

Committee: United Nations Security Council

Agenda Item: Preventing the escalation of violence in Gaza and Israel's regional destabilization

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Introduction

The tension between Israel and Palestine, or more specifically, the current war between Israel and Palestine mainly supported by the Islamic Resistance Movement Hamas, has claimed tens of thousands of lives, displaced many millions of people and has its roots in a colonial act carried out more than a century ago. Even though the conflict has been ongoing for decades, the issue has recently turned into more of a humanitarian problem rather than a diplomatic one since October 7th 2023. In the following months, the humanitarian crisis in Palestine became more urgent and the safety of both Palestinians and Israelis became increasingly at risk. More than 75 years after Israel declared statehood, its borders are yet to be entirely settled. Wars, treaties and occupation mean the shape of the Jewish state has changed over time, and in parts is still undefined.

Mainly rooted from disputes over territory, race and religion the situation undeniably continues to shape the political dynamics of the Middle East. In recent years tensions have escalated once more due to a surprise terrorist attack on the Israeli civilian communities and military bases on 7 October 2023, resulting in a total of 1,195 Israeli and foreigner casualties including 815 civilians. The Palestinian authorities announced almost 14,000 deaths after Israel's military response.

Since then Hamas and Israel have fallen into a spiral of war which threatens civilian lives and humanitarian rights. The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) plays a critical role in addressing the issue, seeking ways to an immediate de-escalation and creating safe dialogue between the involved parties for a lasting and reliable resolution.

The Jewish leadership in Palestine declared the establishment of the State of Israel on 14 May 1948, the moment the British mandate terminated, though without announcing its borders.

The following day Israel was invaded by five Arab armies, marking the



start of Israel's War of Independence. The surrounding

Arab states refused to recognize Israel, meaning its borders remained unset. The biggest change to Israel's borders happened during what is called the "Six Day War" which theoretically left Israel in occupation of the Sinai Peninsula, the Gaza Strip, West Bank, East Jerusalem and Golan Heights. When Egypt became the first Arab country to recognize Israel in 1979, it officially formalized one of Israel's land borders for the first time.

Image 1: Israel's land borders after the peace treaty of 1982 with Egypt, 1982.

Definition of Key Terms

Two-State Solution: The Two-State solution is just one of the proposed solutions to the issue. It proposes to have two different, separate, and sovereign states for Israelis and Palestinians coexisting side by side in the region. Throughout the time there were multiple Two-State partition plans, drawn by different entities and even individuals but the 1947 and the 1967 partition plans are the most debated on.

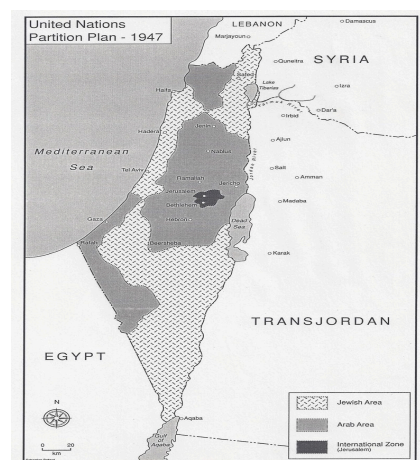


Image 2: UNSCOP Resolution 131 Partition Plan.

Occupied Territories: This term refers to the areas of the West Bank, East Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip, which were captured by Israel during the 1967 Six-Day War. These regions are considered occupied under international law, with the West Bank and East Jerusalem being central to disputes over sovereignty and the establishment of a future Palestinian state. The territories are home to a majority Palestinian population and numerous Israeli settlements, which are widely deemed illegal under international law. The Gaza Strip, although not directly occupied by Israeli forces since 2005, remains under a blockade, and its status is still part of broader conflict discussions.

Gaza Strip: The Gaza Strip is the smaller of the two Palestinian territories which is located on the eastern coast of the Mediterranean Sea. It is bordered by Egypt on the southwest and by Israel on the east and the north. It is one of the



most densely populated areas in the world, with a population of more than one million people. It was occupied by Egypt for 19 years following the 1949 war, and by Israel for 38 years afterwards. Israel retreated in 2005, however, is still considered to be occupying the area. Today the Gaza Strip is being called an open-air prison since Israel is imposing blockades to the region which makes it harder to enter and leave the region.

Image 3: Detailed Map of the Gaza Strip, BBC.

Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO):

The PLO was formed in 1964 by a coalition of Palestinian groups under the leadership of Yasser Arafat, in order to establish an Arab state instead of Israel. The PLO claims to represent the entirety of the world's Palestinians, who lived in the Palestine territory before Israel's formation.

West Bank:

After Britain's rule on the territory ended in 1948, it was retained by the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan until the six days war in 1967 when it was occupied by Israel. The borders were decided between Jordan and Israel, however both of the parties involved as well as the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) claimed rights over the territory. Israeli forces have been conducting frequent raids ever since 2022.



Image 4: Map of West Bank and the city of Jerusalem.

Intifada: Intifada coming from Arabic, directly translates to uprising. In our case it is widely used by the Islamic movements and groups to refer to the opposition acts of Palestinians to the Israeli occupation.

Sykes-Picot Agreement: This agreement was a secret treaty between the United Kingdom, France, with assent from the Russian Empire, and the Kingdom of Italy which aimed to partition the Ottoman Empire. The agreement allocated the Holy Land to the United Kingdom.

Balfour Declaration: This declaration was a public statement put out by the British Government during the First World War. It was to announce the support

for the establishment of a national home for the Jewish people in Palestine

Holocaust: It refers to the genocide of European Jews during the Second World War. The German Reich systematically murdered more than 6 million Jews across German-occupied Europe. During this war, the Jewish people tried to hide and emigrated somewhere else due to the tragedy.

Zionism: A nationalist movement that emerged in the 19th century to enable the establishment of a homeland for the Jewish people in Palestine. The Austro-Hungarian Jewish journalist and political activist Theodor Herzl is the father of modern Zionism.

Major Actors Involved

Israel:

The State of Israel's primary objective is to ensure its security and survival as a Jewish State between all the Arab-Muslim States surrounding it. Israel seeks to maintain control over its disputed territories including East Jerusalem, The West Bank, The Gaza Strip, and the Golan Heights. In the past, Israel has conducted various operations against certain Arabic states and organizations to keep control of the occupied territory.

Israel has recently declared war on Hamas due to the recent rocket launches at Israeli cities and citizens. The conflict continues as Israel advances into the Gaza Strip.

Palestinian Authority:

The Palestinian Authority was established in the 1990s during the Oslo Accords as an interim government for Palestinians in parts of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. It seeks to establish an independent Palestinian state with East Jerusalem as its capital based on the pre-1967 borders. It has engaged in

peace negotiations with Israel but also faces internal divisions with Hamas. Israel recognizes the Palestinian Authority as the representative of the Palestinians and the Palestinian Authority recognizes Israel's rights to exist and renounced terrorism during the Oslo Accords.

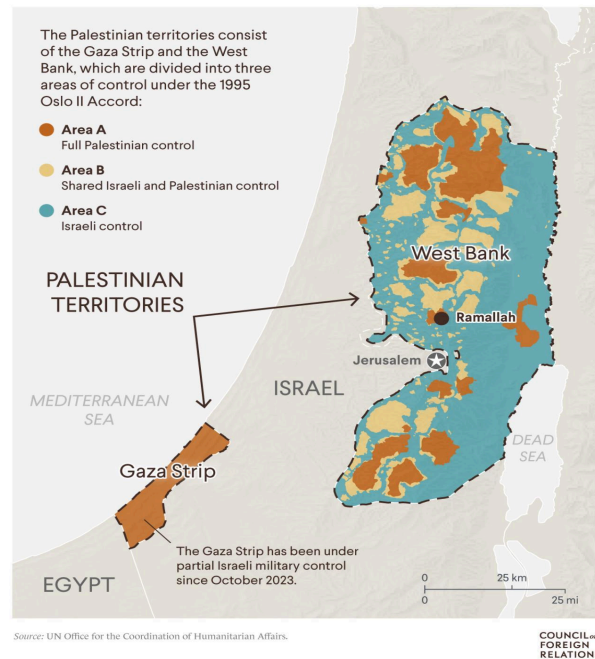


Image 12: Map illustrating the current Palestinian territories according to the Oslo Accord divided by 3 sections; Area A, Full Palestinian control indicated with brown, Area B, Shared control indicated with yellow, and Area C, Israeli control indicated with blue, 1995.

Hamas:

Hamas is a militant Islamist organization that took control of the Gaza Strip. It rejects Israel's right to exist and aims to establish an Islamic state in historic Palestine. This organization has engaged in armed resistance against Israel, including rocket attacks and suicide bombings whilst providing social services and governance in Gaza.

The Hamas military commander Mohammed Deif said, "This is the day of the greatest battle to end the last occupation on earth." The ongoing conflict started on the 7th of October 2023.

United States of America:

The United States of America has been actively involved in the Israeli-Palestine conflict. It is a historically close ally of Israel and provided diplomatic, financial, and military support to Israel. The U.S. has also been involved in efforts to broker peace agreements and ceasefires between Israel and the Palestinians.

Egypt:

The Arab Republic of Egypt has a long history of conflicts and wars with Israel. Egypt had lost the Sinai Peninsula to Israel. Egypt managed to regain it during the peace negotiations process. Egypt is one of the few nations with peace treaties with Israel.

Today, as Israel hunts down Hamas militants in the Gaza Strip, with which Egypt shares borders, is witnessing the ripple effects of war and faces external and internal pressure to act regarding the Palestinian refugees.

Russian Federation:

The Russian Federation supports the two-state solution based on the pre-1967 borders where the Israelis and the Palestinians can live side by side in peace and security within their borders to resolve the conflict. Russia also supports UN Security Council resolutions calling to end Israeli settlement expansions which are considered to be illegal according to international law. It has provided humanitarian assistance to the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip and aims to improve living conditions within the region. Russia maintains its diplomatic relations with Israel whilst also seeking to balance its relationship with Israel, the Palestinian Authority, and other parties within the region.

South Africa:

The Republic of South Africa has filed a case against Israel at the International Court of Justice. South Africa claims that Israel is committing genocide against the Palestinians following the Hamas' 7 October 2023 attack. The court ordered Israel to take all measures to prevent genocide in Gaza and the following provisional measures under Article 41. However, it is important to mind that the ICJ can't enforce anything on the member states and their decisions are not binding.

European Union:

The European Union (EU) emphasizes the need to find a just and final settlement to the Israel-Arab conflicts. It supports initiatives to further the Israel-Palestine peace process through the role of the Special Envoy for the Middle East Peace Process through its involvement in support of the Quartet on the Middle East. It believes that humanitarian pauses and ceasefires are important.

The EU has been more critical of the actions that the Israeli government took and more supportive of the Palestinians than the USA. The EU's position is that a Palestinian state should be based on the 1967 borders with land swaps. It believes that the two-state solution should be implemented. However, the opinions of the member states change within the Union.

Arab League:

The Arab League is supportive of the Palestinian cause. It condemns the Israeli actions in Gaza and expresses solidarity with the Palestinian people. During times of conflict, the Arab League has issued statements regarding the acts of the Israeli government, and the Israeli military operations and called the end of the hostilities. They also support Palestinians financially and politically.

The Arab League has stated that they would accept a two-state solution based on the 1949 Armistice Agreements, also known as the “1967 borders”. However, the opinions of the member states may change within the League.

Houthis:

The Houthis, also known as Ansar Allah (supporters of God), are an armed group backed by Iran controlling most parts of Yemen, including the capital, Sanaa, and some of the western and northern areas close to Saudi Arabia.

General Overview of the Issue

Important Regions:

The Gaza Strip:

It was controlled by Egypt during the 1948 Arab-Israeli war. Later in the 1967 Six-Day War Israel captured the Gaza Strip and initiated a decades-long military occupation. The First Intifada, the Palestinian uprising started in 1987 in response to the Israeli occupation of the Gaza Strip which also resulted in the Oslo Accords. Oslo Accords established a Palestinian Authority in the region as a limited governing authority. The Second Intifada started after the tensions in the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem in 2000. This led to clashes between Israeli forces and the Palestinians in the Palestinian territories including Gaza.

In 2005, Israel unilaterally withdrew its military forces from Gaza and implemented a temporary blockade of Gaza. After the Hamas takeover of the region in 2007, the blockades became indefinite. In 2014 Israel launched an offensive against Gaza due to the prior rocket and mortar shells launched into

Israeli territory.

On 7 October 2023, Hamas launched an attack and launched rockets. Israel responded by declaring war on Hamas and imposing a total blockade of the Gaza Strip. The Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant declared “There will be no electricity, no food, no fuel, everything is closed. We are fighting human animals and we are acting accordingly.”

The land, sea, and air blockade prevents people and goods from entering and leaving the region freely. This situation led to Gaza being called an open-air prison.

The West Bank:

The territory was occupied by Jordan during the 1948 Arab-Israeli war. Jordan ruled the West Bank until the Six-Day War in 1967. Since then the territory has been occupied and administered by Israel.

The First Intifada, the Palestinian uprising started in 1987 in response to the Israeli occupation of the West Bank. This event led to the Oslo Accords. During the Oslo Accords, the region was split into three regional levels of Palestinian Sovereignty, via the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) where Area A was under PNA, Area B was under PNA and Israel, and lastly, Area C was under Israeli control comprising 60% of the West Bank. In Area C the Israeli law is applied under the Oslo Accords but it was supposed to get transferred to PNA until 1997. This transition did not occur so that is why the international community considers the Israeli settlements in the West Bank to be illegal under international law. Throughout the occupation, Israel expanded its settlements. The Second Intifada started in September 2000 which led to the uprisings, suicide bombings, and Israeli military operations.

East Jerusalem and The West Bank remain an Israeli-occupied territory.

In 2014, three Israeli teenagers were abducted in the West Bank, and there were missiles fired by Palestinian militants. Israel decided to commence Operation Protective Edge.

The status of the West Bank remains a central issue in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

The Sinai Peninsula:

With the nationalization of the Suez Canal by the Egyptian authorities, a military intervention was launched by Israel, the United Kingdom, and France. It resulted in the withdrawal of the forces and the establishment of the United Nations Emergency Force to see the withdrawal of troops.

During the Six-Day War, Israel captured the Sinai Peninsula from Egypt. Egypt recaptured some parts of the Sinai Peninsula and the war ended with a ceasefire and eventually led to the Camp David Accords. Israel completed its withdrawal from the Sinai Peninsula in 1982.



Image 5: Map Showing the location of the Sinai Peninsula in Egypt.

The Golan Heights:

Israel captured the Golan Heights from Syria during the Six-Day War. During the Yom Kippur War, Syria attempted to regain control of the Golan Heights but it was unsuccessful. Following the war, the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force was established to monitor the ceasefire between the two nations. Israel annexed the territory yet it was not recognized internationally and it was condemned by the United Nations Security Council.

The Syrian Civil War has had implications for the Golan Heights. It has experienced some violence from the conflict in Syria which led to Israeli

military responses. In 2019 The United States formally recognized Israel's sovereignty over the Golan Heights.



Image 6: Map showing the occupied Golan Heights, The Economist.

The Suez Canal Crisis:

Reasons:

The Suez Canal was nationalized by Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser. The canal was previously owned and operated by the Suez Canal Company which was a Franco-British Enterprise. The canal has an important geography since it connects the Mediterranean Sea to the Red Sea.

The President of Egypt's decision to nationalize the canal was mostly due to his vision of pan-Arab nationalism and his desire to assert Egypt's

sovereignty and independence from the Western countries. By nationalizing and controlling the Suez Canal, they would be able to show Egypt's modernization and strength.

Also by considering the current status of the world, both Western and Eastern countries were trying to assert their influence in the Middle East. France and the United Kingdom tried to maintain control of the region whilst the USA and the Soviet Union tried to prevent the conflict from escalating.

Operation Kadesh / Musketeer:

It is the name of the Israeli military operation during the Suez Crisis in 1956. The primary objective was to capture and secure the Sinai-Suez region to reopen the Suez Canal which had been nationalized by the President of Egypt, Gamel Abdel Nasser. The operation was conducted in cooperation with the French Republic and the United Kingdom.

Following the operation Israel started to occupy the Sinai Peninsula. However, international pressure, particularly from the United States of America, and the Soviet Union, forced Israel to withdraw its forces from the Sinai Peninsula by March 1957. This withdrawal was observed by the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF).

Aftermath:

The military intervention by Israel, France, and the United Kingdom faced widespread international condemnation. The USA and the Soviet Union opposed the actions of the three countries and pressured them to withdraw their forces from Egyptian territory. The crisis also led to the deployment of the UNEF to supervise the withdrawal of forces and maintain peace.

This crisis has escalated the tensions between Israel and Egypt. The crisis was resolved through international diplomacy but it still laid the groundwork for future conflicts.

The Six-Day War and the Operation Focus:

The Israeli Air Force launched a pre-emptive strike on the Egyptian Air Force at the start of the Six-Day War in 1967.

This operation was aimed at neutralizing the Egyptian Air Force to gain air superiority over the region and ensure an advantage. By these attacks, Israel has crippled Egypt's ability to defend itself.

Israel has paved the way for its ground troops and forces to advance swiftly into Egyptian territory. It was a huge factor in Israel's quick victory.

Israel also faced attacks by Syrian forces in the Golan Heights. Israel has successfully repelled any Syrian attacks and eventually captured the Golan Heights. Despite Israel's warnings to Jordan to stay out of the conflict, it joined. The Jordanian forces began shelling the Israeli land and launching attacks on West Jerusalem. To respond to these attacks, Israel launched a counteroffensive campaign against Jordanian Forces in the West Bank and East Jerusalem.

By the end, Israel had captured the Sinai Peninsula which was strategically important since it is close to Israel's southwestern border and the Suez Canal. Israel maintained control of the peninsula until Israel signed the Camp David Accords where Israel agreed to withdraw its military forces from the region. In return, Egypt has recognized Israel's right to exist peacefully. Israel has also taken the Gaza Strip from Egypt and the West Bank and East Jerusalem from Jordan. They were placed under Israeli military occupation after the conflict. Lastly, Israel captured the Golan Heights from Syria. By the end of the war, the geopolitical landscape of the region changed a lot.

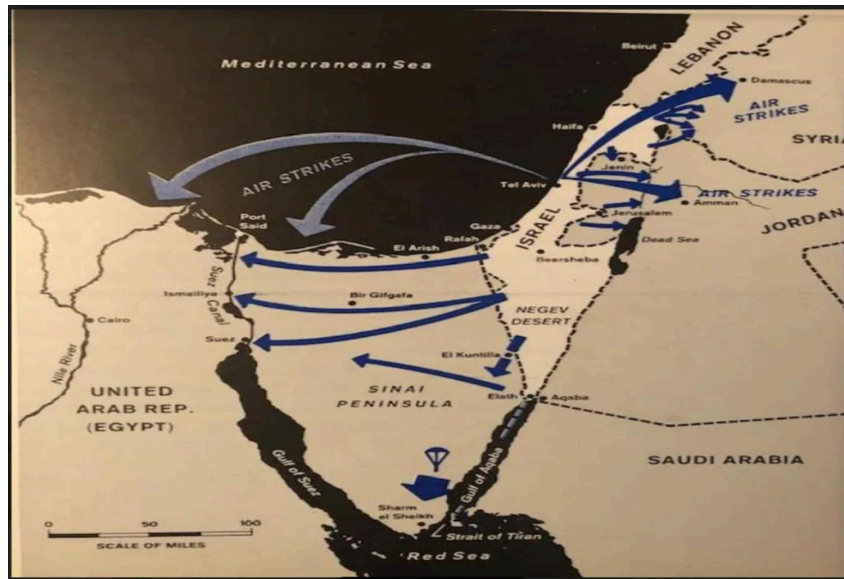


Image 7: Map illustrating the Israeli offensive in the Six-Day War, 1967.

Yom Kippur / October War:

In October 1973, during the holiest day in the Jewish calendar which is Yom Kippur, and during the month of Ramadan for Muslims, a war between Israel and a coalition of Arab states which is led by Egypt and Syria began. Egypt and Syria aimed to regain the territories which they lost during the Six-Day War.

Syria and Egypt launched a coordinated surprise attack on the State of Israel. Egyptian forces attacked from the Sinai Peninsula after passing the Suez Canal and Syria attacked from the Golan Heights. They caught Israel off guard since they were observing religious rituals. Israel quickly mobilized its military reserves and launched a counteroffensive to repel the opposing coalition's advances. They quickly conducted a series of coordinated ground, air, and naval operations to push back the Egyptian and Syrian forces.

The United States, the Soviet Union, as well as other world powers, became involved in diplomatic efforts to end the conflict with no further escalation. On 22 October 1973, a ceasefire was brokered by the United Nations where there were no clear victors. This conflict set the stage for future peace

negotiations including the Camp David Accords in 1978 and the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty in 1979.

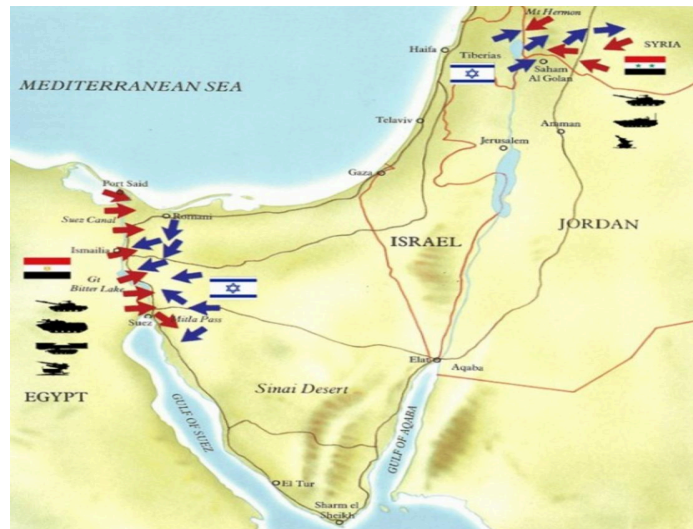


Image 8: Map illustrating the Yom Kippur War.

First Intifada:

The event called the First Intifada (*ps. look at the Definition of Significant Terms part at page 5*) also known as the “Uprising” started in December 1987. It was sparked by the frustration with the Israeli occupation, settlement expansion, and harsh living conditions in the occupied territories. It was spontaneous but had organizational support from the Palestinian factions. It is characterized by widespread civil disobedience, mass protests, strikes, and boycotts of Israeli products. It included the mobilization of Palestinian society.

Israel deployed its military to suppress protests which led to clashes between the Palestinian protesters and Israeli security forces. This event brought international attention to the Palestinian cause and pressured Israel to engage in peace negotiations. The Uprising led to the Oslo Accords in 1993 which marked the beginning of the Israeli-Palestinian peace process.

Second Intifada:

The event called the Second Intifada, also known as the “Al-Aqsa Intifada” began in September 2000. It was sparked by the visit of Ariel Sharon to the Temple Mount in Jerusalem, a holy site for both Jews and Muslims. Palestinians viewed this as a provocation and responded with protests.

It is marked by the increase in violence, suicide bombings, shootings, and attacks by Palestinian militants targeting Israeli civilians and military personnel. In response, Israel launched military incursions into Palestinian cities and built a barrier separating Israel from the West Bank. Israel’s actions led to widespread destruction and casualties among Palestinians. This event deepened distrust and created more tension.

Conflicts between the Israelis and the Palestinians in the 21st Century:

Operation Cast Lead:

The operation began on 27 December 2008 in response to increased rocket attacks targeting Israeli civilian populations by Hamas militants in Gaza. Israel conducted a series of airstrikes targeting Hamas infrastructure, government buildings, smuggling tunnels, and rocket-launching sites. This operation resulted in civilian casualties with hundreds of Palestinians including many civilians, killed and thousands injured. Certain human rights organizations criticized Israel for the disproportionate use of force and targeting civilian areas.

This operation drew widespread international condemnation with calls for an immediate ceasefire and humanitarian aid to Gaza. The United Nations and several countries, including the United States, called for a ceasefire and a diplomatic resolution to the conflict. The operation ended with a unilateral ceasefire declared by Israel on 18 January 2009 followed by ceasefire agreements brokered by Egypt between Israel and Hamas.

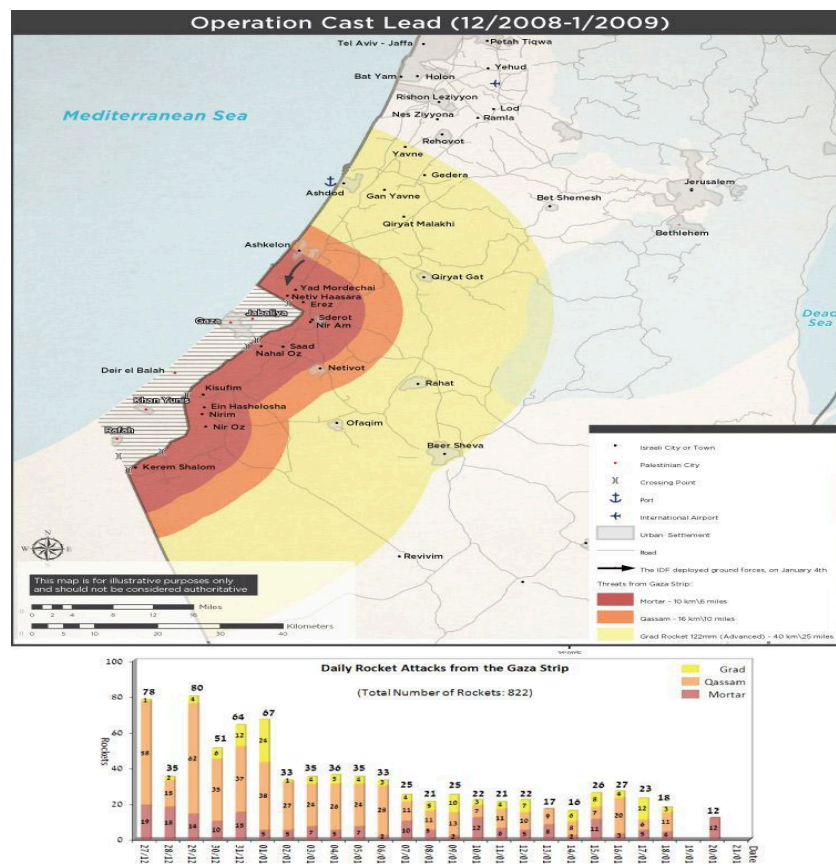


Image 9: Map and graph which illustrates the rocket attacks coming from the Gaza Strip. (a.k.a Operation Cast Lead)

Operation Pillar of Defense, 2012

The 2012 Israel-Gaza conflicts were the military crisis and clashes between the Gaza Strip and Israel on 14 November 2012. It started when Hamas militants, who control the Gaza Strip, opened fire on the Israeli side. Israel gave a very harsh response to these attacks made by the Hamas militants. As result, 20 Palestinians died and hundreds were injured. The IDF claims to have struck more than 1500 sites in the Gaza Strip.

Operation Protective Edge, 2014

It was a major military campaign launched by the Israeli Defense Forces against Hamas and other militant groups in the Gaza Strip in July 2014.

This operation was initiated due to the significant increase in rocket attacks from Gaza into Israeli territory. Israel aimed to stop these attacks which are coming from the Gaza Strip, degrade Hamas' military capabilities, and destroy Hamas tunnel network which is used for smuggling weapons and infiltrating into Israel. The trigger for this operation was the kidnapping of several Israeli teenagers in the West Bank and them getting murdered.

This operation drew widespread international condemnation since it did extensive damage to infrastructure in the region, caused a huge humanitarian crisis, and increased the civilian death toll in Gaza. Israel defended its action as necessary since it was to protect its citizens and weaken Hamas. The operation ended with a ceasefire brokered by Egypt. However the ceasefire left the conflict unresolved, setting the stage for future conflicts.

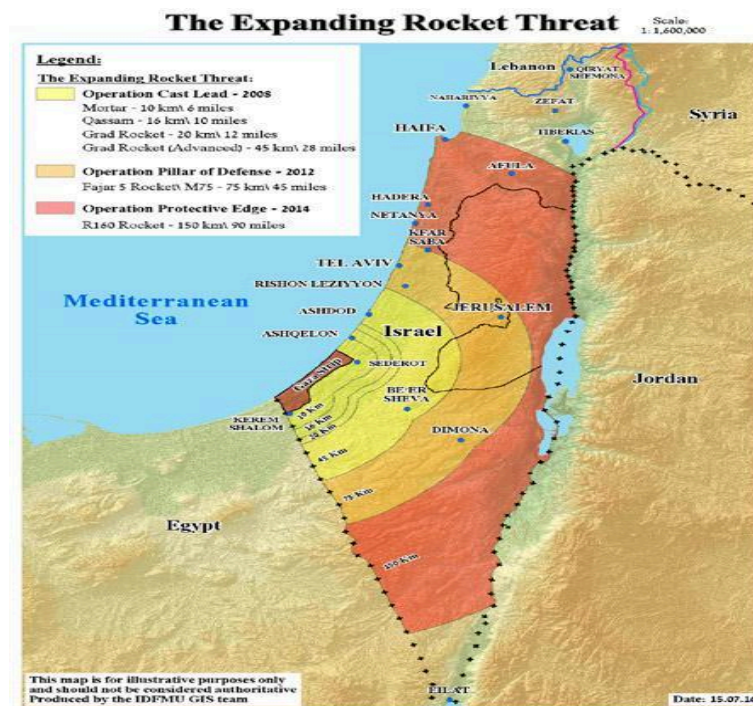


Image 10: Map illustrating the range of rocket attacks coming from the Gaza Strip deep into Israeli territory.

Operation Iron Swords, The Current War:

It is Israel's retaliation against the surprise attack which was made by Hamas. They launched more than 5000 missiles on 7 September 2023. This is

considered the biggest attack on Israel in the last few years. The Iron Dome couldn't manage to defend against every rocket. That is why a lot of the rockets have managed to land and destroy infrastructure, and buildings, and kill civilians.

The Israeli military has responded with air strikes into Gaza. Operation Iron Swords takes into account all the attackers who have infiltrated Israel and are carrying out attacks on civilians and the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF).

The Israeli Defense Forces spokesperson Daniel Hagari had said "The IDF will protect the residents of the State of Israel, the terrorist organization Hamas will pay a very heavy price. The public is asked to stay near protected areas and residents of the Gaza Strip are asked to stay in their homes."

The Palestinian Health Ministry in Gaza has stated that at least 198 people in the Gaza Strip have been killed in Israel's retaliation and at least 1610 people wounded on the first day of the conflict.



Image 11: Map illustrating the 7 October 2023 Hamas attacks.

Timeline of Important Events

Date:	Event:
1897	Theodor Herzl officially established the theory of Zionism as a political organization.
16 May 1916	The Sykes-Picot Agreement was signed between France, the United Kingdom with assent from the Russian Empire, and the Kingdom of Italy.
2 November 1917	The Balfour Declaration was a public statement put out by the British Government during the First World War.
24 July 1922	The League of Nations grants Britain to govern the British Mandate of Palestine.
1 September 1939- 2 September 1945	The Second World War started with the invasion of Poland by the Germans. During the war, it can be seen that there have been immigration activities of Jews to Palestine.
29 November 1947	The United Nations approved a partition plan for Palestine by recommending the creation of separate Jewish and Arab states. The plan is rejected by Arab states and Palestinian Arab leaders and accepted

	by Jewish leaders.
14 May 1948	After the declaration of the State of Israel, neighboring Arab states including Egypt, Jordan, Syria, Iraq, and Lebanon. As a result, Israel gained some territory.
29 October 1956	After the nationalization of the Suez Canal by the Egyptian President, Gamal Abdel Nasser, the joint Israeli-British-French attack on Egypt started.
5 June 1967 - 10 June 1967	By the mid1960 Syrian-backed Palestinian guerillas had begun staging attacks across the Israeli border. Israel has launched a surprise offensive. Israel quickly captured the Sinai Peninsula, Gaza Strip, West Bank, and Golan Heights due to its air superiority.
1967-70	The War of Attrition involved fighting between Israel and Egypt, Jordan, the Palestine Liberation Organization, and their allies. There have been many small-scale incursions.
September 1967	The Arab League Summit formulated the “three no’s” policy
8 March 1969	President Nasser proclaimed the official launch of the War of Attrition

	which was characterized by large-scale shelling along the Suez Canal.
August 1970	The hostilities ended with a ceasefire. The frontiers remained the same as when the war began with no real commitment to serious peace.
6 October 1973	A coalition which is led by Egypt and Syria launched an attack on the Jewish Holiday named Yom Kippur. Israel eventually repelled the attacks coming from the coalition.
22 October 1973	A ceasefire was brokered by the United Nations between Israel and the coalition which is led by Egypt and Syria. There were no clear victors.
21 December 1973	The Geneva Conference was convened to negotiate a ceasefire and resolve the conflict between Israel and the Arab states of Egypt and Syria.
17 September 1978	The Camp David Accords was signed between Egypt and Israel which aimed to maintain more peaceful relations.
1979	Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty was signed which marked the first instance that an Arab country recognized Israel as a legitimate state.

1981	Israel formally annexed Golan Heights, which was an internationally unrecognized move and condemned by the United Nations Security Council.
6 June 1982	The Israel Defense Forces invaded southern Lebanon to expel the PLO from the territory.
9 December 1987	Palestinians in the occupied territories launch a popular uprising against Israeli rule with protests. The event is also known as the First Intifada.
30 October 1991 - 1 November 1991	The Madrid Conference of 1991 was hosted by Spain and co-sponsored by the US and the Soviet Union. It was an attempt by the international community to revive the Israeli-Palestinian peace process through negotiations involving Israel and the Palestinians as well as some other Arab countries.
13 September 1993	Oslo Accords was signed between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization to achieve peace with a two-state solution based on Resolutions 242 and 338 of the United Nations Security Council.
September 1995	A second accord also known as Oslo II

	was signed which went into more detail on the structure of the bodies that the peace process was supposed to form.
2002	The Quartet on the Middle East has been established. It comprises The United Nations, The United States of America, The Russian Federation, and The European Union.
2000-2005	Palestinians in the occupied territories launch a popular uprising against Israeli rule with protests. The event is also known as the Second Intifada.
2006	A conflict between Israel and Hezbollah began with a Hezbollah cross-border raid into Israel and escalated into a full-scale war.
27 December 2008	Operation Cast Lead was launched by Israel against Hamas targets in the Gaza Strip in response to the increased rocket attacks by Hamas militants in Gaza.
18 January 2009	The operation ended with a unilateral ceasefire made by Israel. After that, a ceasefire was brokered by Egypt between Israel and Hamas.
14 November 2012	The Operation Pillar of Defense was

	started by Israel.
7 July 2014	Israel started the Operation Protective Edge in response to the rocket launches coming from the Gaza Strip.
July- August 2014	Israel launched an offensive on the Gaza Strip to respond to the collapse of American-sponsored peace talks.
2019	The United States of America recognized Israel's sovereignty over the Golan Heights.
May 2021	Hamas fired rockets into Israel but the Iron Dome intercepted the most dangerous projectiles. After that, Israel began air-striking the Gaza Strip.
7 October 2023	In the morning, Hamas launched over 5000 rockets from Gaza into Israel, then used these strategies as cover to breach the border.
27 October 2023	Israeli forces launched a large-scale ground incursion into the parts of northern Gaza.
19 July 2024	In the morning, Houthi forces launched a self propelled drone (Iranian-made Samad-3) that struck central Tel Aviv killing and injuring civilians.

20 July 2024	In response to the Houthi attack Israeli fighter jets bombed the strategic Yemeni port of Hodeidah, killing at least six people and injuring dozens of others. The strike which also hit fuel depots in the port, also caused a massive fire in the area.
1 August 2024	An Israeli airstrike in the Al-Mawasi area, designated a "humanitarian zone" by Israel, killed at least 90 people, including a senior Hamas military commander. The strike drew widespread international condemnation.
15 September 2024	Hezbollah launched one of its largest rocket and drone barrages of the conflict into northern Israel, escalating cross-border hostilities and raising fears of a full-scale war.
1 October 2024	Israel and Lebanon officially began U.S.-mediated talks to de-escalate tensions along the Blue Line and establish a buffer zone, aiming to avert a wider war with Hezbollah.
15-20 October 2024	A series of high-level meetings in Cairo, Doha, and Washington D.C. resulted in a renewed, multi-phase hostage and ceasefire deal between Israel and Hamas. The deal facilitated

	the release of several Israeli hostages and Palestinian prisoners and allowed for a significant increase in humanitarian aid into Gaza.
November 2024 - Present	The ceasefire remains fragile but largely holds. Negotiations for a permanent end to hostilities and a post-war governance plan for Gaza continue, with ongoing regional and international diplomatic efforts.

Related Documents

In this section provide past documents related to the issue. If the United Nations have passed any resolution about the agenda, include it here. Annual reports from international agencies, flagship journals of regional institutions, publications from credible sources are the types of documents that can be added to this section.

Past Solution Attempts

There have been numerous attempts in the past to resolve the ongoing dispute between Israel and the opposing states.

The first of these attempts are the Oslo Accords. During this event, the Israel and Palestine Liberation Organization aimed at establishing a framework for peace and Palestinian self-governance in the West Bank and Gaza. As a result, the Palestinian Authority has been established and assumed to govern Gaza and West Bank and the Palestinian Authority renounced terrorism and acknowledged Israel's right to exist.

In second place, there is the Camp David Summit. It was hosted by the President of the United States of America, Bill Clinton, where Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat had the chance to negotiate the peace resolutions. However, it failed to reach a final agreement.

The Road Map for Peace was proposed by the Quartet on the Middle East. It outlined the importance of a series of steps towards a two-state resolution.

The Annapolis conference, which was hosted in 2007 by President of the United States of America, George Bush, aimed to restart the peace process between Israel and Palestinians. However, no agreement was reached.

Lastly, the Secretary of State during 2013 to 2014, John Kerry, initiated intense negotiations between the Israeli and the Palestinian leaders. However, it failed to produce a final agreement.

Possible Solutions

The two-state solution is the most widely endorsed solution which envisions the establishment of a Palestinian state alongside the Israeli state based on the pre-1967 borders, also known as the 1947 Armistice Agreement, with land swaps. By this solution, the city of Jerusalem may be shared as the capital of both states with arrangements to ensure access to holy sites for all. With the negotiations, the Israeli settlements built in the occupied Palestinian territories since 1967 which are considered illegal under international law, may be addressed.

Another option may be a one-state solution. With this new single democratic state, the Israelis and the Palestinians will have equal rights and equal representation. However, there are some downsides to this idea. This can create future problems since there is a potential loss of national identities. The

borders of the unified state would have the entirety of the historic Palestine. Also, Jerusalem can serve as the capital of the unified state since there won't be any more border disputes between the two opposing states. It would be open and accessible to all residents whilst ensuring the rights of freedom of worship and preserving the religious sites.

Creation of a confederation between Israel, and the Palestinian state where both of these states will maintain their sovereignty whilst cooperating closely on issues of security and development. This idea involves both entities as separate states whilst keeping close ties and maintaining their relationship. This would help both states to work together to combat terrorism and prevent violence. This will also be helpful for the development of both states. They can establish shared institutions and mechanisms to manage and resolve disputes and promote dialogue and cooperation. These institutions can include the establishment of a confederal parliament, joint executive bodies, and special agencies.

Peacekeeping missions within the region can help manage the tensions between the opposing parties. These missions may help prevent the escalation of violence by monitoring ceasefires, patrolling within the region, and providing a buffer zone between the conflicting regions. This can also be helpful to provide humanitarian assistance to the people who are in need and who live within the region.

Negotiated Settlements are important to facilitate direct discussions and dialogues between Israel and Palestinians. The assistance of international mediators such as the United States of America, the Russian Federation, and the European Union can be helpful in reaching a mutually acceptable solution. International intervention and increased involvement from the international community and the member states could help settle and provide guarantees for any peace agreement. This solution will help address core issues such as the status of Jerusalem, the fate of Palestinian refugees, security issues, border disputes, and settlements.

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