

Fact Sheet

**Palestinian Human Rights Organizations and Civil Society Institutions:
We Call for Compliance with the International Court of Justice Advisory
Opinion Declaring the Occupation Illegal, the Suspension of All Forms of
Military Cooperation with Israel, and the Imposition of Sanctions**

26 July 2026 – Statement of Facts

The escalation of violence and terrorism by religious Zionist settlers, backed by the Israeli occupation army in the occupied West Bank on Friday, 24 July 2026, led to what had long been anticipated: continued attacks against Palestinians attempting to defend themselves. These events were subsequently exploited by Israeli media and official spokespersons, beginning with the Israeli Prime Minister, ministers in his government, the Minister of Defense, and the heads of the military and security agencies, to incite the commission of massacres and acts of ethnic cleansing against unarmed Palestinian civilians in towns and villages across the occupied West Bank.

The Israeli government has used these events as a pretext to intensify its systematic violations against Palestinians, including the expansion of collective punishment measures, military incursions, arrests, and targeted killings. Even more alarming are the additional decisions to expand the colonial settlement enterprise through the legalization and establishment of new settlements, alongside public calls for the destruction and erasure of entire Palestinian villages, the tightening of military checkpoints, the fragmentation of Palestinian communities, and calls for wider military operations and the construction of new settlements.

Under the pretext of “hiking”—a narrative promoted by Israeli media to conceal the crimes committed by settler militias—Israeli settlers were responsible for the killing of 27 Palestinians since the beginning of 2026 up to the date of this statement, 22 of whom were killed in the governorates of Nablus and Ramallah. This raises the total number of Palestinians killed by settlers or during settler-initiated attacks to 68 since 7 October 2023. Approximately 5,200 Palestinians have also been injured during the same period by live ammunition, beatings with clubs and iron bars, or arson attacks, while Israeli occupation forces have killed 1,122 Palestinians.

The undersigned Palestinian human rights organizations and civil society coalitions affirm that these recent crimes are part of an escalating pattern of organized settler violence supported by ministers and members of the Israeli government, and carried out with the complicity of the Israeli military and police under the leadership of extremist ministers Israel Katz, Itamar Ben-Gvir, and Bezalel Smotrich. The Ministers of Defense and National Security have failed to prosecute settlers responsible for crimes against Palestinian civilians, while the Israeli military has neglected its obligations under international law, as an occupying power, to provide protection for the civilian population living under occupation.

Accordingly, we call upon the international community to move beyond expressions of condemnation and denunciation and to comply with the Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice declaring the occupation illegal. We further call for the suspension of all forms of military cooperation with Israel and the imposition of sanctions, not only on settlement products but also on the occupying State itself, which has established a colonial regime based on apartheid and racial discrimination, while openly advancing policies and rhetoric advocating displacement, genocide, ethnic cleansing, and the denial of the Palestinian people's right to live in freedom and dignity, to exercise their right to self-determination, and to establish their independent State in accordance with United Nations resolutions.

In the meantime, we call upon the United Nations to provide immediate international protection to the Palestinian people living under occupation.

Palestine
26 July 2026

Signatories :

1. Palestinian NGO Network (PNGO)
2. Palestinian Human Rights Organizations Council (PHROC)
3. General Union of Cultural Centers
4. AMAN Coalition for Accountability and Integrity
5. Center for Defense of Liberties and Civil Rights (HURRIYAT)
6. Palestinian Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (ISTAQLOL)
7. PYALARA – Palestinian Youth Association for Leadership and Rights Activation
8. Palestinian Hydrology Group (PHG)
9. Palestinian Center for the Independence of the Legal Profession and the Judiciary (MUSAWA)
10. Palestinian Youth Union
11. Bisan Center for Research and Development
12. Asala – Palestinian Businesswomen's Association
13. Arab World Observatory for Democracy and Elections (AWODE)
14. Filastiniyat Foundation
15. Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling (WCLAC)
16. Sharek Youth Forum
17. Human Rights and Democracy Media Center (SHAMS)
18. Women's Studies Centre
19. Women's Affairs Technical Committee (WATC)
20. Mada – Palestinian Center for Development and Media Freedoms
21. Al-Haq
22. Addameer Prisoner Support and Human Rights Association
23. Al Mezan Center for Human Rights
24. Palestinian Centre for Human Rights (PCHR)
25. Jerusalem Legal Aid and Human Rights Center (JLAC)
26. Palestinian Working Woman Society for Development (PWWSD)
27. The Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy (MIFTAH)
28. Wasel Center for Youth Development

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