAN LAND**

Since 2022, the Oslo-defined Area “C” in the West Bank has undergone a [structural transformation](#) in Israeli territorial control over land, moving beyond the incremental policies instrumentalized by the Israeli occupation, previously described as “creeping annexation,” toward an integrated system of administrative, legal, and territorial reengineering. Legislative measures, military orders, and government decisions—accelerated during the 2022–2026 period—have transferred powers from military control to civilian authorities, expanded settlement activity, widened enforcement in Palestinian areas, and facilitated settler land acquisition directly without government oversight. The February 2026 Israeli decision (Government Decision 3559) to [resume land settlement and registration in Area “C”](#) for the first time since 1967 marks a significant shift from “temporary military administration” toward the institutionalization of long-term property arrangements. By prioritizing cadastral classification and evidentiary standards that shift the burden of proof onto Palestinians, the move redirects debate from the legality of Israel's presence as an occupying power to a technical question of property rights.



### **ISRAEL OWNS THE WORLD'S LARGEST SKIN BANK: WHERE DOES IT COME FROM?**

During a hearing before the Ohio Senate Judiciary Committee on bill "SB 87," [Khaled Al-Turaani](#), Executive Director of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) in Ohio, said that "Israel has the [largest human skin bank](#) in the world." Al-Turaani [cited](#) a report by the Israeli Channel 12 about Israel's skin bank and questioned the origin of the skin, saying, "Where do you think they got all this skin from? They have more human skin than China and India. They are literally skinning the dead bodies of my brothers and sisters in Palestine. That's where they are getting the human skin from." His remarks also echoed reports by different rights groups and commentators about the handling of Palestinian bodies during the Israeli genocide in Gaza, confirming that [returned Palestinians bodies had missing organs](#) and exhibited [clear signs of torture](#).

### **WATER AND LIVELIHOOD SUPPORT REVIVES FARMING IN THE WEST BANK**

In the Ein Al-Zarqa Valley near Beitillu in the central West Bank, the [International Committee of the Red Cross](#) (ICRC) implemented projects to improve access to water and support the livelihoods of Palestinian farmers returning to their land. The intervention included constructing a water network with two reservoirs and providing cash grants, enabling 21 families to rehabilitate their farms and greenhouses. The projects aimed to address declining agricultural activity, driven by limited access to water, movement restrictions, and settler terror, particularly since October 2023.

### **ONGOING SETTLER ATTACKS AND IOF INCUSURIONS ACROSS THE WEST BANK**

Last week, Israeli colonial settlers and occupation forces (IOF) carried out [multiple attacks and incursion](#) across the occupied West Bank. Armed settlers stormed Palestinian villages, set fire to agricultural structures, grazed livestock on private land, and threatened Palestinian citizens, while Israeli soldiers fired tear gas and live ammunition during their incursions. At the same time, [the IOF conducted widespread military assaults](#) and home raids, detaining several Palestinians from their homes and opening fire in various areas.

### **UNPRECEDENTED: US CONSULAR SERVICES IN WEST BANK SETTLEMENTS**

The US Embassy in Israel announced that it will provide consular services for the first time in the Efrat settlement south of Bethlehem in the occupied West Bank, in an unprecedented move in US policy toward Israeli settlements. The [Colonization & Wall Resistance Commission](#) described the decision as reflecting bias toward the Israeli occupation authorities and as a breach of the principle of non-recognition of unlawful situations, which undermines prospects for a two-State solution.

### **ISRAEL'S CONTINUED AGGRESSION AGAINST THE NORTHERN WEST BANK**

The occupation's aggression has persisted for 406 days against Jenin and its refugee camp, 400 days against Tulkarem and its refugee camp, and 380 days against Nour Shams refugee camp.



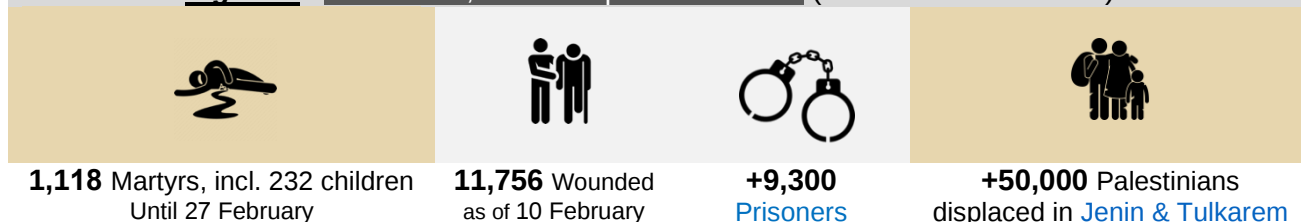
## Summary

**Figure 1: Gaza Strip** (Since 7 October 2023)

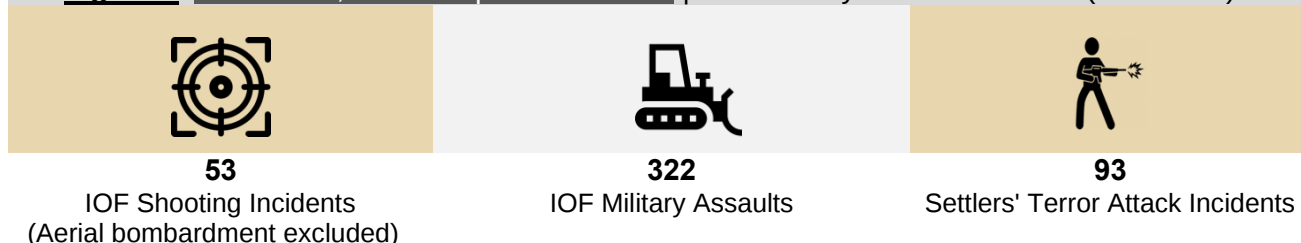


- [Euro-Med](#): Israel's plans for a digital Gaza economy threaten Palestinian financial sovereignty and basic access to essentials.
- [UN](#): Gaza's children share their hopes for a safe and secure future.
- [Video](#): Humanitarian conditions worsen in Gaza as rain floods camps and washes away roads.

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



**Figure 3: West Bank, incl. occupied Jerusalem** | 23 February - 01 March 2026 (until 8 AM)



- [Video](#): Illegal Israeli settlers injure foreign activists in Qusra, Nablus, using Israeli government vehicles.
- [PJS](#) condemns Israeli bans and arrests of journalists in occupied Jerusalem, urging international action.
- [Report](#): Israel detains over 100 Palestinians, including women and children, in the West Bank since the start of Ramadan.

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Sources: Ministry of Health, [Wafa](#), [UNOCHA](#), [PJS](#), [NAD's Palestinian Monitoring Group](#)



## In Focus

According to [Peace Now](#), construction has commenced on Road 45—or the “Quarries Road”—a major bypass road linking the settlement of Kokhav Ya’akov to the Qalandiya underpass. The route will enable Israeli colonial settlers to travel directly into Israel without passing through Israeli military checkpoints designated exclusively for Palestinians, which restrict Palestinian movement and further fragment geographical continuity between Palestinian areas. The [groundbreaking ceremony](#) was attended by Israeli Finance Minister Smotrich and Transportation Minister Regev, who described the colonial project as part of a broader effort to expand settlements east and north of Ramallah and to “bring one million [settlers] to Judea and Samaria.” The road is planned to run north of the Palestinian villages of Jaba’ and al-Ram, with construction involving the expropriation of approximately 280 dunams of privately owned Palestinian land. Road 45 is a central component of a wider settlement road network, which includes the Qalandiya underpass, planned upgrades to Road 60 between Sha’ar Binyamin and the British Police Junction, and the expansion of Road 437 between Hizma and Sha’ar Binyamin. The total cost of these infrastructure projects is estimated at approximately NIS 680 million and is designed to serve around 46,000 settlers. These developments facilitate settler mobility while bypassing Palestinian areas, consolidating Israeli control over the area and reinforcing settlement expansion. Collectively, the projects impact Palestinian access to land, impose further movement restrictions, and involve the confiscation of private Palestinian property for infrastructure primarily serving a minority settler population.

## Government Updates

In light of ongoing regional developments, and against the backdrop of the continued Israeli occupation’s restrictions on freedom of movement—through the closure of military checkpoints and iron gates that fragment Palestinian cities and villages—as well as its persistent withholding of Palestinian tax revenues, which account for 68 percent of the Ministry of Finance’s income, the [Palestinian Government](#) is operating under a comprehensive [emergency plan](#) to enhance preparedness across all vital sectors. The plan includes the continuous convening of emergency committees across the governorates; ensuring the availability of essential goods; intensifying market oversight to prevent price manipulation and exploitation; and declaring a state of maximum alert across all hospitals and healthcare facilities to respond effectively to unfolding developments. The measures further encompass restricting public gatherings and limiting movement to cases of necessity, while urging citizens to comply strictly with official instructions, refrain from spreading rumors, and avoid panic buying. Meanwhile, the [Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#), through its embassies and diplomatic missions, continues to monitor around the clock the conditions of Palestinian communities abroad in light of the evolving situation affecting the region. In this context, the Government’s Emergency Task Force has called upon international and humanitarian organizations—foremost among them UNRWA—amid the current developments and to secure urgent humanitarian assistance for the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip. It further underscored the imperative of reopening crossings to allow the entry of medical supplies and relief aid, reaffirming the Government’s readiness to enhance its interventions and coordination with partners to ensure the provision of essential services and basic needs for our people in the Strip.