

WAR AGAIN

*THE MIDDLE EAST &
THE CONFLICT IN CONTEXT*

**NDU CAPSTONE EXECUTIVE SPOUSE
DEVELOPMENT COURSE**

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The opinions expressed in this briefing are strictly our own, and do not necessarily reflect those of the National War College, National Defense University, or any other U.S. Government entity.

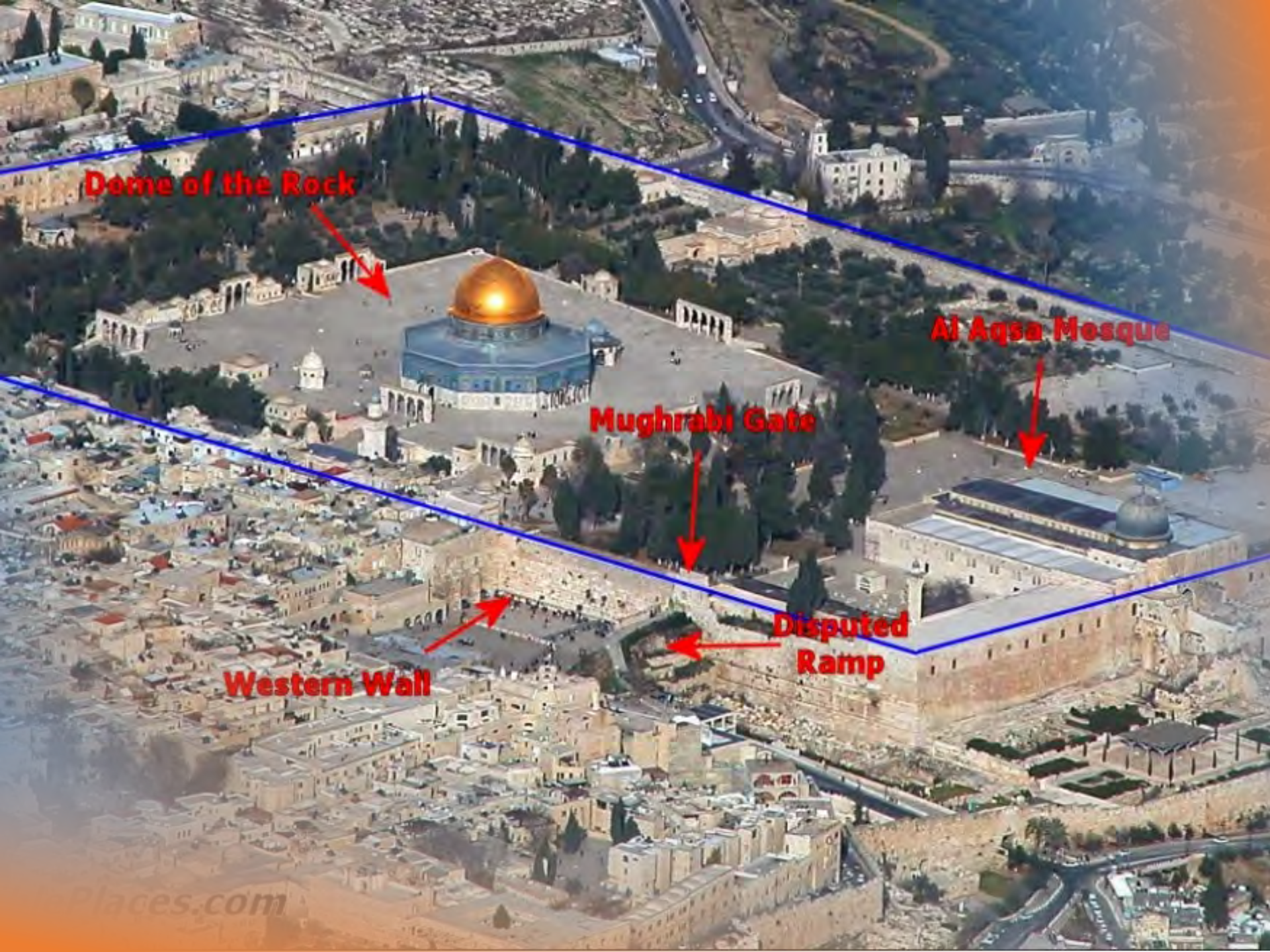


Photo: flickr—Mr. TinDC



<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

Western Wall

**Disputed
Ramp**

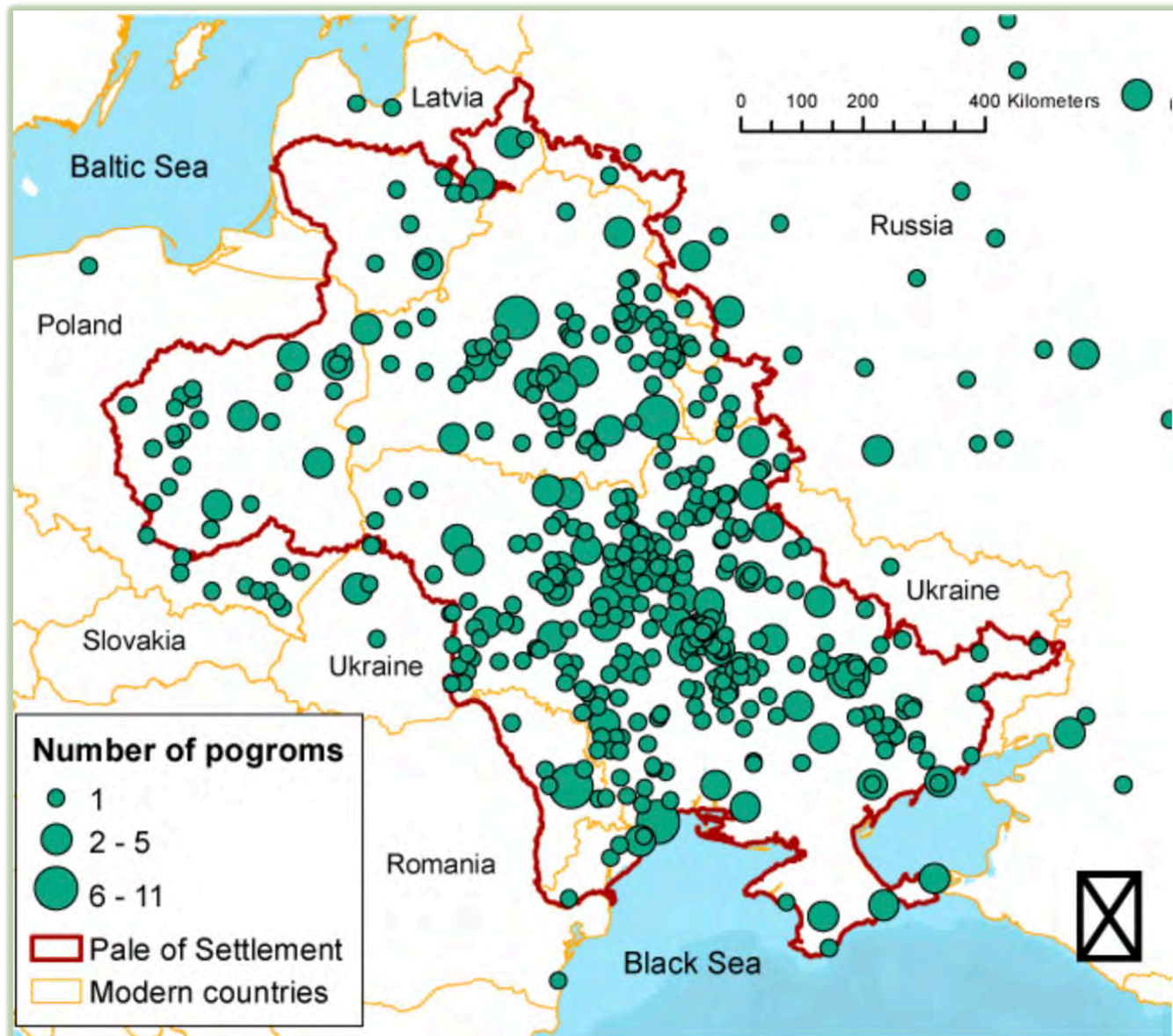
Historic Context





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







L'AGITATION ANTISÉMITES À PARIS
A Montmartre, Mathieu Dreyfus est brûlé en effigie par des jeunes gens.



DER
JUDENSTAAT.

—
VERSUCH
EINER
MODERNEN LÖSUNG DER JUDENFRAGE

VON
THEODOR HERZL
DOCTOR DER RECHTE.



LEIPZIG und WIEN 1896.
M. BRETTENSTEIN'S VERLAGS-BUCHHANDLUNG
WIEN, IX., WÄHRINGERSTRASSE 5.

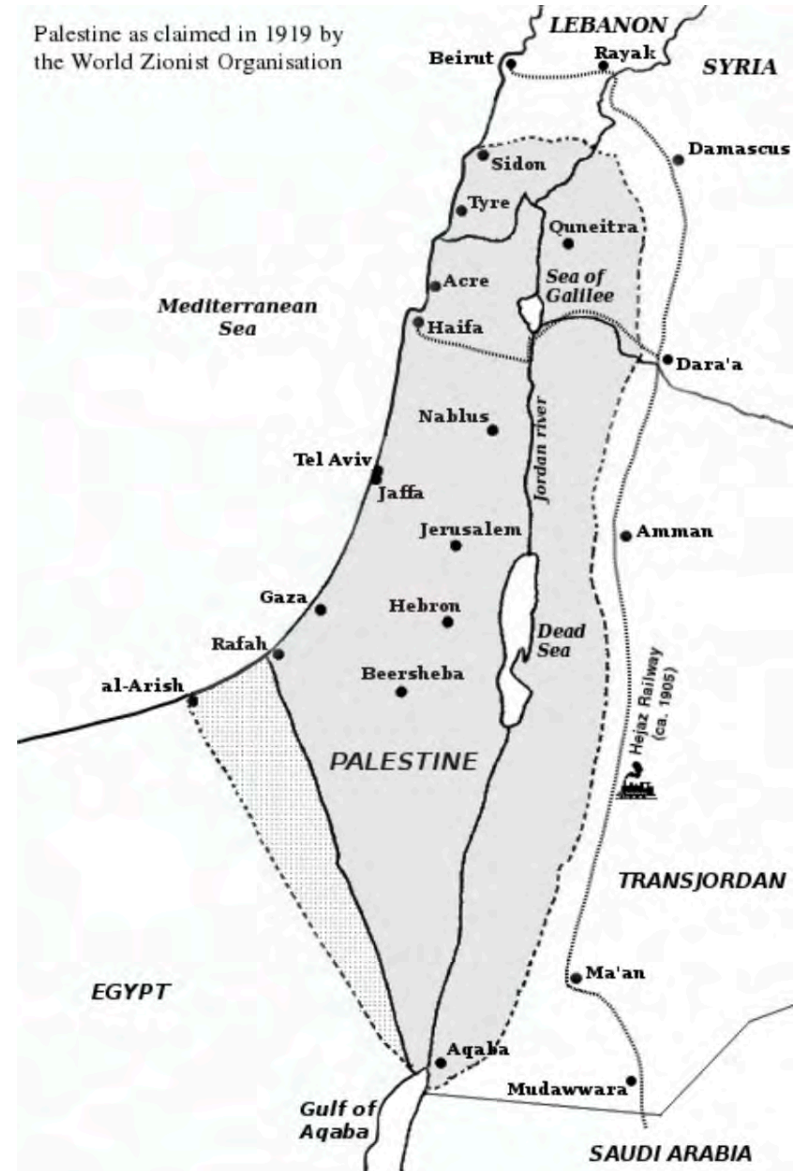


אבגדהוזהחטי
כך לממנסע
פףצץקרשת

פלאגלאהע
כליחילס



Palestine as claimed in 1919 by
the World Zionist Organisation



Ottoman Empire



1862

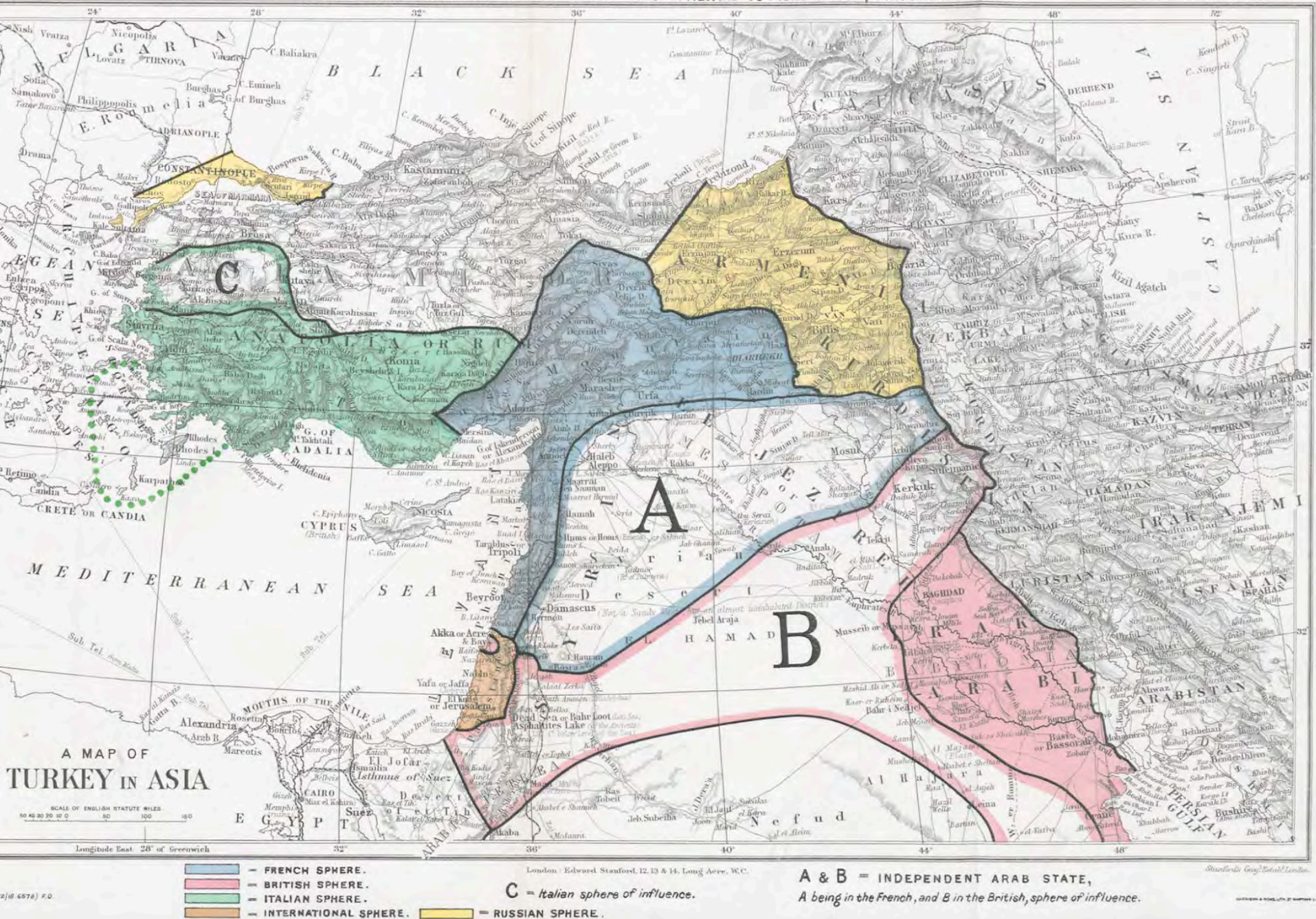




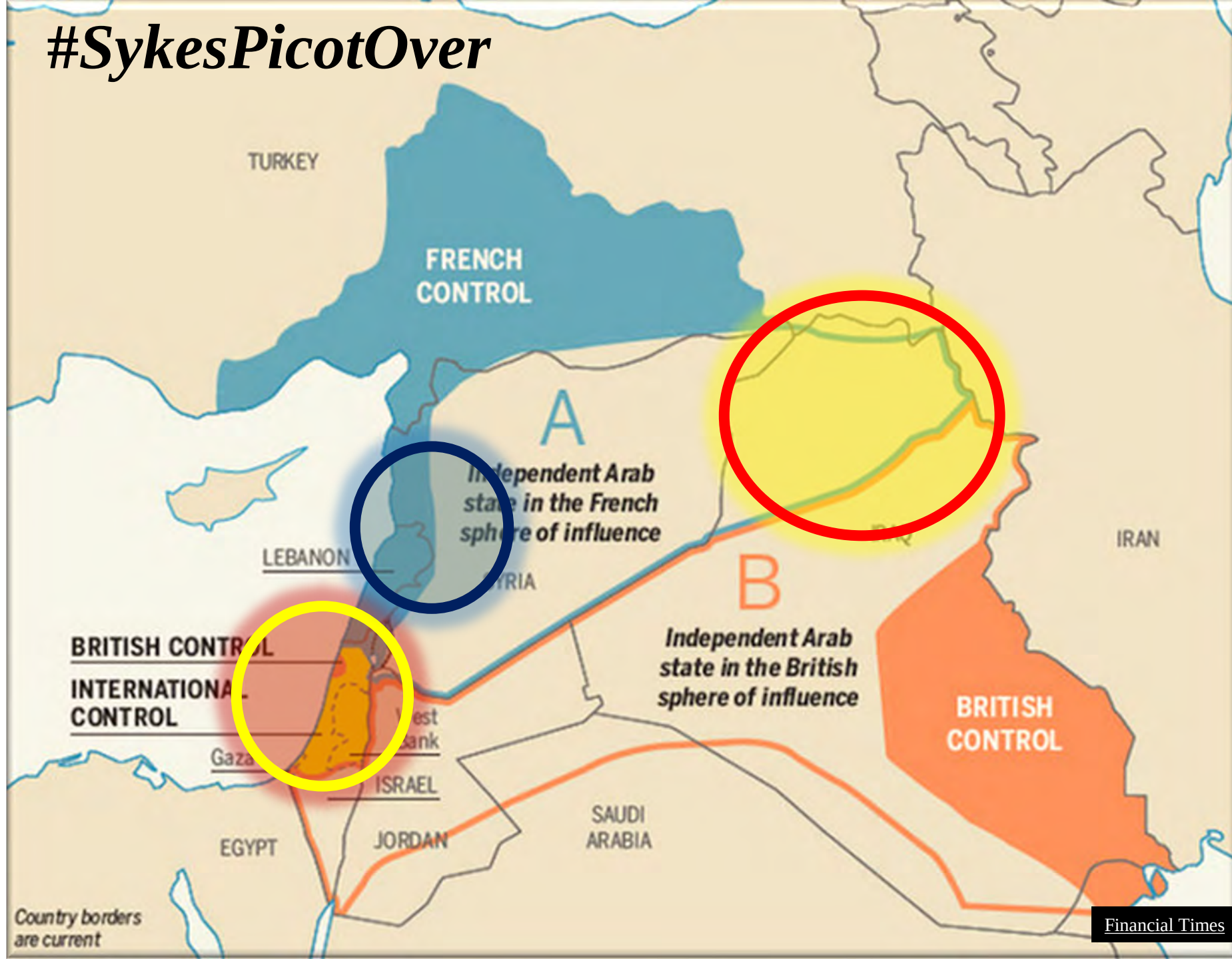


MAP TO ILLUSTRATE THE AGREEMENTS OF 1916 IN REGARD TO ASIA MINOR, MESOPOTAMIA, &c.

MAP 1



#SykesPicotOver



1948

Israel is formed



After the Six Day War

■ Occupied by Israel
in 1967

100 miles



SYRIA

Golan Heights

West Bank
Jerusalem ●

Gaza

ISRAEL

JORDAN

EGYPT

Area Shown

PALESTINIAN LOSS OF LAND 1946 TO PRESENT

www.auphr.org/mapcard.html



النكبة

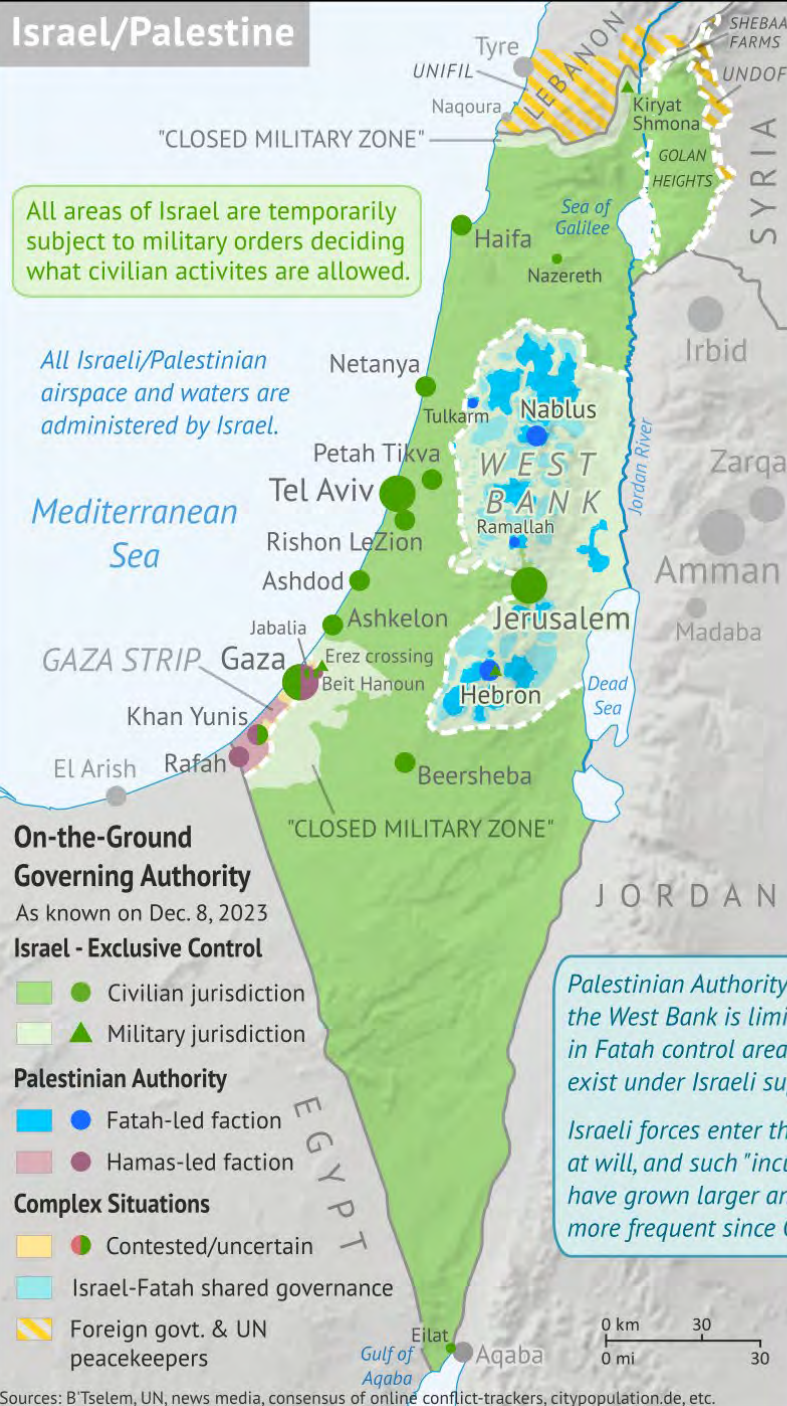
Israel/Palestine

West Bank

0 km 10
0 mi 10

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

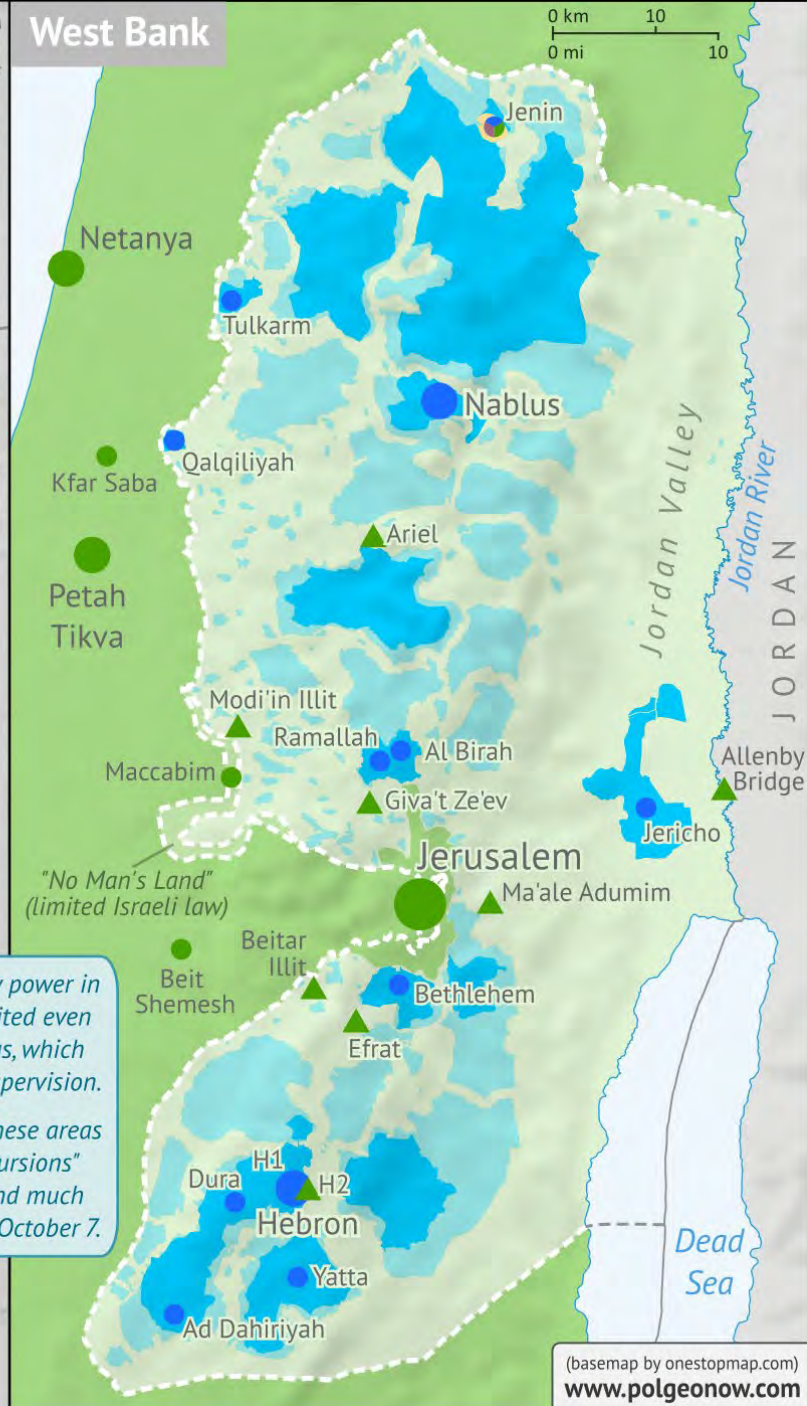
All Israeli/Palestinian airspace and waters are administered by Israel.



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.

0 km 30
0 mi 30



CAUSES & CONSTRAINTS





Right of Return

*From the
River to the
Sea*



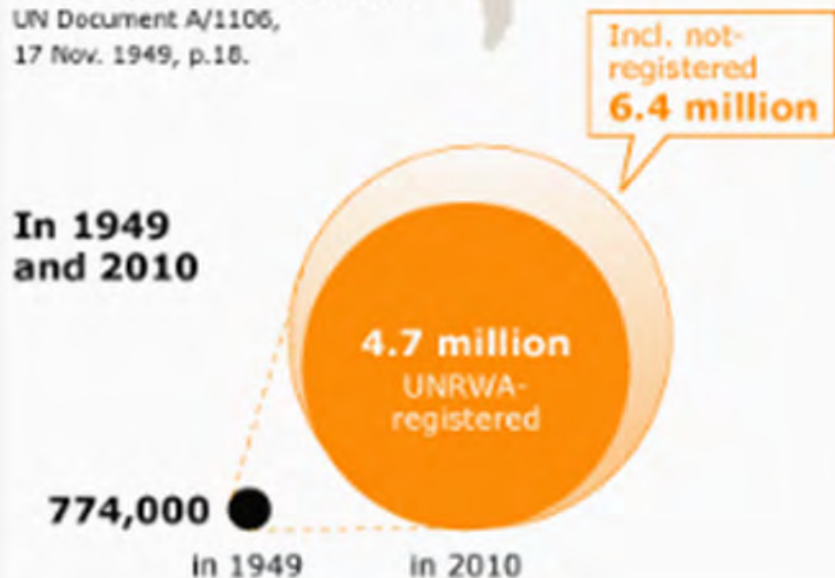
Palestinian refugees

In September 1949



Source: First Interim Report of
UN Survey Mission for Middle East
UN Document A/1106,
17 Nov. 1949, p.16.

In 1949
and 2010



Source: UNRWA

Destroyed Palestinian villages in 1949





**الامم
المتحدة**

Mondoweiss

News & Opinion About Palestine, Israel & the United States

OPINION

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OPINION

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MEDIA ANALYSIS

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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







GLOBAL

Understanding Hamas's Genocidal Ideology

A close read of Hamas's founding documents clearly shows its intentions.

By Bruce Hoffman



Mahmud Hams / AFP / Getty

OCTOBER 10, 2023

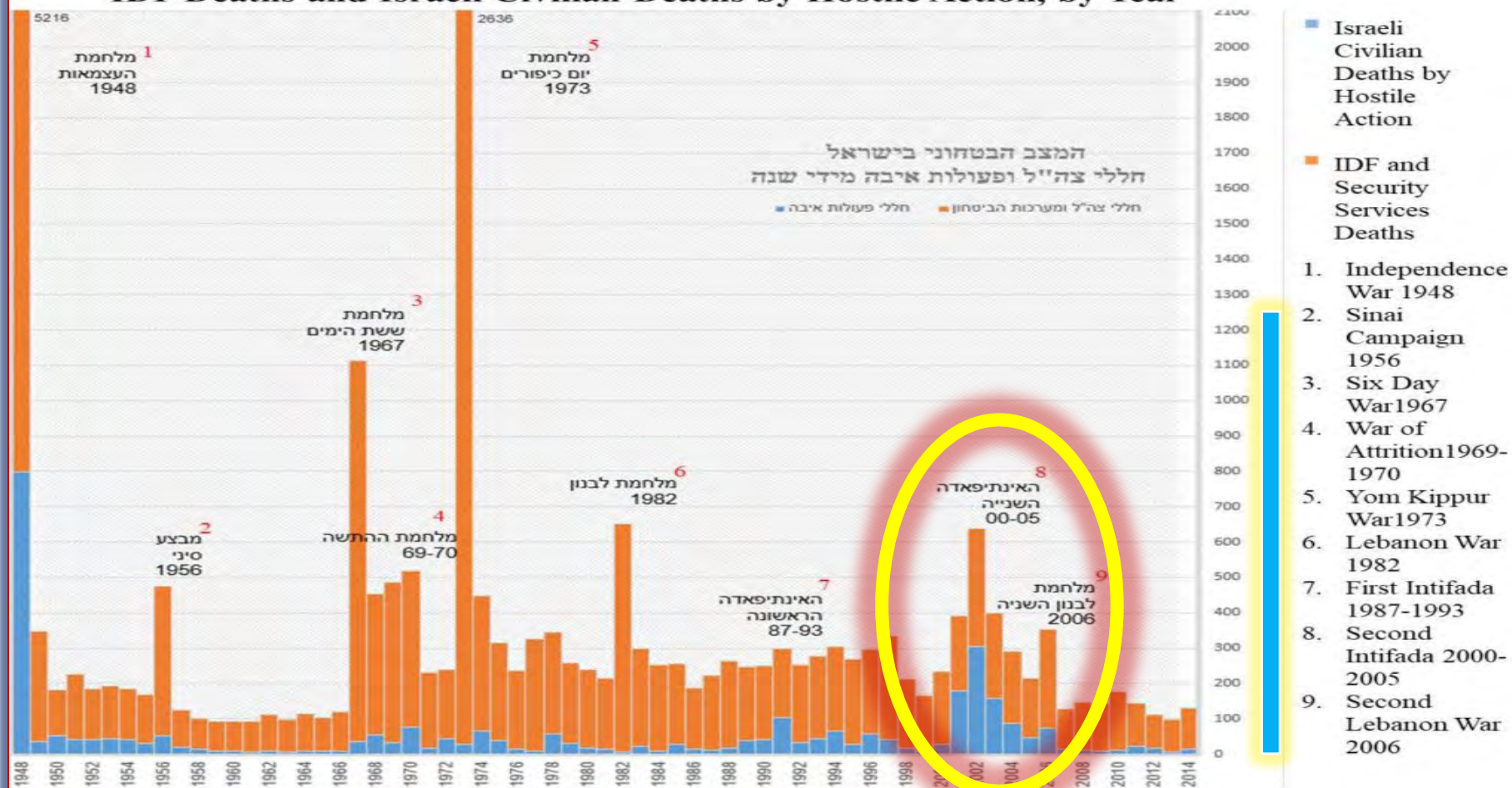
SHARE & GIFT 

SAVED STORIES 

SAVE 

The Security Situation in Israel

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



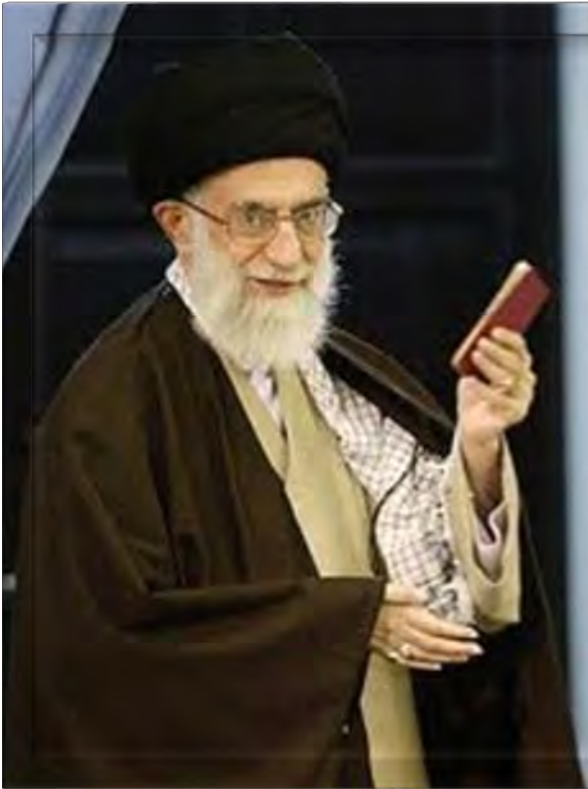


Adolf Hitler talking to Grand Mufti Haj Amin el Hussein Keystone / Getty Images

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

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

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.

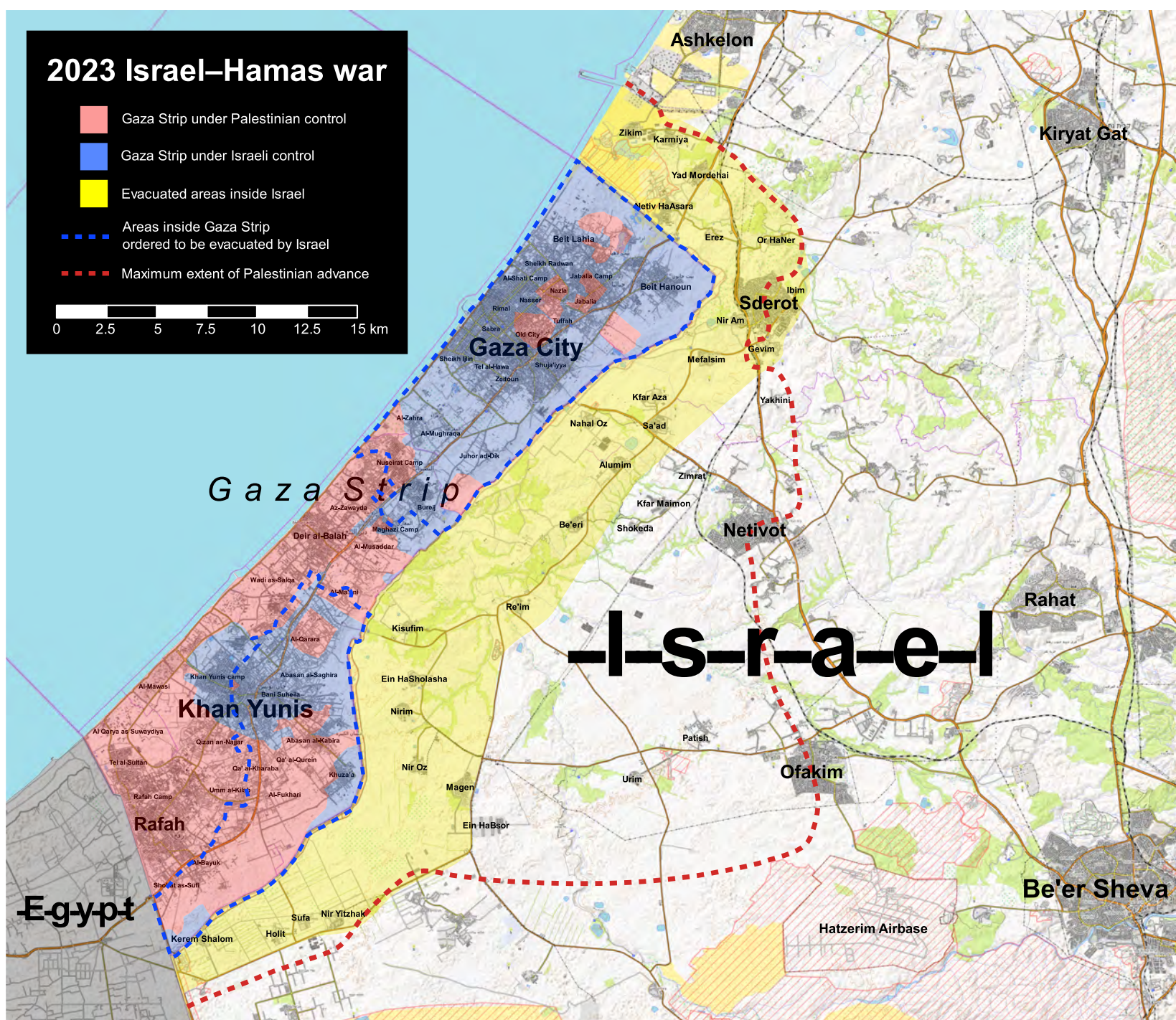
— *Ali Khamenei* —

AZ QUOTES

THE WAR



2023 Israel–Hamas war





(Photo Credit: X)



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

John Spencer | 01.18.24

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

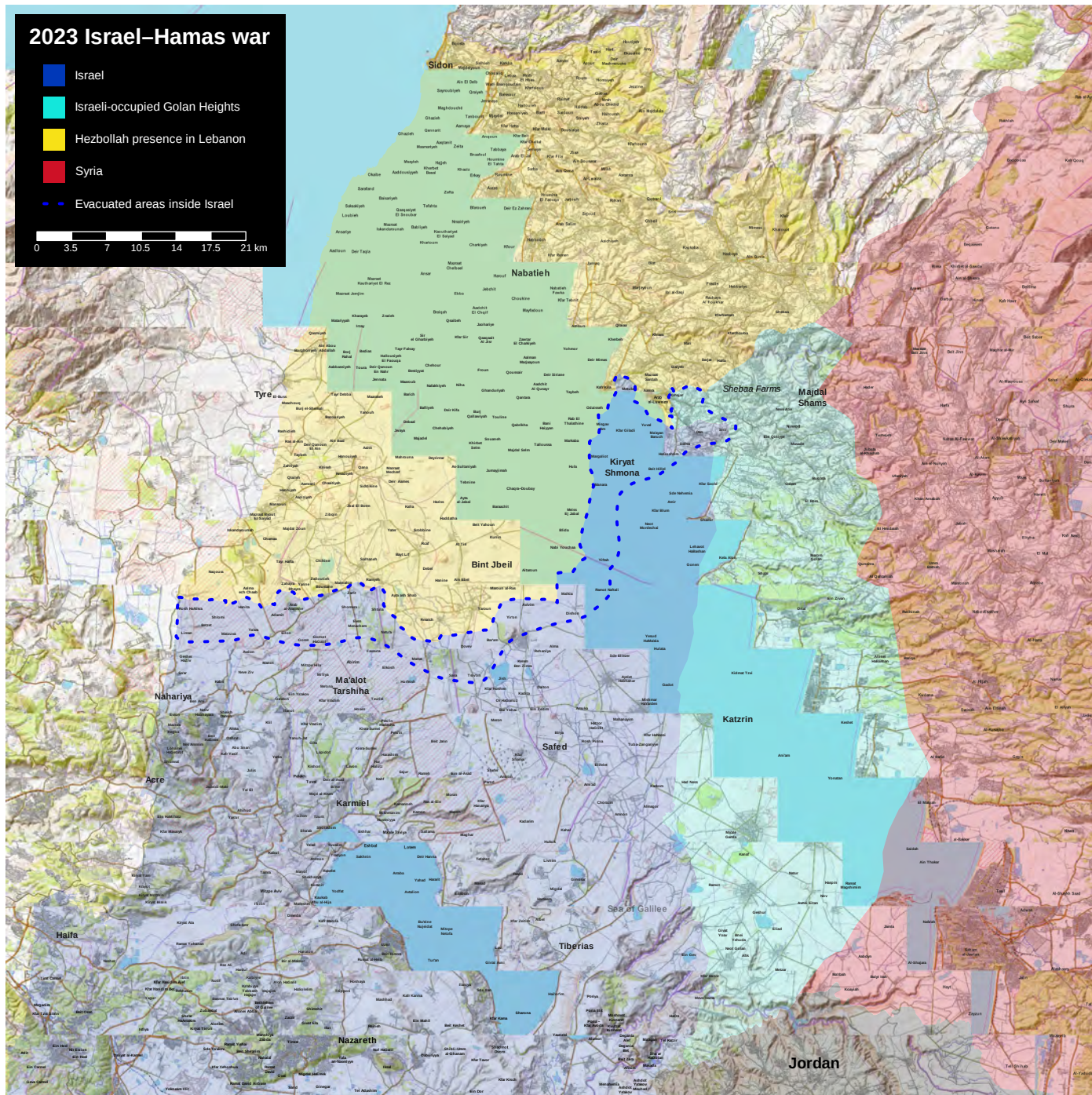
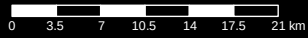
Israel

Israeli-occupied Golan Heights

Hezbollah presence in Lebanon

Syria

Evacuated areas inside Israel





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)



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

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
ial sanctions on individuals known for "violent activities" could mean.

X ✓



Israeli Extremists

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

Image: Mamoun Wazwaz/AFM Images

© Mamoun Wazwaz



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

R.
DIGITAL

COMMOTION OVER VOTE ON GAZA CEASEFIRE

R.

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



Republic World ✓
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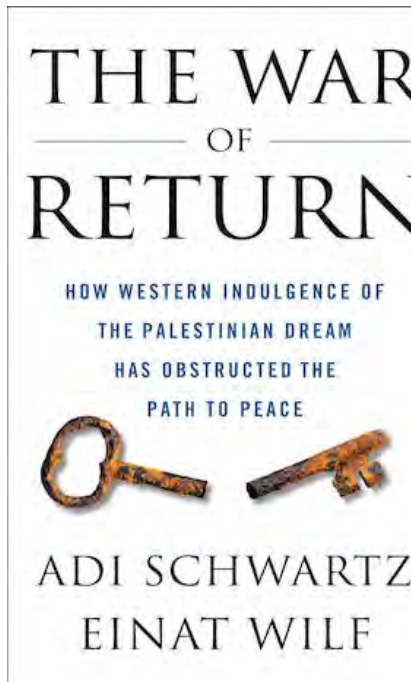
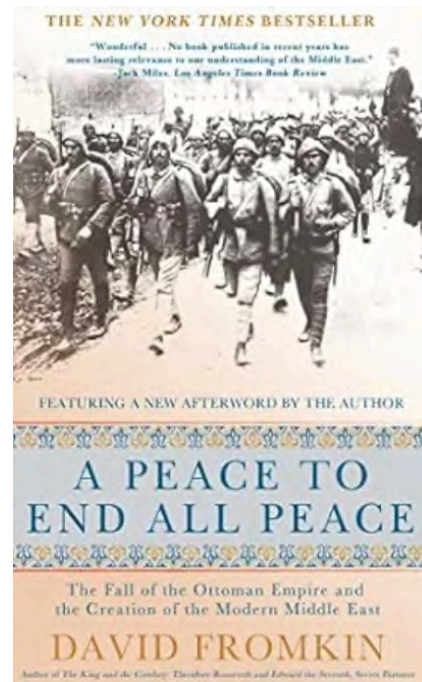


European Domestic Context





U.S. Domestic Context



Suggested Readings



QUESTIONS
PLEASE



The background features a large, faint, light blue Star of David on the left side. To the right of the star is a large, light pink triangle pointing towards the right. The entire background is composed of several geometric shapes in light blue, white, light pink, and light green, creating a modern, abstract design.

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

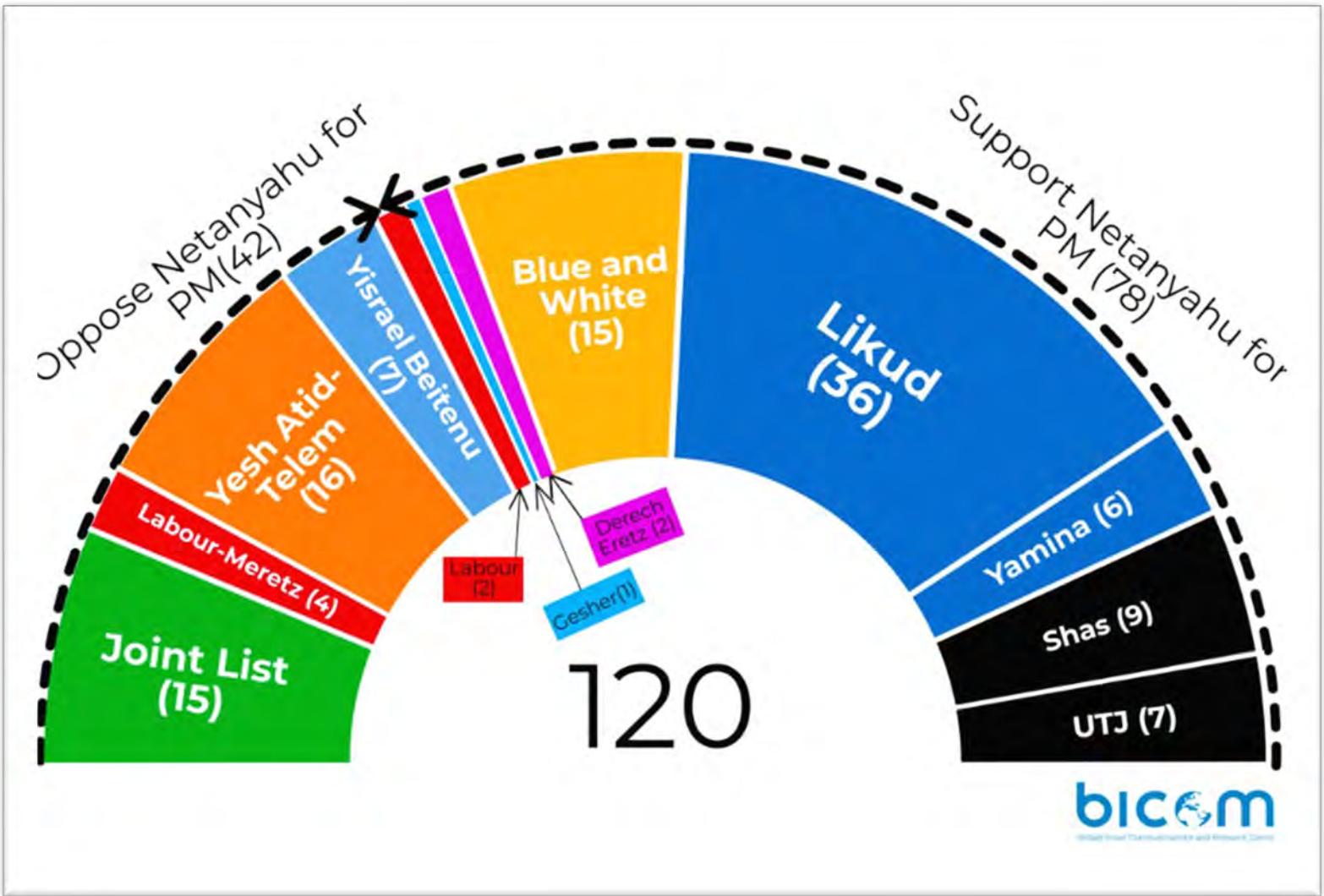
- **Israel:** Defeat Hamas in Gaza...Maximize Security in Territories...Hostages' Return.
- **U.S.** Avoiding theater-wide war where we're dragged in...Stability...Two-State solution.

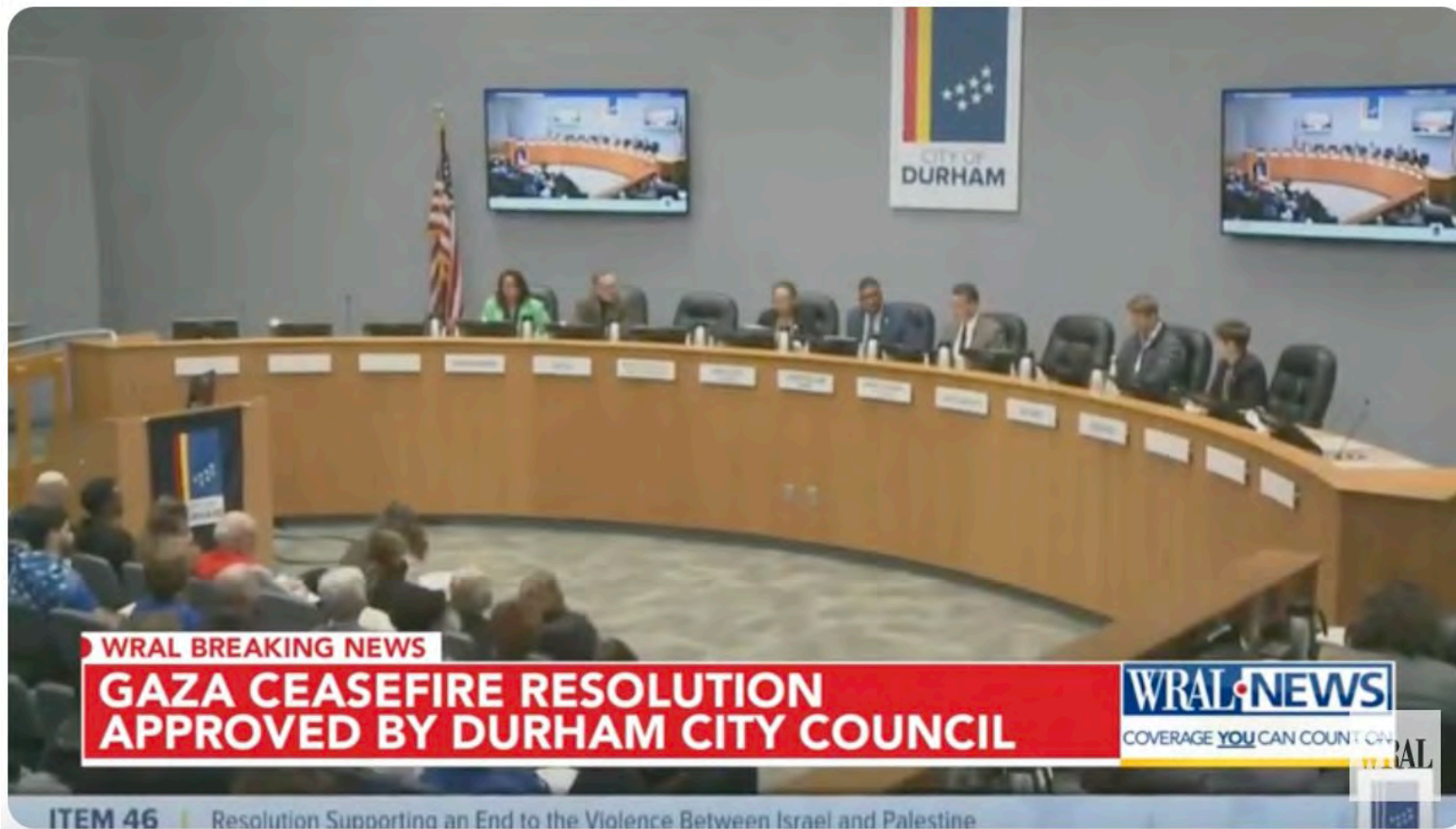
Is Israel
Trapped?

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

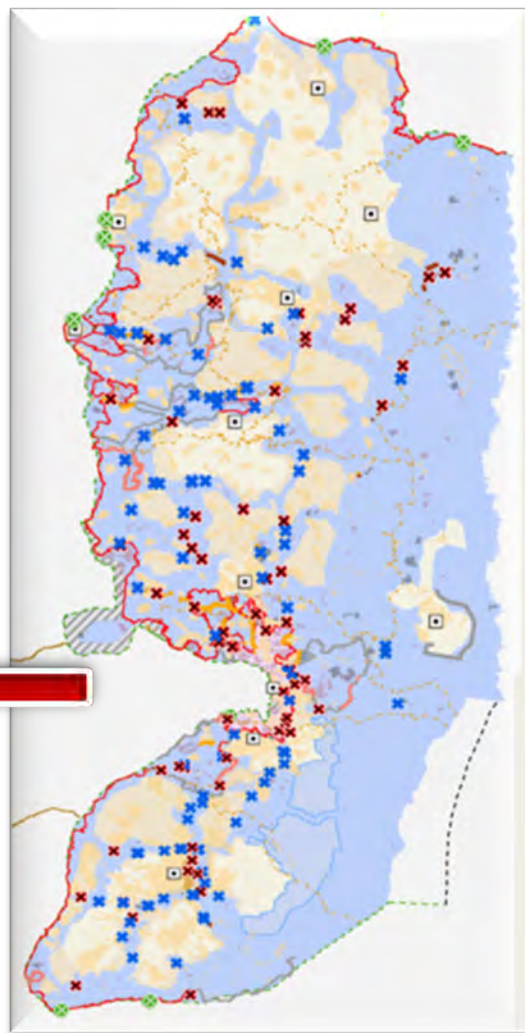
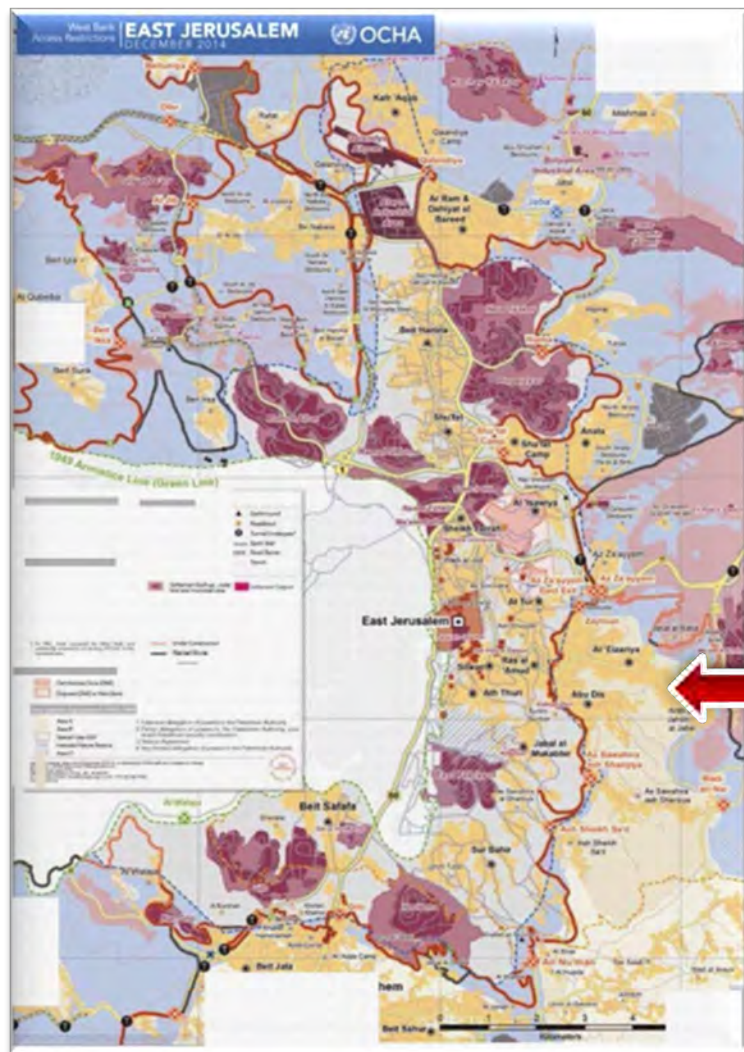
COVERAGE YOU CAN COUNT ON

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

ISRAEL AND THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

- National capital
 - District (mehoz) centre
 - City, town
 - ✈ Airport
 - International boundary
 - - - Boundary of former Palestine Mandate
 - - - Armistice Demarcation Line
 - - - District (mehoz) boundary
 - Main road
 - Secondary road
 - Railroad
 - Oil pipeline
- 0 10 20 30 40 50 60 km
0 10 20 30 40 mi





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. (Getty)

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.