



MIDDLE EAST EVOLUTION

THE ISRAEL-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT

Capstone Spouse Course 26-3

12 MAY 2026

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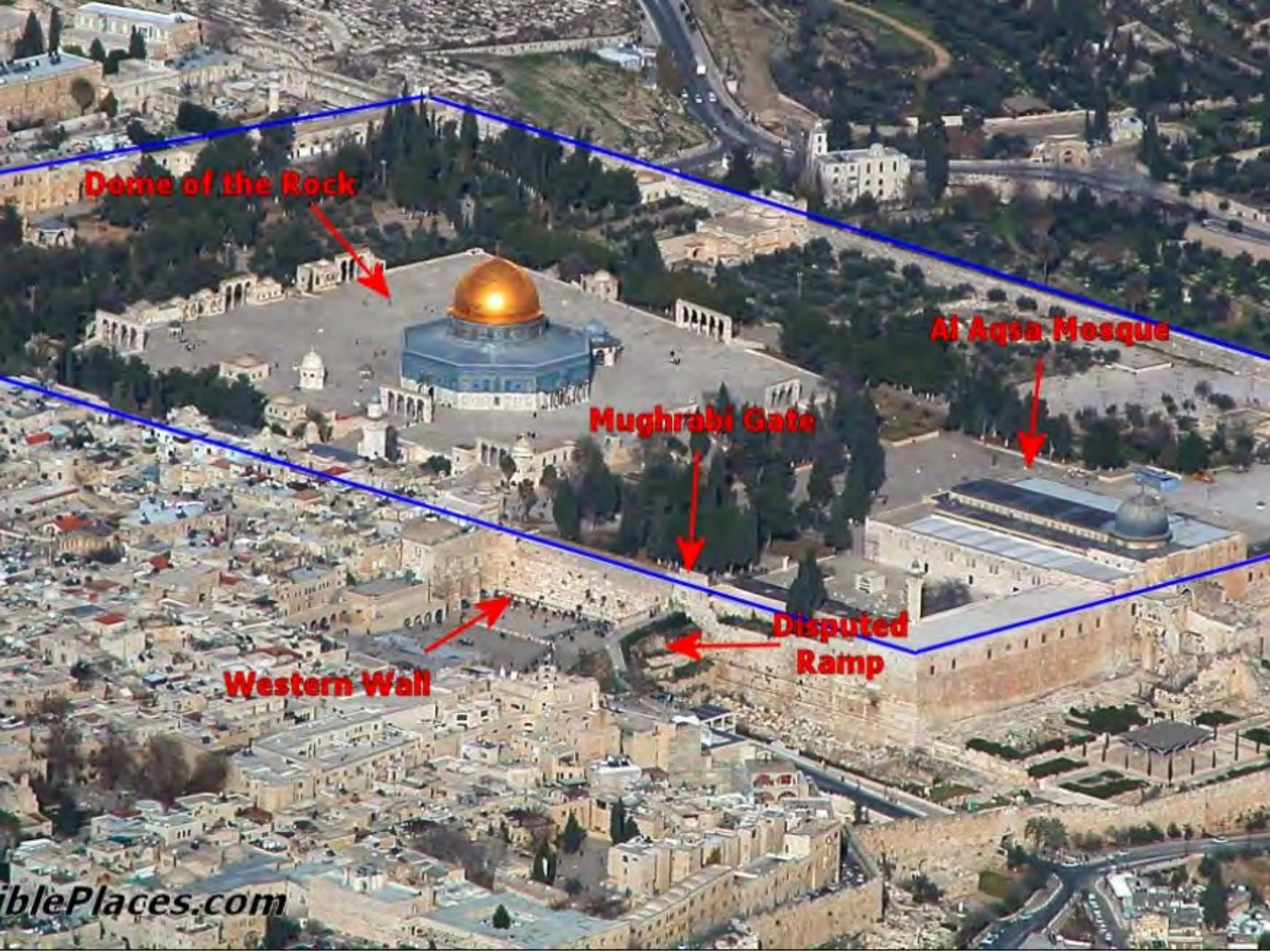
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<https://www.teepublic.com/t-shirt/40747235-palestinian-right-of-return-is-sacred-arabic-calli>

<https://www.amazon.com/Hurriyyate-e-Palestine-Always-Inside-Customized/dp/B08ZDTK3DD?th=1>



Dome of the Rock

Al Aqsa Mosque

Mughrabi Gate

Disputed Ramp

Western Wall

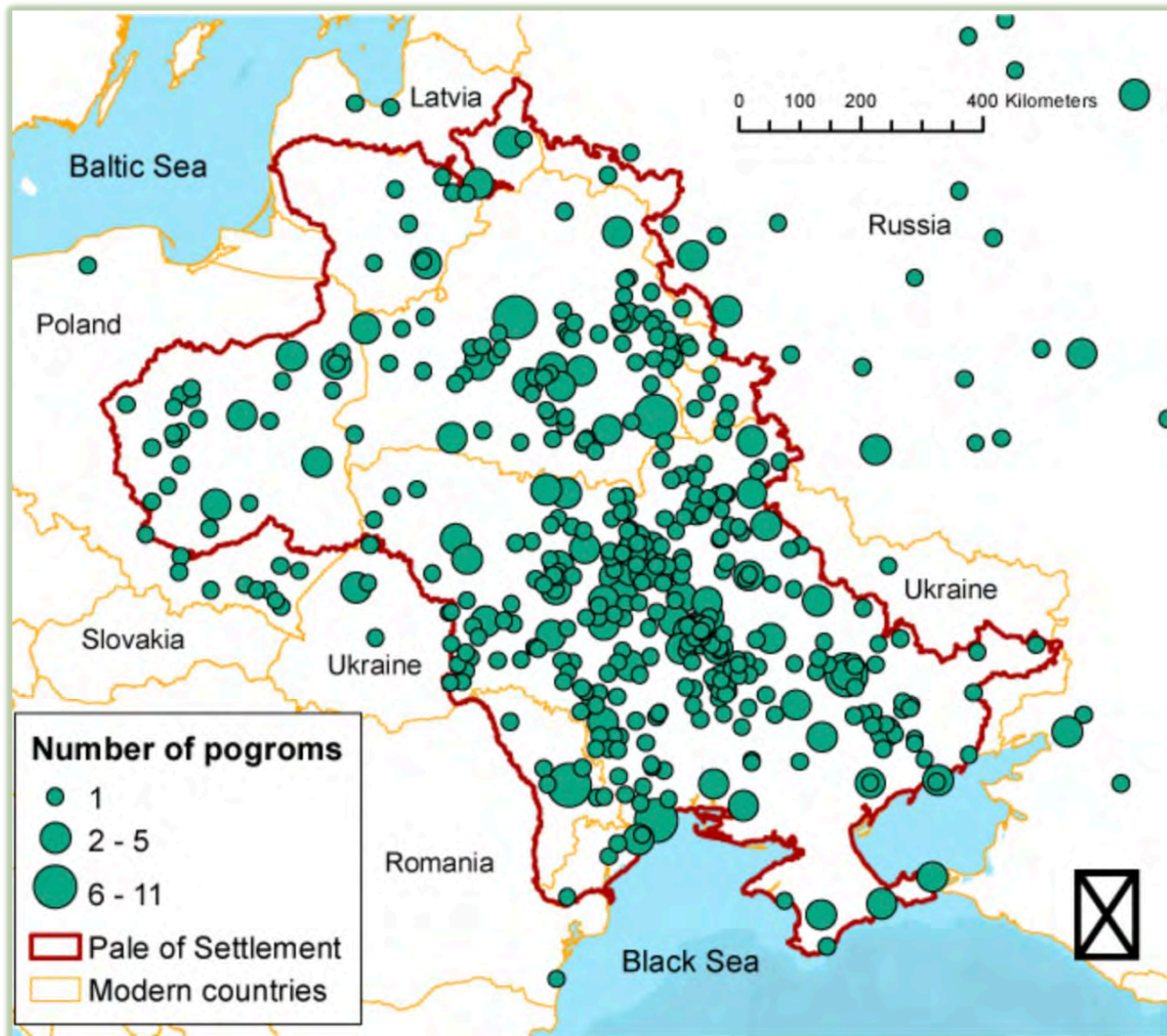
Historic Context





MAP OF WESTERN RUSSIA SHOWING THE JEWISH PALE OF SETTLEMENT.
 [The Jewish Encyclopedia, ed. Singer, Funk and Wagner, New York & London, 1901







DER
JUDENSTAAT.

VERSUCH

EINER

MODERNEN LÖSUNG DER JUDENFRAGE

VON

THEODOR HERZL

DOCTOR DER RECHTE.



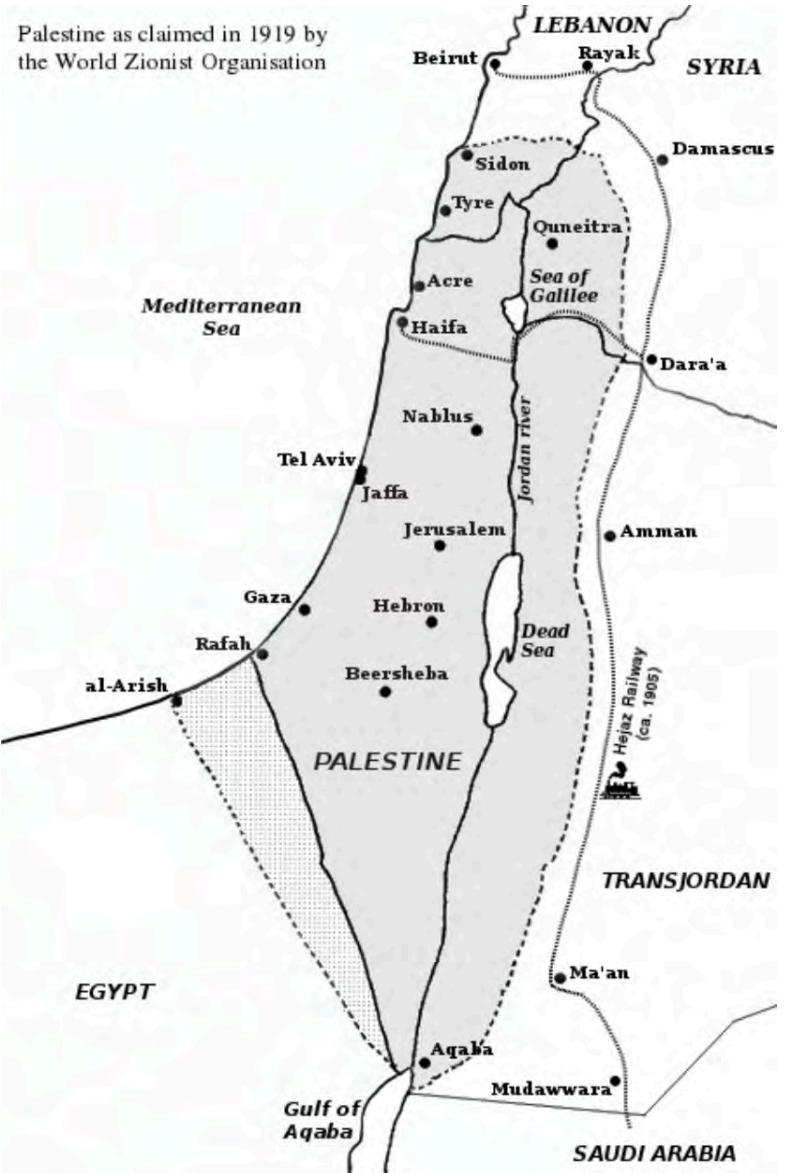
LEIPZIG und WIEN 1896.

M. BREITENSTEIN'S VERLAGS-BUCHHANDLUNG
WIEN, IX., WÄHRINGERSTRASSE 5.

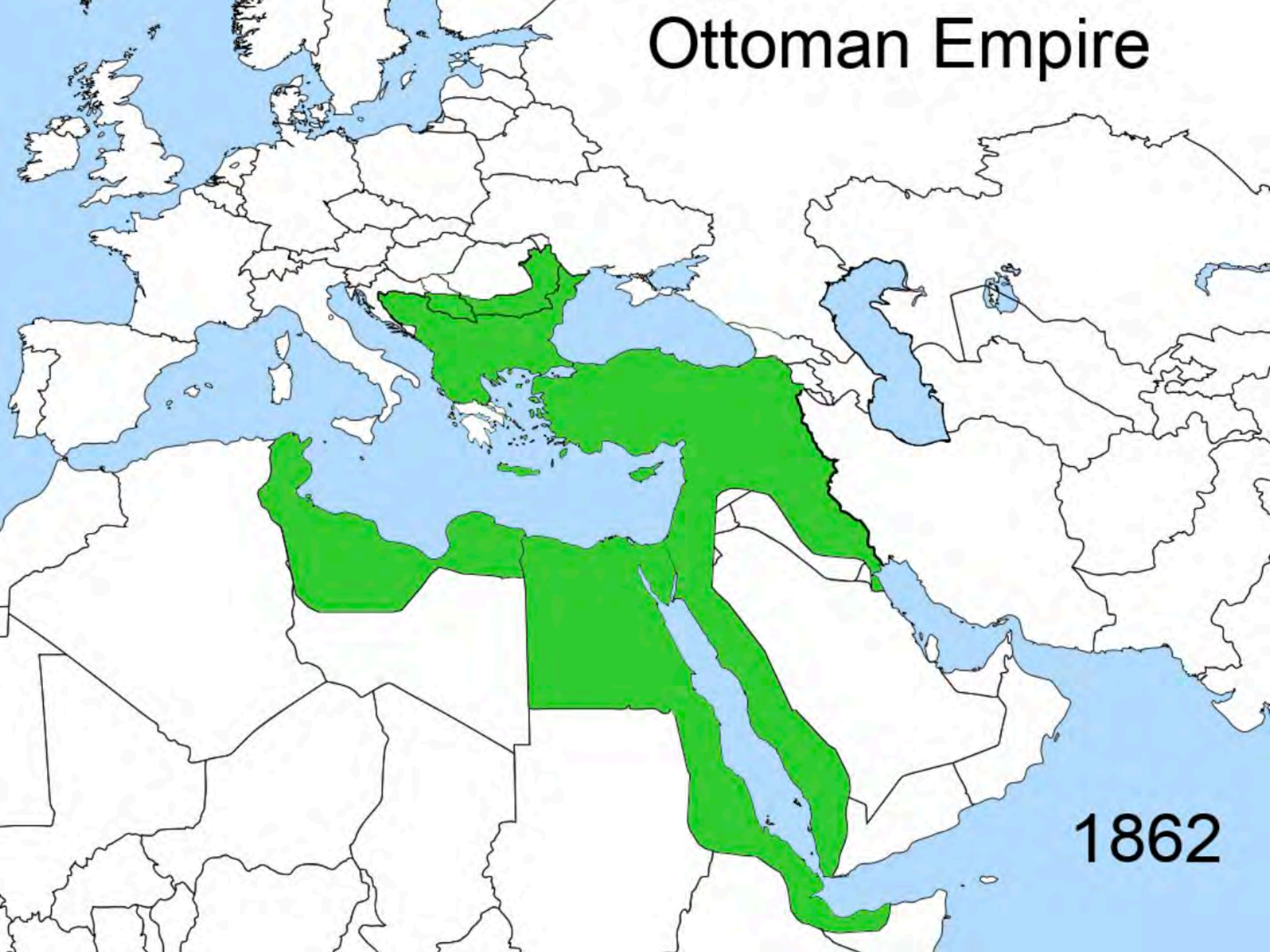


אבגדהוזהחטי
כךלמסנסע
פףצץקשת

פלאגלאהט
כלזחזחז



Ottoman Empire



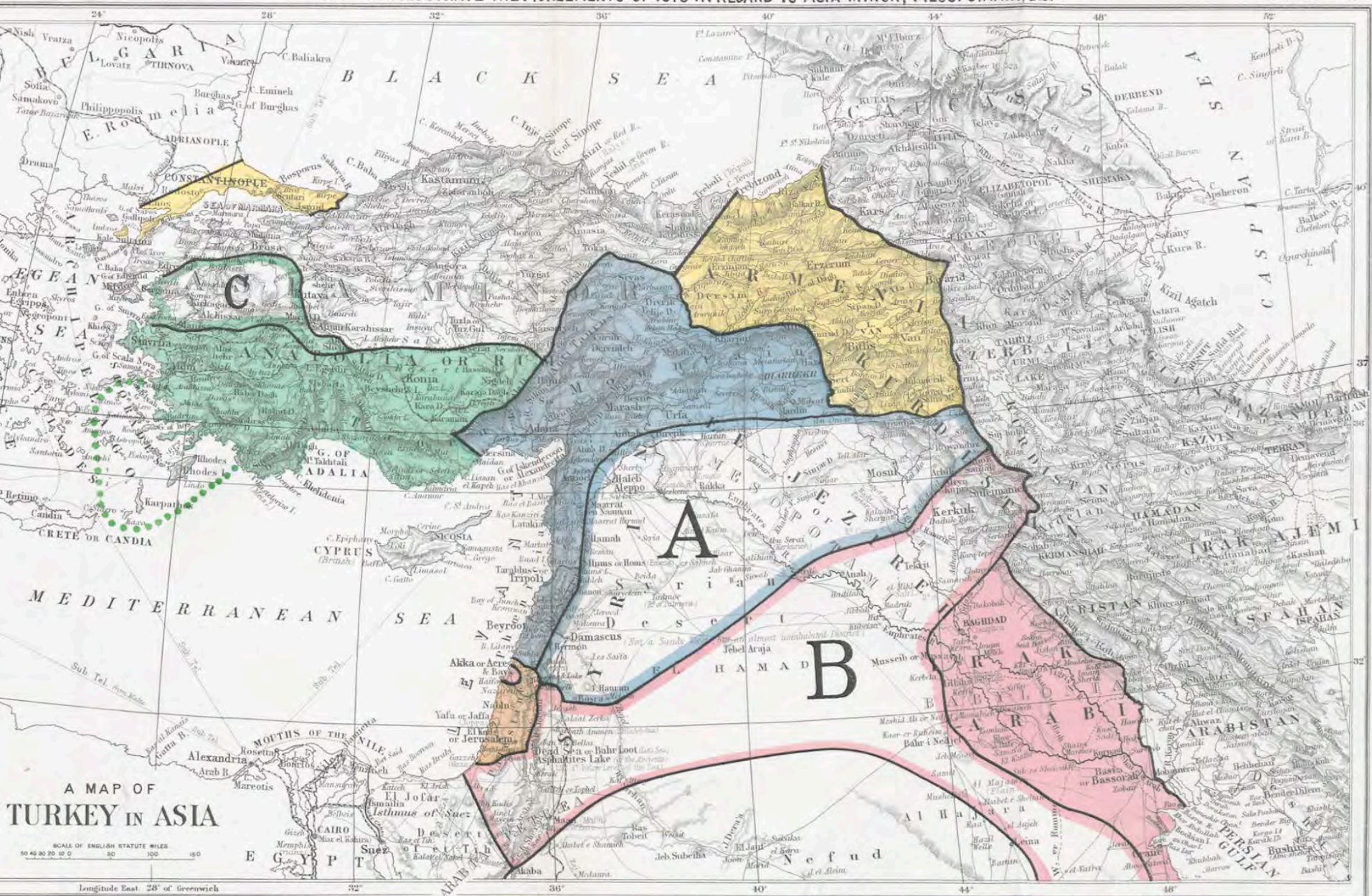
1862





MAP TO ILLUSTRATE THE AGREEMENTS OF 1916 IN REGARD TO ASIA MINOR, MESOPOTAMIA, &c.

MAP 1



- FRENCH SPHERE.
- BRITISH SPHERE.
- ITALIAN SPHERE.
- INTERNATIONAL SPHERE.
- RUSSIAN SPHERE.

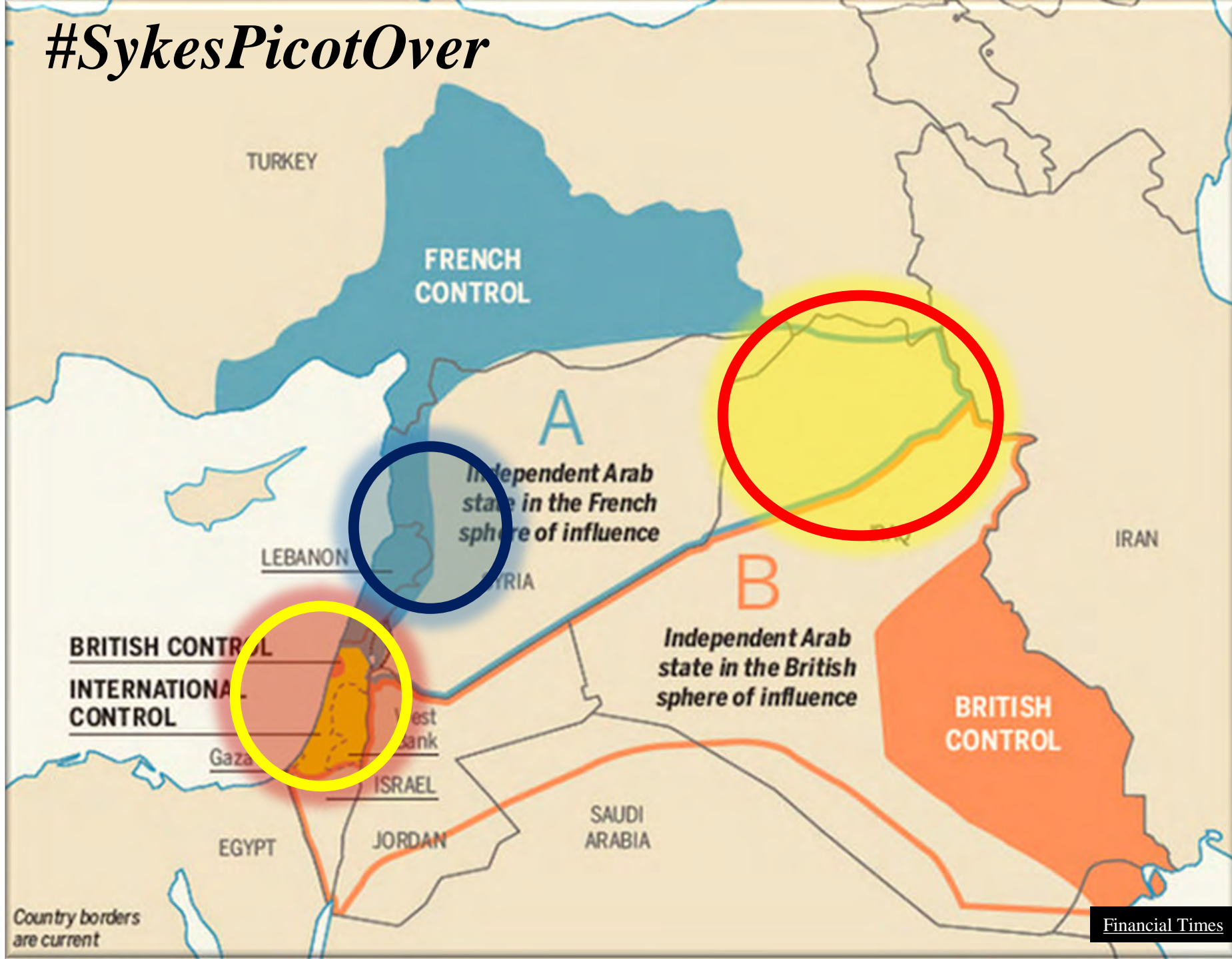
London: Edward Stanford, 12, 13 & 14, Long Acre, W.C.

C = Italian sphere of influence.

A & B = INDEPENDENT ARAB STATE,
A being in the French, and B in the British, sphere of influence.

Revised by Geo. Dobson, London.

#SykesPicotOver



1948

Israel is formed



After the Six Day War

■ Occupied by Israel in 1967

100 miles



PALESTINIAN LOSS OF LAND 1946 TO PRESENT

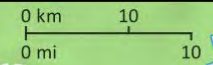
www.auphr.org/mapcard.html



التكبة

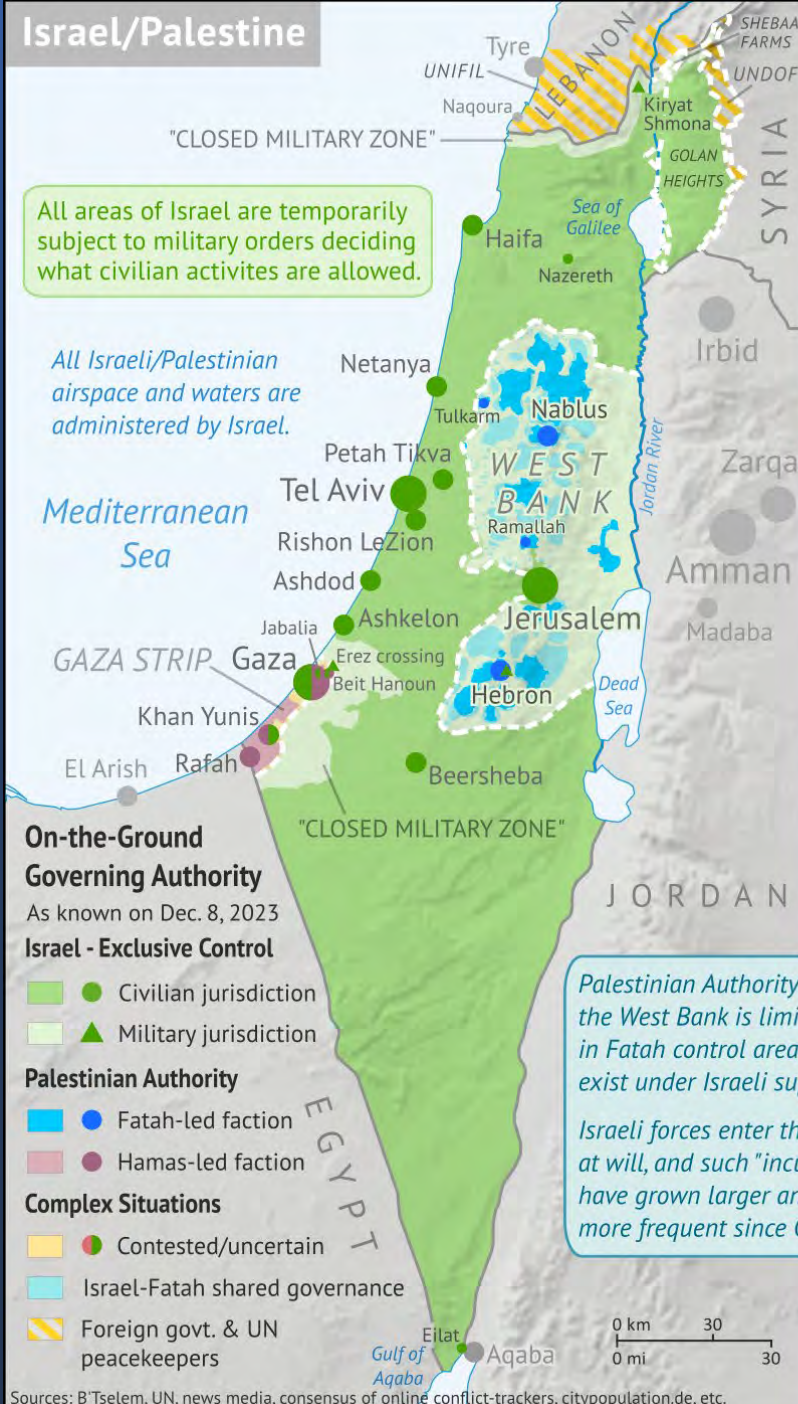
Israel/Palestine

West Bank



All areas of Israel are temporarily subject to military orders deciding what civilian activities are allowed.

All Israeli/Palestinian airspace and waters are administered by Israel.



On-the-Ground Governing Authority

As known on Dec. 8, 2023

Israel - Exclusive Control

- Civilian jurisdiction
- ▲ Military jurisdiction

Palestinian Authority

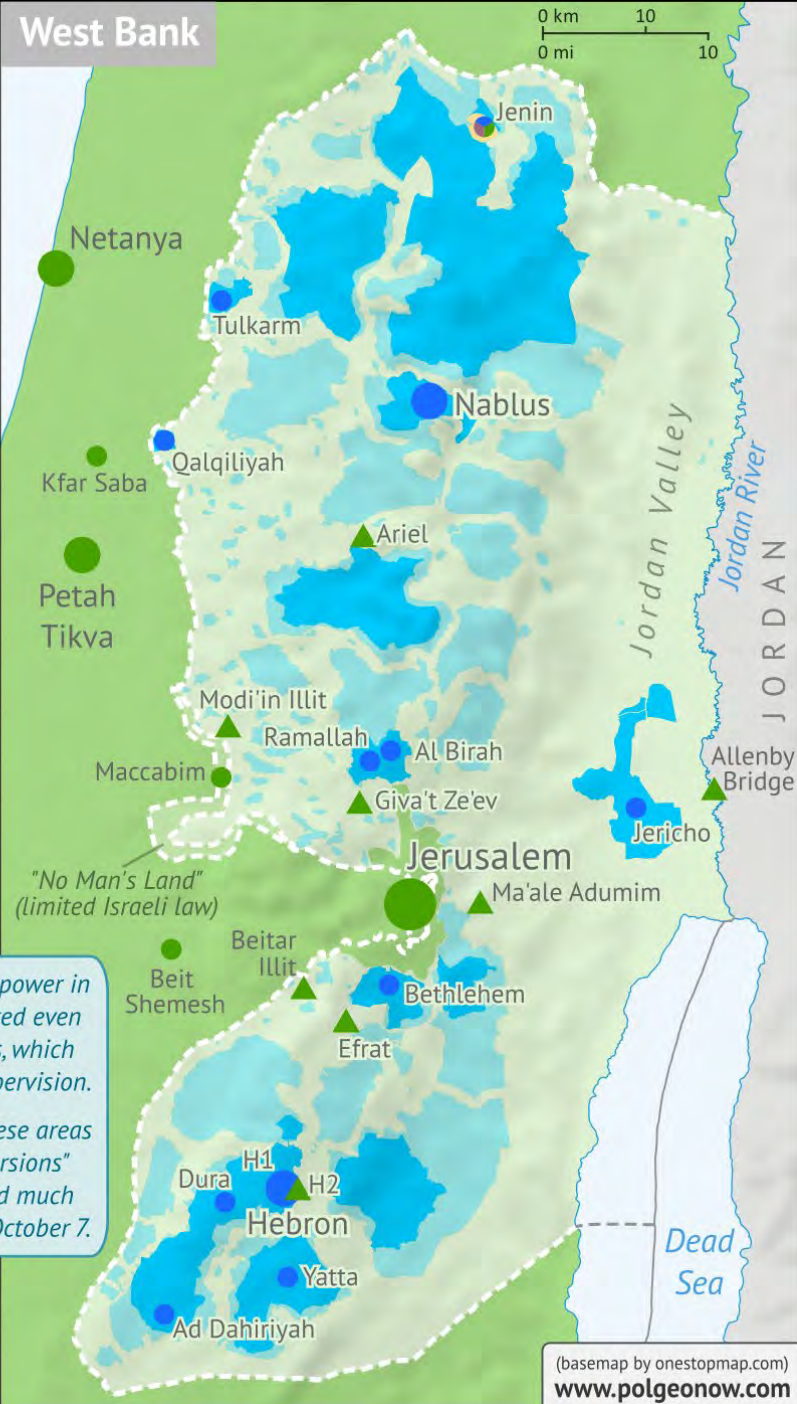
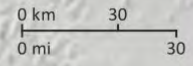
- Fatah-led faction
- Hamas-led faction

Complex Situations

- Contested/uncertain
- Israel-Fatah shared governance
- Foreign govt. & UN peacekeepers

Palestinian Authority power in the West Bank is limited even in Fatah control areas, which exist under Israeli supervision.

Israeli forces enter these areas at will, and such "incursions" have grown larger and much more frequent since October 7.



Sources: B'Tselem, UN, news media, consensus of online conflict-trackers, citypopulation.de, etc.

CAUSES
&
CONSTRAINTS





Right of Return

*From the
River to the
Sea*

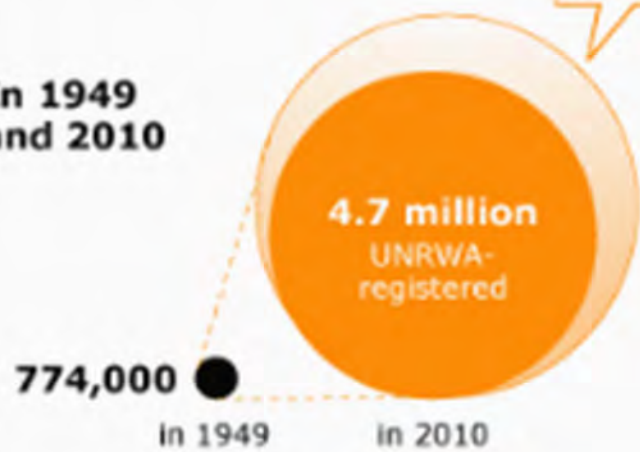


Palestinian refugees

In September 1949



In 1949 and 2010



Source: UNRWA

Destroyed Palestinian villages in 1949





الأمم المتحدة
الأمم المتحدة

Mondoweiss

News & Opinion About Palestine, Israel & the United States

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The key of return

Farrah Akbik learned the story of Palestine from a friend's family who lived it firsthand when they were forced out of Safed in 1948, and still had the key to their house hanging on the wall of their small apartment in Damascus.

BY [FARRAH AKBIK](#) - MAY 23, 2021 - 4



A PALESTINIAN REFUGEE HOLDS THE KEYS TO THE HOUSE HE WAS FORCED FROM IN 1948, IN THE AL JALAZOUN REFUGEE CAMP IN THE WEST BANK CITY OF RAMALLAH ON MAY 14 2012. (PHOTO: ISSAM RIMAWI/APA IMAGES)

CATCH-67

THE LEFT, THE RIGHT,
AND THE LEGACY OF
THE SIX-DAY WAR



MICAH GOODMAN



1. END OCCUPATION

2. END APARTHEID

3. REFUGEES' RIGHT OF RETURN

BDS
MOVEMENT
FREEDOM JUSTICE EQUALITY

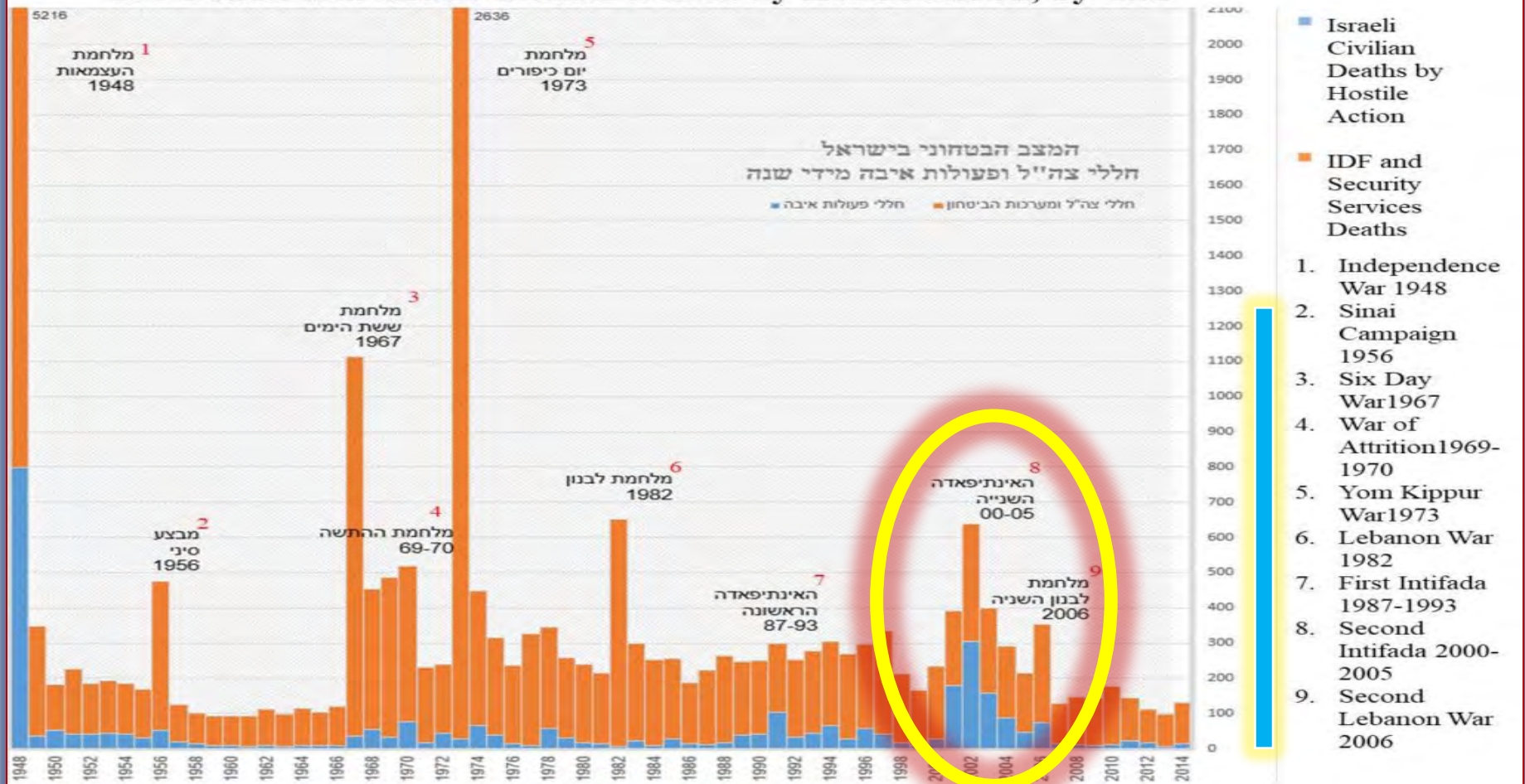




729 = MADE IN ISRAEL

The Security Situation in Israel

IDF Deaths and Israeli Civilian Deaths by Hostile Action, by Year





Adolf Hitler talking to Grand Mufti Haj Amin el Husseini Keystone / Getty Images

<https://time.com/4084301/hitler-grand-mufi-1941/>

https://isgap.org/flashpoint/from-hitler-to-hamas-a-genealogy-of-evil/#_ednref19



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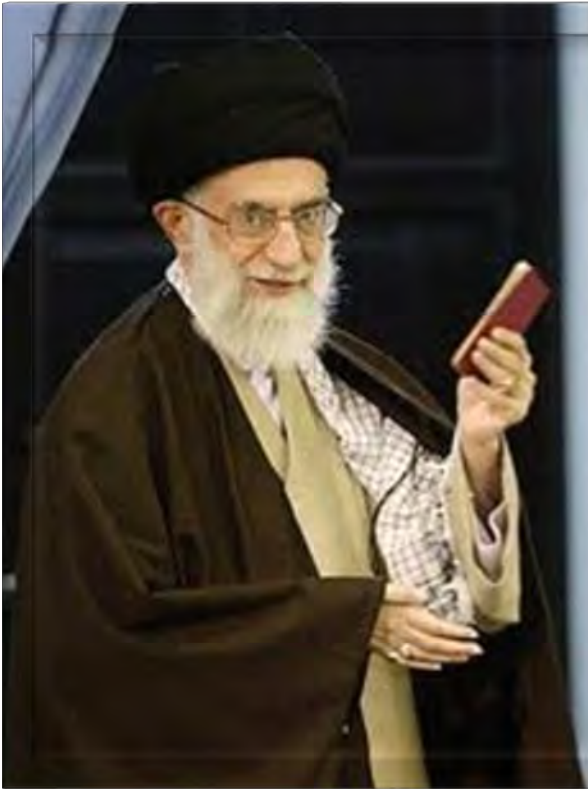
GAZA'S UNDERGROUND: HAMAS'S ENTIRE POLITICO-MILITARY STRATEGY RESTS ON ITS TUNNELS

John Spencer | 01.18.24



Protestors in Jerusalem hold up portraits of Israeli hostages held in Gaza at a rally on Jan. 22, 2024 to demand their release. Photo: Ahmad Gharabli/AFP via Getty Images

Iran?



It is the mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to erase Israel from the map of the region.

— *Ali Khamenei* —

AZ QUOTES



Iran's stance has always been clear on this ugly phenomenon (Israel). We have repeatedly said that this cancerous tumor of a state should be removed from the region. No one will allow a bunch of thugs, lechers and outcasts from London, America and Moscow to rule over the Palestinians.

— *Ali Khamenei* —

AZ QUOTES

THE WAR





(Photo Credit: X)

IDF's top lawyer warns against 'cases of unacceptable conduct' by troops in Gaza

Military advocate general to evaluate incidents, some of which 'cross the criminal threshold,' including unjustified use of force, looting, destruction of civilian property

By **EMANUEL FABIAN**  [FOLLOW](#)

21 February 2024, 1:30 pm



IDF Military Advocate General Maj. Gen. Yifat Tomer-Yerushalmi in Jerusalem on February 8, 2022. (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90.)

The Israel Defense Forces' top lawyer, Maj. Gen. Yifat Tomer-Yerushalmi, issued a warning Wednesday to commanders against illegal actions carried out by troops in the Gaza Strip.

ISRAELI DEFENSE SHIELD



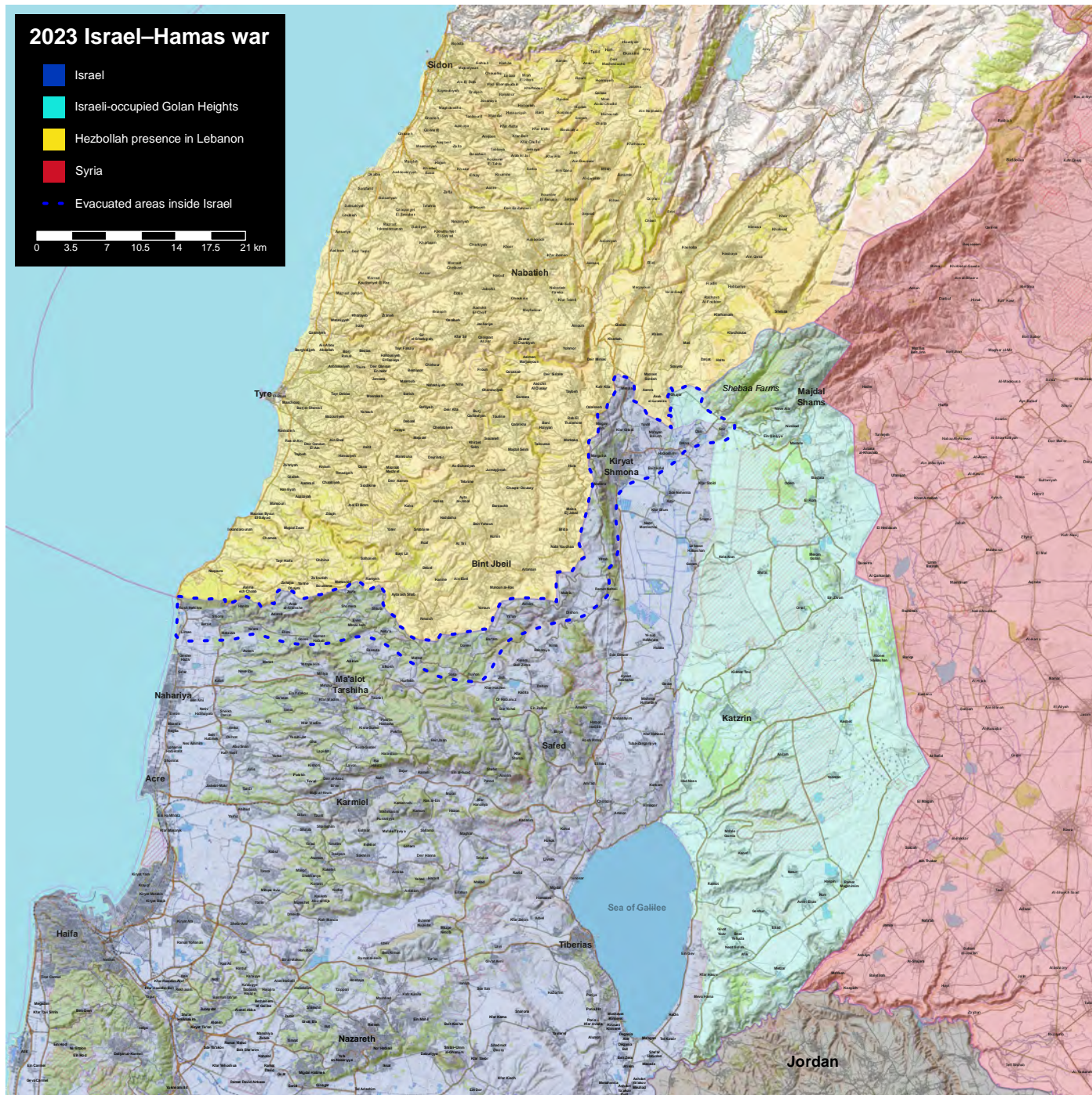
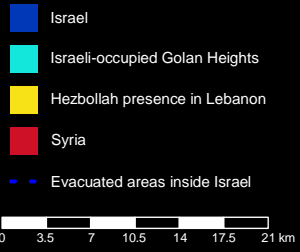
HAMAS DEFENSE SHIELD



WHAT'S
NEXT?



2023 Israel– Hamas war





Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu (L) meets with Defense Minister Yoav Gallant (C) and military chiefs at IDF headquarters in Tel Aviv for a security assessment on October 8, 2023. (GPO)

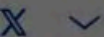
ICTS | ISRAEL

West Bank: EU could sanction violent Israeli settlers

er in Brussels

go

European Union has expressed concern over an increase in clashes in the West Bank. Here's what potential sanctions on individuals known for "violent activities" could mean.



Israeli Extremists

© Mamoun Wazwaz

ed concern about mounting violence toward Palestinians in the occupied West Bank

Image: Mamoun Wazwaz/AHM Images



Are the
Palestinians
trapped?

- Further than ever from a
Palestinian state?
- Abandoned?
- Exploited by HAMAS
- More aligned with
extremists

London, UK

Source: UK Parliament Recording Unit



COMMOTION OVER VOTE ON GAZA CEASEFIRE



Chaos In UK Parliament Over Vote On Gaza Ceasefire; Opposition Walks Out



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European Domestic Context

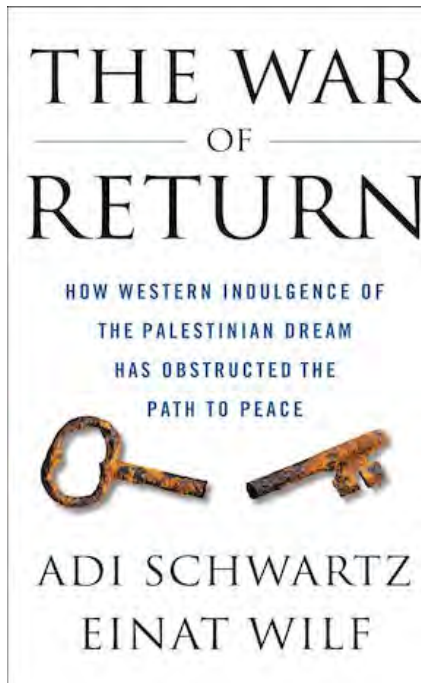
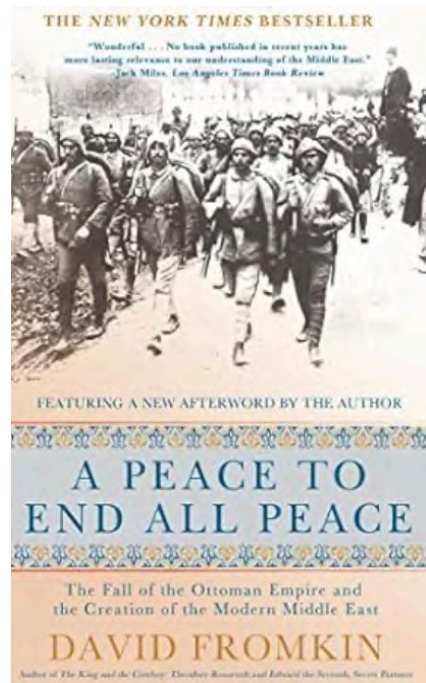


1 of 4 | Geert Wilders, leader of the far-right party PVV, or Party for Freedom, talks to the media after a meeting with speaker of the House Vera Bergkamp, two days after Wilders won the most votes in a general election, in The Hague, Netherlands, Friday Nov. 24, 2023. (AP Photo/Peter Dejong)



By Jrryjude - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=93752215>

U.S. Domestic Context



Suggested Readings



QUESTIONS
PLEASE





BACK-UP SLIDES

Why is Israel Stuck?

The depraved barbarity of 7 OCT 23 revealed a level of hatred of Israel and commitment to its destruction not previously considered.

The barbarity is two-fold: the conduct on 7 OCT 23, and the destruction its perpetrators knew, and accepted, would follow.

- a. The motives are, like ISIS, defined/motivated by Holy War
- b. HAMAS sees itself as a vanguard movement; the people of Gaza are expendable

Israeli v. U.S. Interests

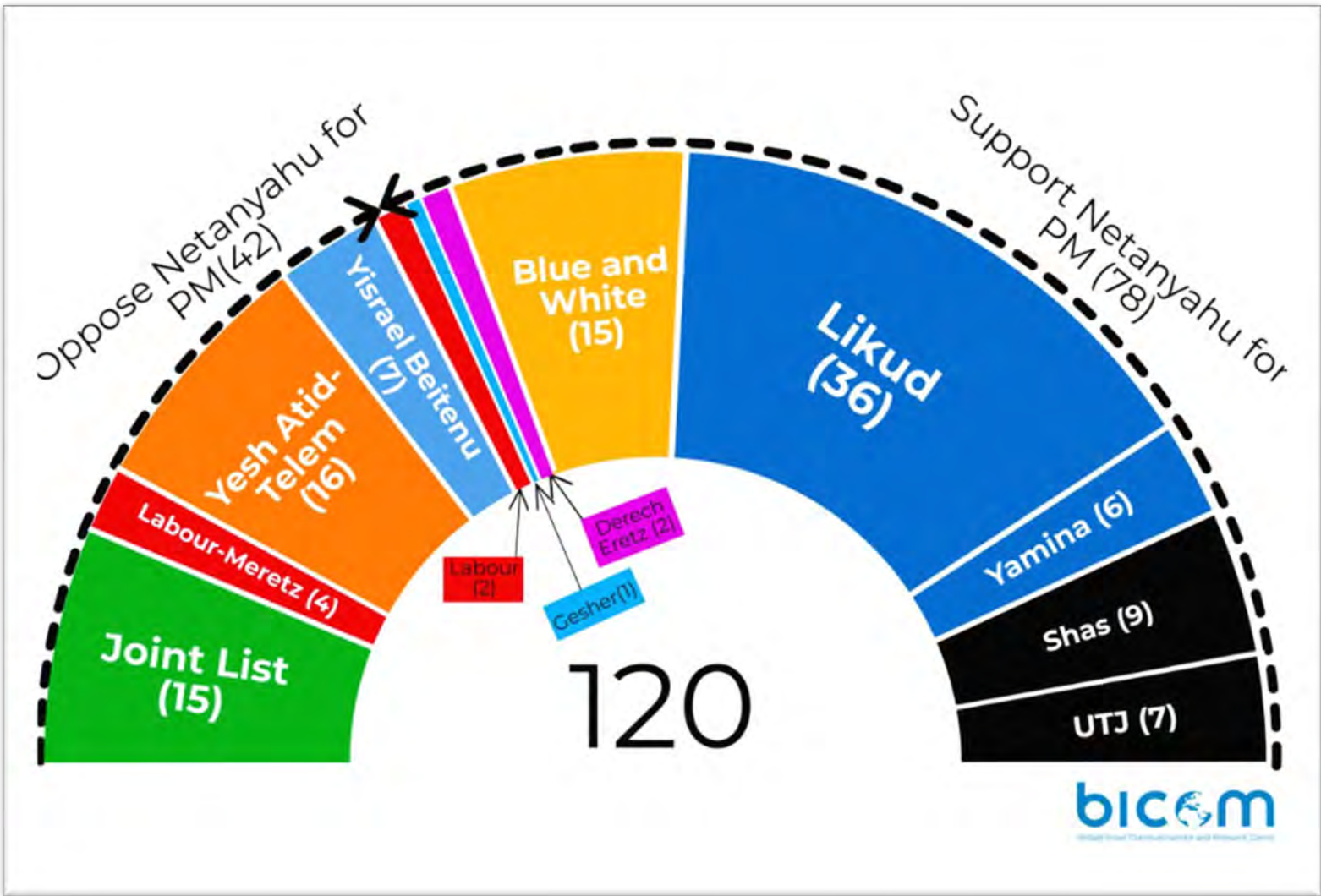
- **Israel:** Defeat Hamas in Gaza...Maximize Security in Territories...Hostages' Return.
- **U.S.** Avoiding theater-wide war where we're dragged in...Stability...Two-State solution.

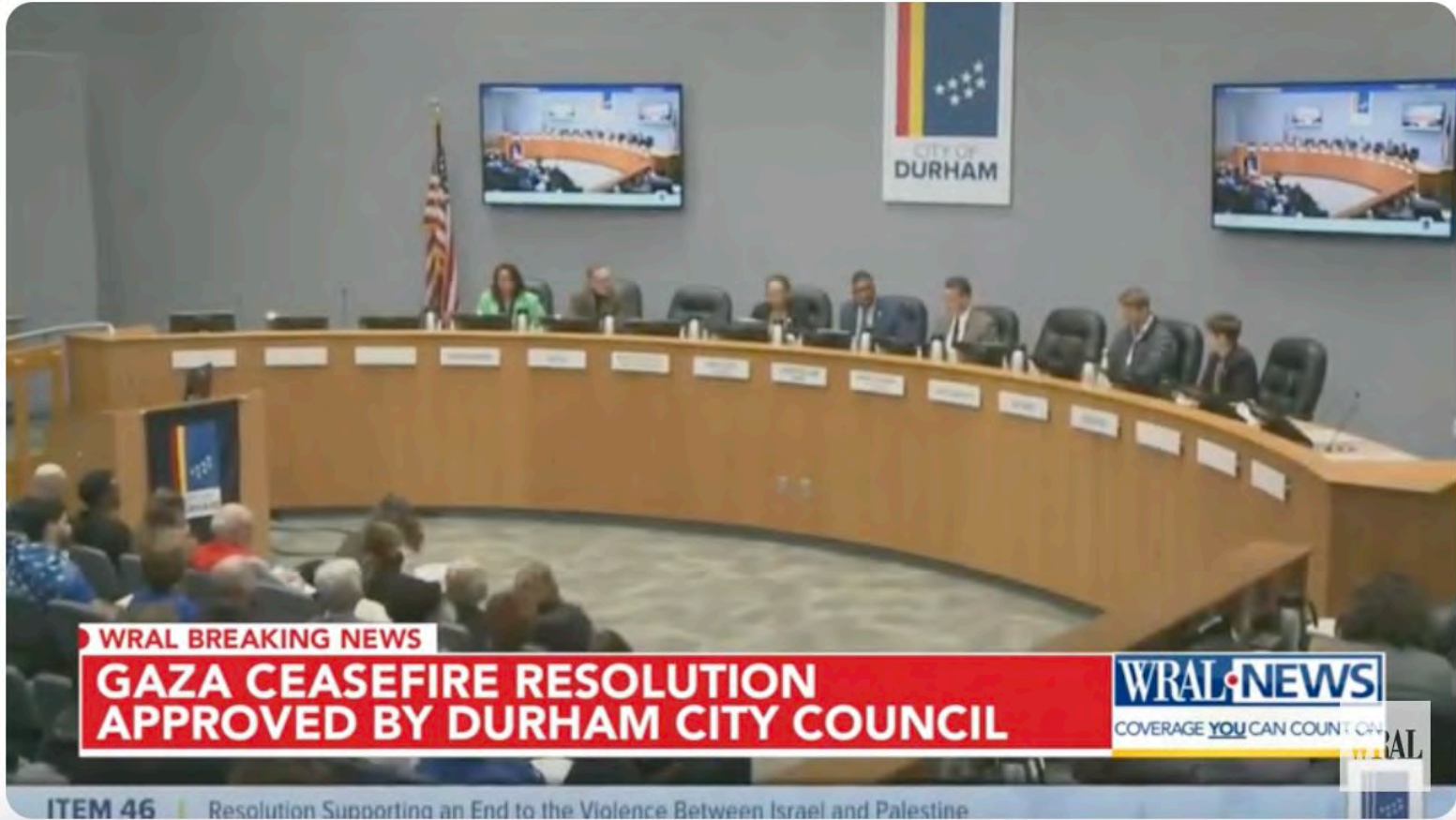
Is Israel
Trapped?

There is no visible off-ramp right now. Israel plans to fight the war to its destination—annihilation of HAMAS in Gaza.

But...Israel doesn't know what to do when it gets there; *and*

HAMAS' ideology will be picked-up by someone else, likely just as committed to Israel's destruction.





WRAL BREAKING NEWS

GAZA CEASEFIRE RESOLUTION APPROVED BY DURHAM CITY COUNCIL

WRAL NEWS

COVERAGE YOU CAN COUNT ON

ITEM 46 Resolution Supporting an End to the Violence Between Israel and Palestine

WRAL



Unclassified-FOUO

Here's what we know

itage in Jerusalem

ct 2023 at 3:48pm, updated Mon 30 Oct 2023 at 8:20pm



THE US, ISRAEL, AND THE PALESTINIANS: THOUGHTS ON WHAT'S AHEAD 13DEC2023

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er the Hamas-led attack. Israel's military strategy in Gaza is slowly taking shape. (Get

Population demography (2017)

Group	Population	Proportion of total	Growth rate
<u>Jews:</u>	6,556,000	74.6%	1.7%
<u>Non-Haredi</u>	5,522,598	62.8%	1.2%
<u>Haredi</u>	1,033,000	11.8%	5.0%
<u>Arabs</u>	1,837,000	20.9%	2.1%
<u>Other</u>	400,000	4.5%	N/A
<u>Total</u>	8,793,000	100%	1.9%

WEST BANK: 2,949,246 (July 2021 est.) (note: approximately **432,000** Israeli settlers live in the West Bank (2019); approximately **227,100** Israeli settlers live in East Jerusalem (2019))

GAZA: 2 Million.