

# Futuristic Security Council (2030)

Palestine Israel Conflict 2030



<b>Forum</b>	Futuristic Security Council
<b>Issue:</b>	Palestine Israel Conflict 2030
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## Introduction

It is the year 2030, centuries after the initial emergence of the Palestinian Israeli conflict. Throughout recent decades, there has been a growing number of civilian deaths, conflicts, uprisings and flare ups. The dispute between Zionist Jews and Palestinian Arabs is a contemporary issue that dates to the end of the nineteenth century. Religious issues are not the root of the conflict, despite the fact that the two groups practice various. Rather, land disputes marked the emergence of the conflict and still revolves around changing borders.

The conflict is merely more than an issue that simply revolves solely around borders, rather is interconnected with countless other issues such as lack of human rights, violence, displacement, economic downfall, legitimacy, sovereignty and more. When it comes to the short- and long-term effects of conflict on civilians, events such as forced displacement, denial of humanitarian access, destruction of infrastructure and livelihoods are consequences of conflict that are devastating and horrific for civilians impacted.

## Definition of Key Terms

### Border Dispute

A violent or nonviolent conflict between two or more parties who have disagreements on the location of the sovereign territory of land and borders.

### Sovereignty

The power or authority a country has to govern itself and make decisions.

### Zionism



An ideology and nationalist movement that strongly believes in the establishment of a Jewish nation of its own, Palestine. Zionists also hold a strong belief that Judaism is a nationality as well as a religion.

### Arabs

Individuals who identify primarily as Arabic speakers, including members of various religions and inhabitants of different states. Israeli citizens, residents of the occupied Palestinian area, and people living in exile who have the pertaining linguistic, geographic, and/or cultural affiliation are all considered to be Palestinian Arabs.

### Green Line

A demarcation line separating Israeli, Syrian, Egyptian, Jordanian forces, and territories as a result of Israel's 1948 War of Independence. The line was determined in the 1949 Armistice agreement that had formally put an end to the war and up until the 1967 Six-Day War, it was used as Israel's de facto international border.

### Jerusalem

A city originally set to be an international zone in 1948, however now is claimed as Israel's current capital city, which sits on both sides of the West Bank and Israel. Both Israel and Palestine seek to make it their capital since it is the origin of some of the holiest sites in both Judaism and Islam.

### Apartheid wall

One of various terms used to describe a physical separation border between Settler colonies and Palestinian communities across the West Bank and through Jerusalem. The wall was first built by Israel upon the claim that it was necessary for security. The wall currently cuts into Palestinian territory causing several issues for citizens such as separation from hospitals, homes, schools, farmland as well as restricting movement.

### Two State Solution

A proposal made in 1974 for creating two states for two communities: Israel for the Jewish people and Palestine for the Palestinians in hopes to end the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.



## General Overview

### History of the Palestine Israeli Conflict

During the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, the area of land we now refer to as Palestine was part of the vast and powerful Ottoman Empire, however, after the first World War, Palestine territory became part of the British Empire. Palestine is the birthplace of both Judaism and Christianity and holds core importance in the history of Islam as Prophet Muhammad initially prayed towards the original Qibla, Jerusalem (in 624 CE this changed to the Kaaba in Mecca). Palestine and particularly Jerusalem was a safe and inclusive area where people of different religious beliefs lived at peace with each other, however, The British Empire, when they arrived in Palestine, became a catalyst for the separation and division between religions in Palestine.

On November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1917, the British government issued the Balfour Declaration relating to the encouragement for the establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine in response to the Zionist movement. As a result, there was a severe increase of 320,000 Jews in Palestine between 1920 and 1939 which led to Jews accounting for 30% of the Palestinian population. Unfortunately, the Jewish population repeatedly bought land from non-Palestinian Arab landowners to then evict the Palestinian farmers and locals. The reason for this was that the Jewish population believed that by controlling both land and labor they could build a more secure community in Palestine however this caused quite the opposite.

At the same time, Palestinian Arabs began thinking of themselves as the Palestinian nation which led to a revolt against the British in 1936. The British troops received the help of Jewish militias in order to suppress the Palestinians however after the conflict dissipated, The British decided to limit the immigration of Jews in Palestine further catalyzing the conflict and tension in Palestine. With the rise in power of Adolf Hitler and the Nazi (National Socialist German Worker's) Party, there was a pressing demand for the Jewish population to leave Europe and in response, the British decided that a joint Arab and Jewish state was to be implemented in ten years and this decision saw a lot of opposition from Palestinians as they were more than eager to gain their independence from British ruling.

After the war, Britain addressed this issue with the newly founded United Nations who voted to partition Palestine into Jewish and Palestinian states who would each receive practically equal



areas of land however the borders between territories were very complex and evidently appeared to not bring much success and tranquility.

In 1948 the first Arab Israeli war broke out opposing Israel against Palestine, reinforced by other Arab states. However, the Israelis won and in 1949 an Armistice was signed resulting in Israeli occupation of a third more land than the UN had previously established to them. Meanwhile, other Arab states began to control previously Palestinian land as Jordan controlled the West Bank and Jerusalem, and Egypt controlled the Gaza Strip. Overall, this led to 700,000 Palestinians becoming refugees and forcing them to flee their homes. Israel benefited from all of this as it fortified the power of their new nation however Palestinians became stateless and were completely devastated.

In 1967 Israel and other Arab states went to war in the “Six Day War” which the Israelis won leading to the control of the Gaza Strip West Bank, and areas outside of previously Palestinian territory as they now controlled the Golan Heights and the Sinai Peninsula. Overall, this demonstrated a major contrast between the established land of Israel in 1947 and the increasing territory they had in 1967.

On November 22nd, 1967, the United Nations Security Council passed resolution 242 aiming to be the first major attempt at reaching peace between Palestine Israel and other Arab states which included the withdrawing of Israeli troops from the land they claimed in the war. This also included for all members of states to recognize the existence of both a Palestinian and Israeli state which unfortunately did not occur. At this point, the Arab Israeli conflict became focalized on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Whilst organizations such as the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) aimed at achieving peace, Israel on the other hand began installing Jewish settlements in previously Palestinian territories such as the West Bank Gaza Strip, and east Jerusalem which was illegal according to international law however Israel went against this as they opposed to the aspect of Palestine being a real state.

At the end of the 1980s, Israel saw the commencement of the Intifada with the literal meaning of “shaking off” which the Palestinians saw as a civil uprising and a way for them to regain their territory. Similarly, in addition to the first Palestinian Intifada HAMAS was founded and resulted in a suicide bombing in 1993 targeting the Israeli population. Despite the grave conflict the first intifada allowed for the beginning of peace talks between Palestine and Israel.



The Oslo accord aimed to finally resolve the conflict and the issue of territory distribution but also many other pressing issues in the local areas such as the Jewish settlement in Palestinian land the right for Palestinians refugees to return to Palestine, and the pressing issue of water rights.

In September 2000, Ariel Sharon, who eventually became Prime Minister of Israel in 2001, went to the temple of the mount in the old city of Jerusalem alongside around 1000 armed troops. The temple of Mount, known to Muslims as “Al-Haram al-Sharif,” is the third holiest site in the Islamic religion and the holiest in Judaism and as a result, this led to major protests and later on, to a second Intifada which caused the death of 4000 people with 3000 Palestinians and 1000 Israelis.

In 2002, Israelis built a wall around the West Bank called the “Israeli West Bank barrier” in hopes to assert their apartheid regime over the Palestinian population. However, a major issue with this barrier is that the Israelis didn’t place the wall around the border of the West Bank, but instead dived deep into areas where many illegal Israeli settlements were located further enraging the Palestinian population as this added on to Israeli’s theft of Palestinian land.

On November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2004, Yasser Arafat, President of the state of Palestine, died and this led to the HAMAS winning the majority of parliamentary seats. HAMAS and Palestinian authorities began governing Palestine however this caused increasingly frequent conflict such as rocket attacks from HAMAS and the retaliation of Israeli militia with violent invasions of Palestinian territory leading to numerous deaths and injuries of civilians and troops

## Major Parties Involved

### Palestine

Palestine is a small area of land, but it has been valuable to the Middle East's past and present. Due to Palestine's significance to many major religions and its advantageous location at the intersection of Africa and Asia, political warfare has been frequent throughout its history, as have violent territorial claims. Palestinians have endured decades of violence, which has had a significant influence on various social, economic, and environmental aspects, harming countless livelihoods. The Palestinian people have a great desire to establish a free and independent state in this contentious region of the world.

### Israel



In the current generation, the State of Israel is the sole Jewish nation. Throughout several decades, Israel fought a succession of wars against neighbouring Arab states, resulting in ongoing territorial and refugee disputes. In recent decades, Israel has orchestrated numerous acts of violence to indicate its desire for complete control over Palestinian territory. There have been rising concerns regarding Israel's strategic decision to maximize territorial gains, because any significant confrontation in the oil-producing countries of the Middle East would put the global oil economy in jeopardy.

### The United States of America

While looking towards achieving strategic goals and balancing its support for Israel and working for more regional stability, the United States has attempted to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian issue, which has been a primary driver of regional dynamics. For more than 50 years, the US has played a significant role in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Soon after World War II, it got involved, joining the UK in a 1946 inquiry that suggested 100,000 Holocaust survivors go to Palestine, which would be neither a Jewish nor an Arab state. In 1948, the United States was the first nation to recognize Israel as an independent state.

### Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO)

The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) was founded in 1964 with the aim of creating a Palestinian Arab state on the territory that had previously been regulated by the British Mandate and that the PLO deemed the State of Israel had illegally occupied. Although the PLO initially sought to destroy Israel in order to achieve its aim of creating a Palestinian state, as part of the 1993 Oslo Accords, the PLO recognised Israel's right to exist in return for Israel's official recognition of the PLO.

### Hamas

Hamas is an acronym for Harakat al-Muqawama al-Islamiya ("Islamic Resistance Movement") that began in the late 1960s. The organization is best recognized for its military resistance against Israel while controlling more than two million Palestinians in the Gaza Strip. Numerous nations have classified Hamas as a terrorist group, albeit some only do so for its armed component. It is purportedly supported materially and financially by Iran, and some of its top officials are supposedly situated in Turkey.



## Timeline of Key Events

Date	Description of event
November 29 <sup>th</sup> , 1947	The United Nation’s General Assembly adopted the Partition Plan for Palestine presented through resolution 181 relating to the partition of Mandatory Palestine. Countries like Russia and the United States voted in favour of this resolution, however 5 members of the Arab League voted against.
November 30 <sup>th</sup> , 1947	The first Israeli-Palestinian war begins which Israelis refer to as the “War of independence.”
March 10 <sup>th</sup> , 1949	The second Palestinian war begins.
July 20 <sup>th</sup> , 1949	The first Palestinian war comes to an end.
June 5 <sup>th</sup> , 1967	Beginning of the 6-day war which was the third major conflict between Arab and Israeli forces.
September 6 <sup>th</sup> 1972	Massacre of Israeli Weightlifting Olympic Team by the terrorist group Black September, taking them hostage and executing all of them on the tarmac of Munich airport.
October 19 <sup>th</sup> 1973	Provision of weapons from the United States to Israel, which led to the retaliation of Saudi Arabia stopping all oil shipments to the USA.
September 18 <sup>th</sup> 1978	Camp David Accord is signed by Israeli Prime Minister and Egyptian President stating that Israel will withdraw from the Sinai Peninsula setting precedent for discussions over other disputed lands.
December 8 <sup>th</sup> , 1987	Start of the First Intifada.
September 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2000	Start of the Second Intifada.
June 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2007	The Battle of Gaza begins leading to Hamas gaining control of the Gaza Strip.
March 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2018	Major riots and protests occur at the Gaza Strip where there is the border with Israel

## UN involvement, Relevant Resolutions, Treaties and Events

- United Nations Security Council Resolution 242, 22 November 1967
- United Nations Security Council Resolution 388, 22 October 1973
- International Conference on the Question of Palestine (ICQP)/ Declaration, 29 August to 7 September 1983





- Declaration of Principles on the Interim Self Government Arrangements (DOP or Oslo Accords), 13 September 1993
- Gaza Jericho Agreement, 4 May 1994
- Agreement on the Preparatory transfer of Powers and Responsibilities, 29 August 1994
- Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip (Oslo II), 28 September 1995
- The Wye River Memorandum, 15-23 October 1998
- The Camp David Summit, 11 – 24 July 2000
- The Annapolis Conference, 27 November 2007
- United Nation Security Council Resolution 1860, 8 January 2009
- United Nation Security Council Resolution 2334, 23 December 2016

## Previous Attempts to solve the Issue

Out of all the solutions presented in hopes to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the major and most discussed solutions can be split into two main categories, a one-state solution and two-state solution. The one-state solution, also known as the binational state solution, would lead to the creation of a single democratic state that would be home to Israeli's and Palestinians with both groups having equal rights to ensure a prosperous, equal and peaceful state. Supporters to this idea strongly believed that this would be the easiest solution to resolve the ongoing conflict. The main reason as to why the one-state solution received so much support was the idea that it would be the easiest and most likely to succeed as it would not bring up the issues for borders or the idea of division as it would create a one state in which people could live equally among one another. This idea was mainly opposed by Israelis as they saw this as a reduction to their power and importance and would essentially undermine the Jewish religion as the one state solution would eliminate the only independent Jewish state in the world.

The two-state solution on the other hand would involve the creation of two independent states, Israel and Palestine. Palestine would remain a majorly Muslim Arab state and similarly, Israel would maintain it's strong Jewish majority hence allowing them to remain a Jewish state. A vast



majority of involved nations favored this general idea however, in June 1976, a resolution supporting the implementation of the two-state solution was submitted and vetoed by the United States. This decision was later contradicted as in 2007, Israel, the PLO and the United States arranged a legal agreement on a two-state solution to be the base for negotiating towards peace.

## Possible Solutions

With the previous attempts of implementing a two-state solution or one-state solution many issues and disagreements were raised in discussions between nations and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) as firstly, the major parties involved would be divided as they have different opinions on which of the two paths, they should take to reach peace agreements. Secondly, on top of the general disagreement between nations, different parties within a country such as Israel don't agree with one another further resulting in constantly escalating conflict. In addition, a major difficulty in regards to reaching a long lasting solution is the question of borders, if a two state solution is implemented, and the future of Internally Displaced People in both Israeli and Palestinian territory. With such difficult circumstances many different aspects must be considered when proposing a solution (see appendix I).

The two-state solution could revolve around the idea of returning the Gaza Strip and West bank to Palestine and allowing Palestine to become a recognized independent state. This idea was presented in 2003 as part of the Geneva Initiative (Geneva Accord). Despite major worldwide approval received from this proposal, Ariel Sharon who was Israel's prime minister opposed to this idea. Overall, the two-state solution would be one of the best manners to allow for both Israel and Palestine to become independent states whilst maintain minimal conflict as, for example there would be a complete Israeli withdrawal along the borders separating the new state of Palestine and Israel. Countless opinions have formed around the feasibility of the two state solution and many have made promising remarks (see appendix II).

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## Appendix or Appendices

**Appendix I** – Possible steps and solutions for the future considering difficult and complicated circumstances

<https://www.usip.org/publications/2020/01/israeli-palestinian-conflict-2020-what-are-possible-paths-ahead>

**Appendix II** – Discussing the two state solution in a positive light and how feasible it may be currently

<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/22442052/israel-palestine-two-state-solution-gaza-hamas-one>

