

# The Greater Israel Project:

Israeli Colonisation From  
the Nile to the Euphrates

March 2026



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London | Washington

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**“[The war on Lebanon] needs to end with a different reality entirely, both with the Hezbollah decision but also with the change of Israel’s borders. I say here definitively...in every room and in every discussion, too: the new Israeli border must be the Litani.”**

**Bezael Smotrich**

Ukrainian-Israeli Finance Minister,  
in March 2026.<sup>1</sup>



01

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# The Greater Israel Project

© Bergensia



# 01

# The Greater Israel Project

The Zionist colonial project has never been limited to the settler colonisation of Palestine and ethnic cleansing of Palestinians.<sup>2</sup>

From the Zionist project's inception, Zionists have chased 'Greater Israel', a plan to enact Jewish supremacy and colonise all the land between the Nile and Euphrates rivers, amounting to over 500,000 sq kms.<sup>3</sup>



Source: Islam21C

**This project would expand Israel's occupation over roughly:<sup>4</sup>**

- 6,020sq km of Palestinian land
- 10,452 sq km of Lebanese land
- 89,341 sq km of Jordanian land
- 60-80,000 sq km of Egyptian land
- 100-150,000 sq km of Saudi Arabian land
- 120-140,000 sq km of Syrian land
- 140-150,000 sq km of Iraqi land

## The Greater Israel Project continued...

Colonial policies have been applied under all Israeli governments.<sup>5</sup> Since 1949, Israel has occupied the West Bank, Gaza, East Jerusalem, the Golan Heights, Sinai (twice), southern Lebanon (twice), more parts of southern Syria, and is preparing to occupy southern Lebanon once more.<sup>6</sup>

The Movement for Greater Israel, a political party founded in the aftermath of the 1967 Naksa, was active until the late 1970s.<sup>7</sup> It advocated for retaining Israeli occupied territories and settling them with Jewish citizens.<sup>8</sup>

During Israel's genocide in the besieged Gaza Strip, soldiers of the Israeli Occupation Forces (IOF) were photographed with the map of 'Greater Israel' stitched onto their uniforms, revealing that the IOF's ambitions are not limited to the colonisation of historic Palestine.<sup>9</sup>

Today, Israeli colonisation is operating on multiple fronts, with active Israeli expansionism campaigns being waged in the occupied West Bank, Gaza Strip, Lebanon, and Syria.<sup>10</sup> The Greater Israel project is supported by most Israeli politicians, including Polish-Israeli Prime Minister and wanted war criminal Benjamin Netanyahu and Ukrainian-Israeli Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich.<sup>10</sup>

Simultaneously, Israel has used political, economic, and intelligence channels to undermine the sovereignty of Egypt, Jordan, and Iraq, effectively weakening their ability to resist future Zionist colonisation.<sup>11</sup>



“It would be fine if they took it all.”

**Mike Huckabee**

US ambassador to Israel, when asked about expanding the borders of Israel from the Nile to the Euphrates.<sup>12</sup>



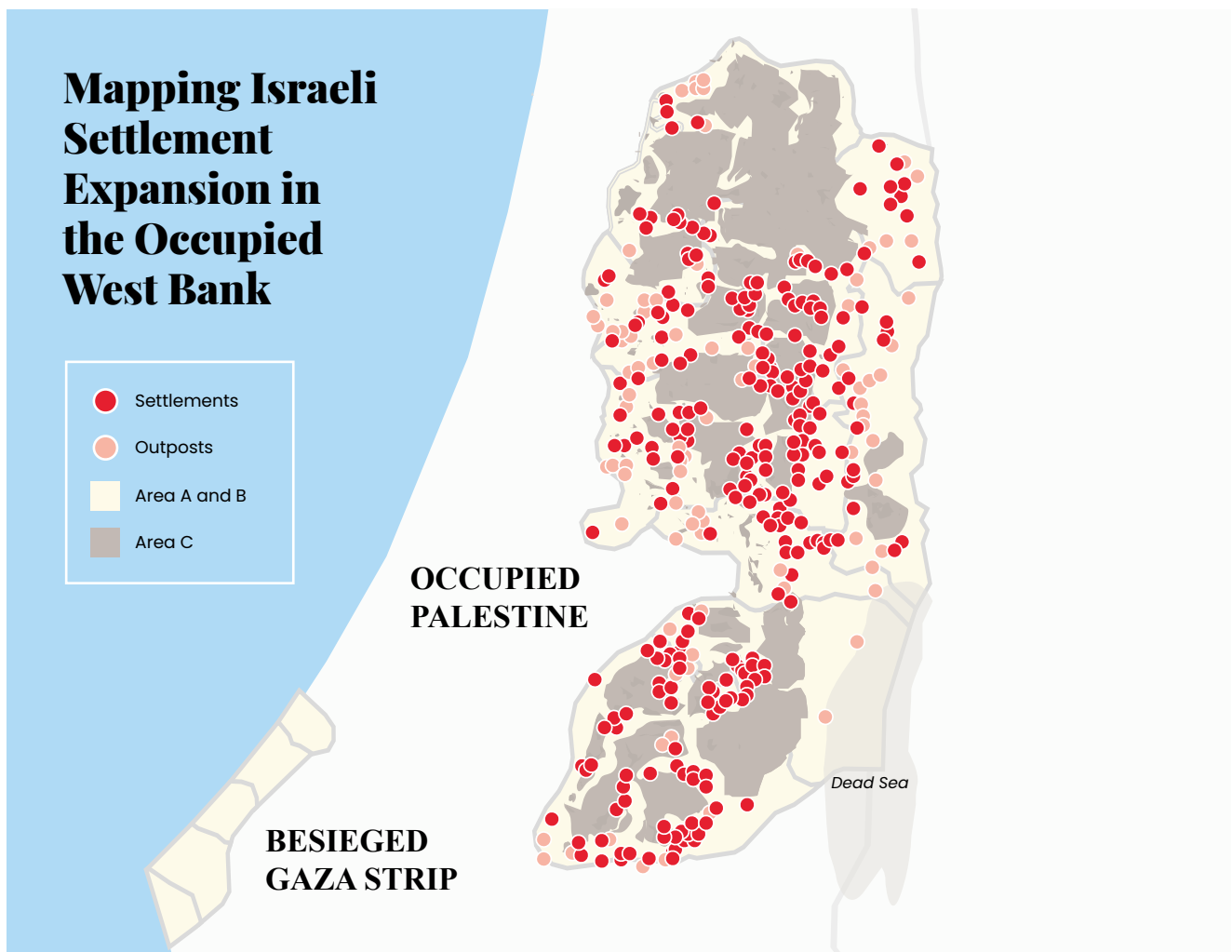
# Israeli Colonisation in the Occupied West Bank



02

# Israeli Colonisation in the Occupied West Bank

Over 800,000 Israeli settlers are occupying stolen Palestinian land in the West Bank, as part of their aim to colonise all of historic Palestine.<sup>13</sup>



Source: International Crisis Group.

The settler population is growing faster than Israel's overall population, with about 10 percent of Israel's 6.8 million Jewish citizens living in illegal settlements.<sup>14</sup> Settlers receive Israeli citizenship and government subsidies that lower their cost of living, encouraging greater participation in settlement expansion.<sup>15</sup>

## Israeli Colonisation in the Occupied West Bank continued...

Israel has capitalised on the international community's focus on the genocide in the besieged Gaza Strip, and now, the US-Israeli War on Iran to intensify settler colonisation and expansionism in the occupied West Bank.<sup>16</sup>

Between January 2023 and mid-February 2026, at least 4,765 Palestinians from 97 locations, have been displaced by Israeli settler violence across the occupied West Bank.<sup>17</sup> These attacks have increased significantly since the beginning of the US-Israeli War on Iran, taking advantage of the international community's distraction.<sup>18</sup>

From October 2024 to October 2025, over 27,200 housing units in illegal settlements in the occupied West Bank were approved, in addition to 84 new outposts being established.<sup>19</sup>

On 20 August 2025, the Higher Planning Council of the Israeli Civil Administration formally approved plans to build 3,401 housing units in the E1 settlement block.<sup>20</sup> The development of the E1 settlement block will connect the settlement of Ma'ale Adummim and other settlements east of Jerusalem with Israeli-occupied East Jerusalem, effectively cutting Palestinians living in the occupied West Bank off from occupied Jerusalem.<sup>21</sup>

The plans intend to double the settler population of Ma'ale Adummim from 36,000 to 72,000 settlers.<sup>22</sup>

Announcing the approval of E1, Ukrainian-Israeli Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich said that the plan was “a significant step that practically erases the two-state delusion and consolidates the Jewish people's hold on the heart of the Land of Israel” and “finally buries the idea of a Palestinian state”.<sup>23</sup> Separately, Smotrich has also vowed to takeover 82 percent of the occupied West Bank and add one million illegal settlers to Palestinian land.<sup>24</sup>

In February 2025, Israel approved plans to expand its power across the occupied West Bank, making it easier to seize Palestinian land illegally.<sup>25</sup> The Israeli cabinet approved the cancellation of a Jordanian law that historically prohibited the sale of land in the West Bank to non-Arabs.<sup>26</sup>

Simultaneously, the government decided to lift the secrecy on land registry records in place since the Ottoman period.<sup>27</sup> By exposing the identities of Palestinian landowners in the registry, settlers and real estate companies can now target specific individuals for pressure, extortion, or entrapment to force land sales.<sup>28</sup>

### Within hours of the plans being ratified:

- Settlers raided the Al-Rashaydeh Mosque east of occupied Bethlehem, stealing its contents and causing severe damage.<sup>29</sup>
- In Bani Naim, east of occupied Hebron, settlers brutally beat an 80-year-old disabled Palestinian man.<sup>30</sup>
- Demolition notices were handed to Palestinians in occupied Berin (east of Hebron), while demolitions were carried out in Bedouin communities in the northern occupied Jordan Valley.<sup>31</sup>

**“We are witnessing the institutional and legal annexation of the West Bank. Israel is imposing a reality of ‘Greater Israel’ and apartheid. If the international community does not move from statements to action, the situation on the ground will explode.”**

**Dalal Iriqat**  
Professor of diplomacy.<sup>32</sup>



03

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# Israeli Colonisation in the Besieged Gaza Strip

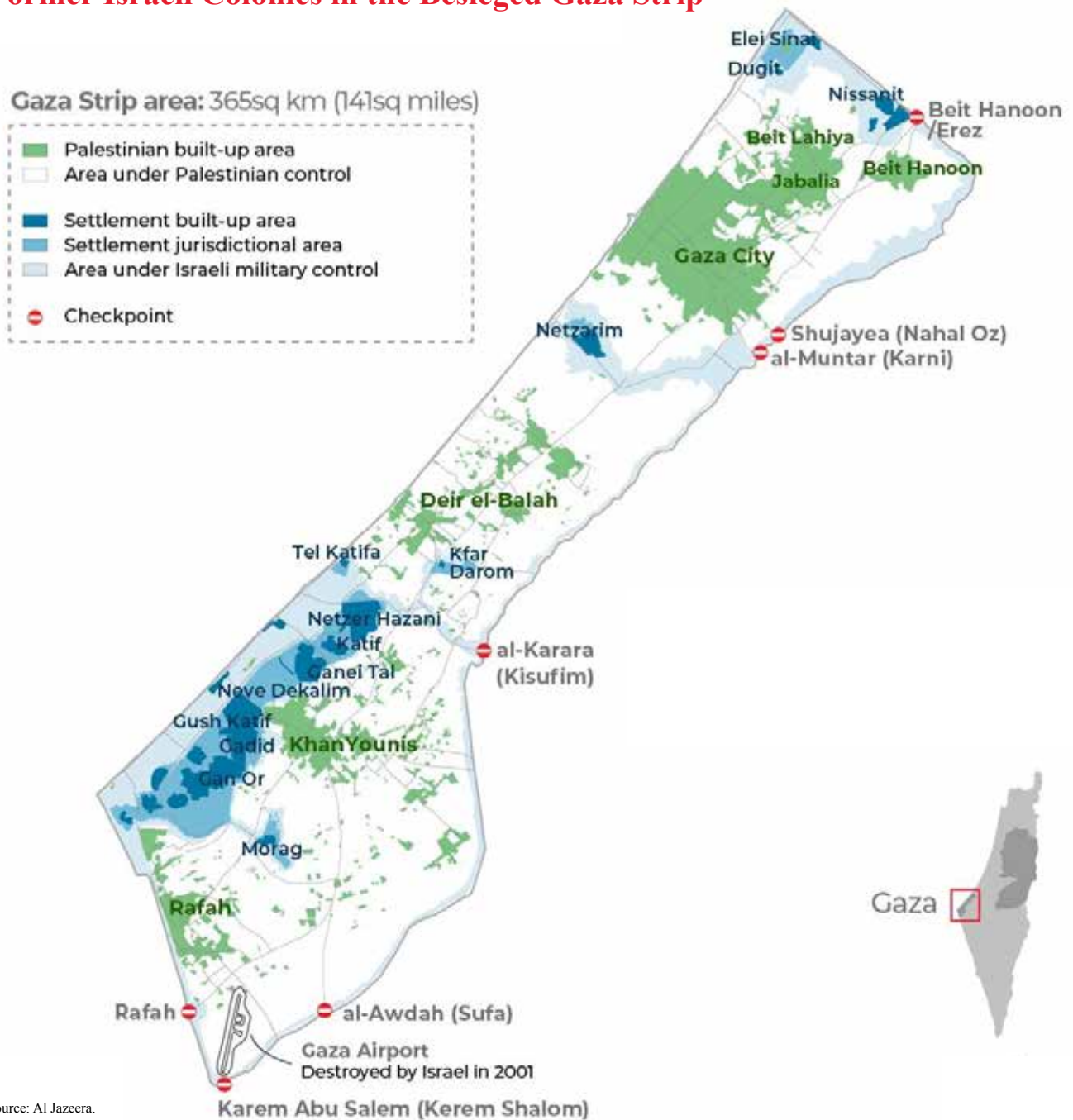


03

# Israeli Colonisation in the Besieged Gaza Strip

The Gaza Strip has long been a target of Israeli colonisation.<sup>33</sup> Between 1970 and 2005, Israel established 21 illegal settlements in the besieged Gaza Strip.<sup>34</sup> By 2005, around 9,000 illegal Israeli settlers lived in these areas, protected by the IOF.<sup>35</sup>

## Former Israeli Colonies in the Besieged Gaza Strip



Source: Al Jazeera.

## Israeli Colonisation in the Besieged Gaza Strip continued...

Although illegal settlers accounted for just 0.6 percent of the population of the occupied Gaza Strip, they controlled over 20 percent of the land, often in resource-rich areas (particularly coastal and agricultural lands), while the surrounding Palestinian population was densely packed in refugee camps and cities.<sup>36</sup>

Although these settlements were vacated in 2005, Israeli settlers have continued to agitate for expanding illegal settlements into the besieged Gaza Strip once more.<sup>37</sup>

Attempts to re-establish Israeli settlements in the besieged Gaza Strip have intensified since the beginning of Israel's genocide in Gaza.<sup>38</sup> In January 2024, settler organisations held a conference in Jerusalem to call for settling Gaza. Kurdish-Israeli security minister Itamar Ben-Gvir attended the event and gave a speech.<sup>39</sup>

In October 2024, hundreds of Israelis rallied near the Gaza fence to call for settlements in Gaza. Both Ben-Gvir and Smotrich, and other Israeli politicians attended and gave speeches.<sup>40</sup>

The IOF continues to occupy large sections of the besieged Gaza Strip, maintaining more than 40 active military positions, in violation of the so-called 'ceasefire' agreement.<sup>41</sup>

As of late 2025, the IOF maintains control over approximately 53% to 58% of the Gaza Strip, particularly in northern and southern Gaza, and including areas near Khan Younis and Rafah.<sup>42</sup>

Gaza has effectively been split, with the IOF controlling areas and restricting movement, particularly targeting areas in the north and near the Netzarim Corridor.<sup>43</sup>

Even if the supposed 'ceasefire' withdrawal phases are completed as established in the agreement, Palestinians will be confined to an area which is even smaller than before the genocide, continuing a pattern of Israeli colonisation into the territory of the besieged Gaza Strip.<sup>44</sup>

“Little by little.  
It is written  
that the future  
of Jerusalem  
is to expand to  
Damascus.”

**Bezael Smotrich**

Ukrainian-Israeli Finance Minister  
in an interview in 2024.<sup>45</sup>



# Israeli Colonisation in Lebanon



## انذار عاجل إلى سكان جنوب لبنان

إنّ نشاط حزب الله الإرهابي يُجبر جيش الدفاع على العمل ضده بقوة لا سيما في مناطقكم. جيش الدفاع لا ينوي المساس بكم.

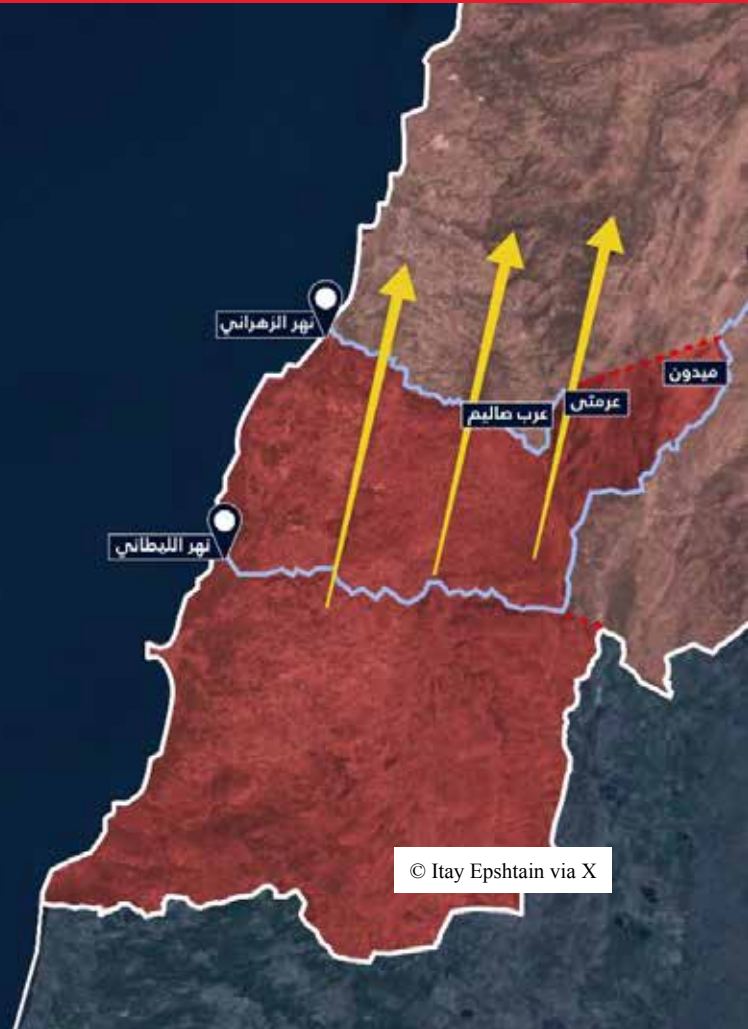
حرصاً على سلامتكم، نتوجّه إلى جميع السكان الموجودين جنوب نهر الزهراني، وفق ما يعرض على الخريطة — عليكم إخلاء منازلكم فوراً.

كل من يتواجد بالقرب من عناصر حزب الله أو منشآته أو وسائله القتالية يعرّض حياته للخطر.

كل مبنى يُستخدم من قبل حزب الله لأغراض عسكرية قد يصبح عرضة للاستهداف.

يا سكان جنوب لبنان، عليكم الانتقال فوراً إلى شمال نهر الزهراني.

انتبهوا: أي تحرك جنوباً قد يعرض حياتكم للخطر



## 04

# Israeli Colonisation in Lebanon

Israeli colonisation in Lebanon also has a long history prior to Israel's genocide in the besieged Gaza Strip and war on Lebanon from 2023.<sup>46</sup>

**1978**

IOF invaded Lebanon for the first time, advancing as far as the Litani River.<sup>47</sup> Israel also armed and financed the South Lebanese Army, composed of Lebanese Christians, to sow conflict between Lebanese people.<sup>48</sup>

**1982**

The IOF again invaded Lebanon, reaching as far north as Beirut, and laying siege to west Beirut.<sup>49</sup>

**1985**

The IOF withdrew to the Litani River in southern Lebanon, continuing to occupy southern Lebanon until 2000.<sup>50</sup>

**1993**

In the Seven Day War, the IOF bombed thousands of buildings and massacred over 118 Lebanese civilians, and injured over 500.<sup>51</sup>

**1996**

The IOF renewed its bombardment of Lebanon, and massacred more than 100 Lebanese people, including over 37 children, in what would be known as the Qana Massacre.<sup>52</sup>

**2000**

The IOF withdrew its forces to occupied Palestine on 25 May, finally ending Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon, a day which is celebrated as a national holiday amongst Lebanese people.<sup>53</sup>

**2006**

During the July War, the IOF massacred over 1,200 Lebanese people and injured more than 4,400.<sup>54</sup>

## Israeli Colonisation in Lebanon continued...

From October 2023, the IOF has repeatedly attacked Lebanon in an attempt to expand its occupation into Lebanese territory.<sup>55</sup>

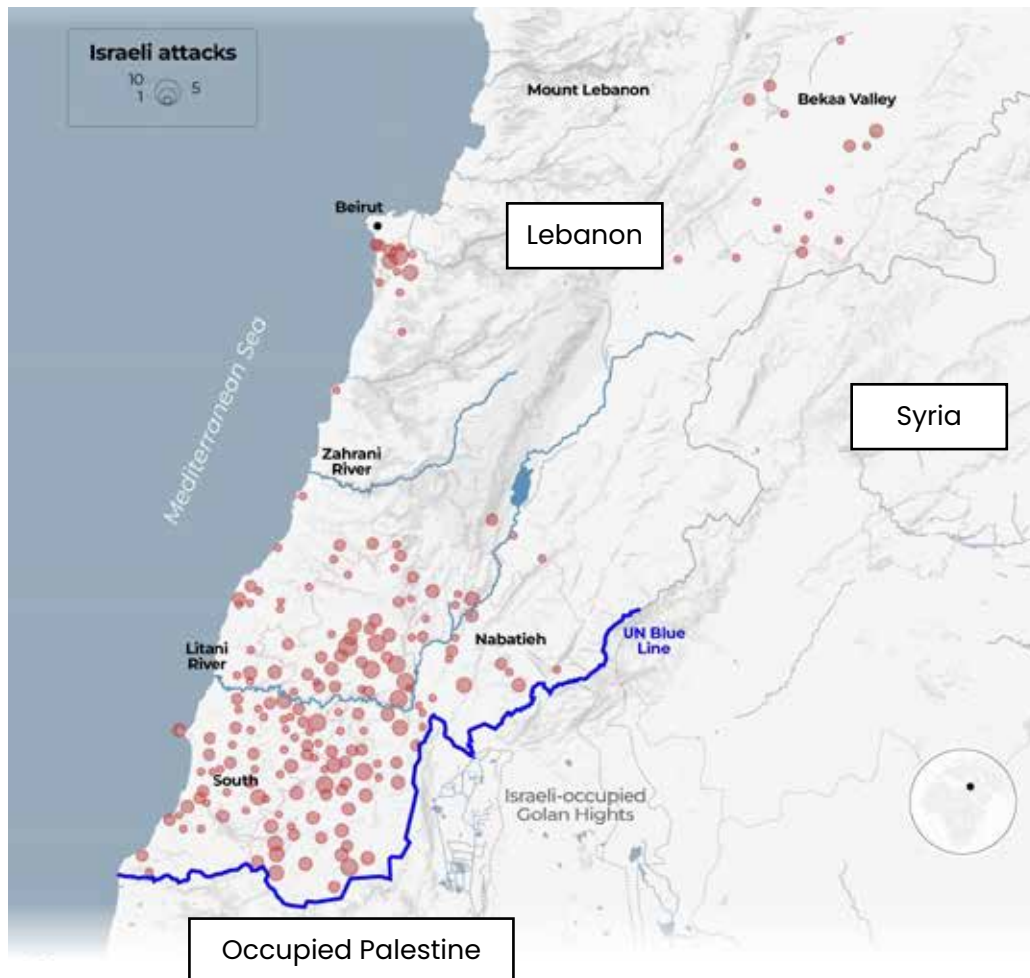
Despite the so-called ‘ceasefire’ agreement in November 2024, the IOF continued to occupy five hilltop locations due to their strategic location for attacking and surveilling southern Lebanese communities.<sup>56</sup>

Since March 2026, Israel has renewed its push to colonise southern Lebanon, making use of the international community’s focus on the US-Israeli war on Iran.<sup>57</sup>

By the end of March 2026, Israeli ethnic cleansing orders across southern Lebanon and Beirut have forcibly displaced over 1 million people – or more than 1 in 5 people.<sup>58</sup>

More than 132,742 of those displaced are staying in overcrowded public shelters, and over 250,000 have fled the country – including over 125,000 who fled to Syria.<sup>59</sup>

## Israeli Attacks on Lebanon in March 2026

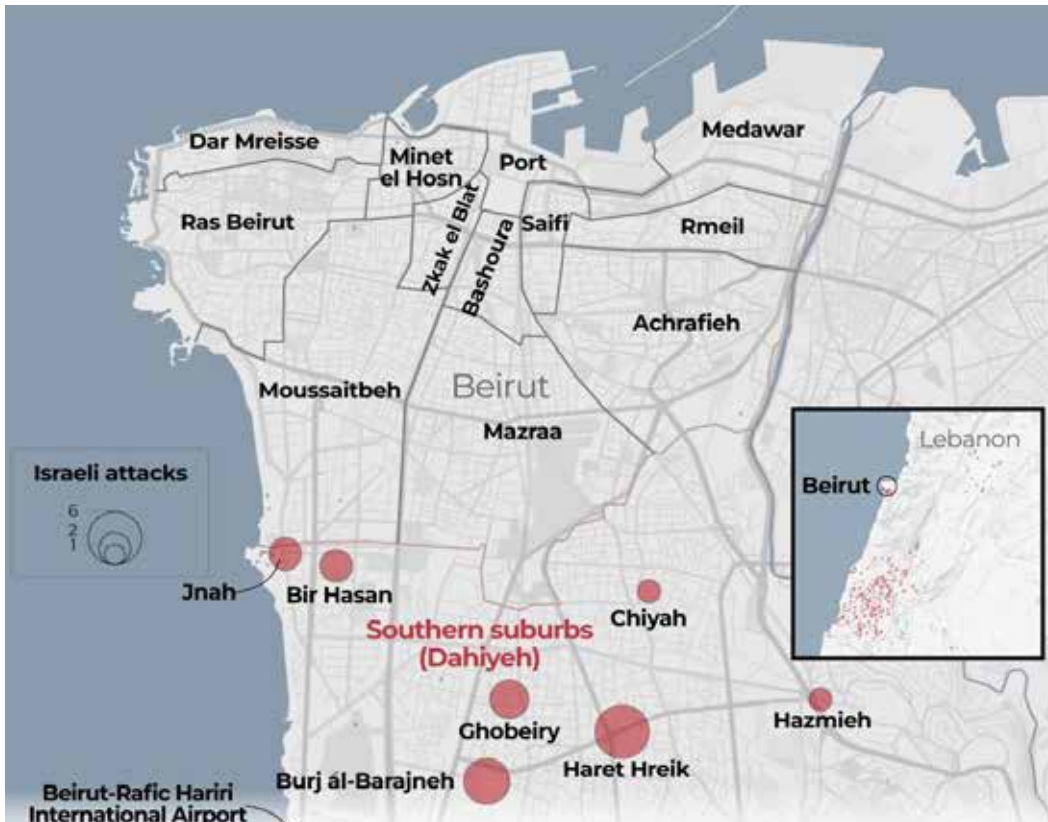


Source: Al Jazeera.

The IOF has committed multiple massacres in Beirut, including an attack on forcibly displaced people sheltering in tents along the coastline in Ramlet al-Baida.<sup>60</sup>

## Israeli Colonisation in Lebanon continued...

### Israeli Attacks on Beirut in March 2026



Source: Al Jazeera.

The IOF has destroyed bridges across the Litani River, cutting off those who have remained in southern Lebanon from the rest of the country and from being able to escape Israeli attacks.<sup>61</sup>

It is widely believed that these attacks on bridges connecting the Litani River to the rest of Lebanon will precipitate an IOF ground invasion intended to colonise all of southern Lebanon.<sup>62</sup>

Support for the colonisation of Lebanon is widespread within Israeli society.<sup>63</sup> The Uri Tzafon (the Movement for Settlement in Southern Lebanon) website advertises the illegal colonisation of southern Lebanese land, with adverts reading: “After the elimination of the Hezbollah leadership...do you also dream of a big house, a view of snowy mountains and a warm community in the land of our ancestors?” and “Head to the north”.<sup>64</sup>

The properties are advertised online and in virtual conferences, and include spacious, light-filled apartments overlooking a swimming pool, with offers starting at 300,000 shekels (\$80,000).<sup>65</sup>

The group initially started with a few hundred members.<sup>66</sup> Since then, its numbers have swelled, with its WhatsApp forums reportedly garnering around 3000 members.<sup>67</sup>

The movement is supported by Israeli ministers such as Moldovan-born Knesset Member Avigdor Lieberman.<sup>68</sup>

In December 2024, the group claimed that six Israeli families led by the group’s founder, Amos Azaria, had crossed the Lebanese border and set up tents in occupied south Lebanon in an attempt to establish an illegal outpost near Maroun A-Ras, although the IOF later evicted them.<sup>67</sup>

Azaria has even published a children’s book, titled: “Alon and Lebanon”, created for settler children, promoting the normalisation of Jewish settlements in southern Lebanon.<sup>68</sup> The book, sold for 88 shekels (about \$24), says that Lebanon is “For Israelis”.<sup>69</sup>

**“I have lost count of how many times they [the IOF] have entered our village. A neighbour and friend of mine whose land was taken [by the IOF soldiers] is living in my house. He cries every day because he has lost everything.”**

**Bader Safi**

a teacher at the local school in Kodana, a village on the border of the occupied Syrian Golan Heights.<sup>70</sup>



05

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# Israeli Colonisation in Syria



© via Mondowiess

05

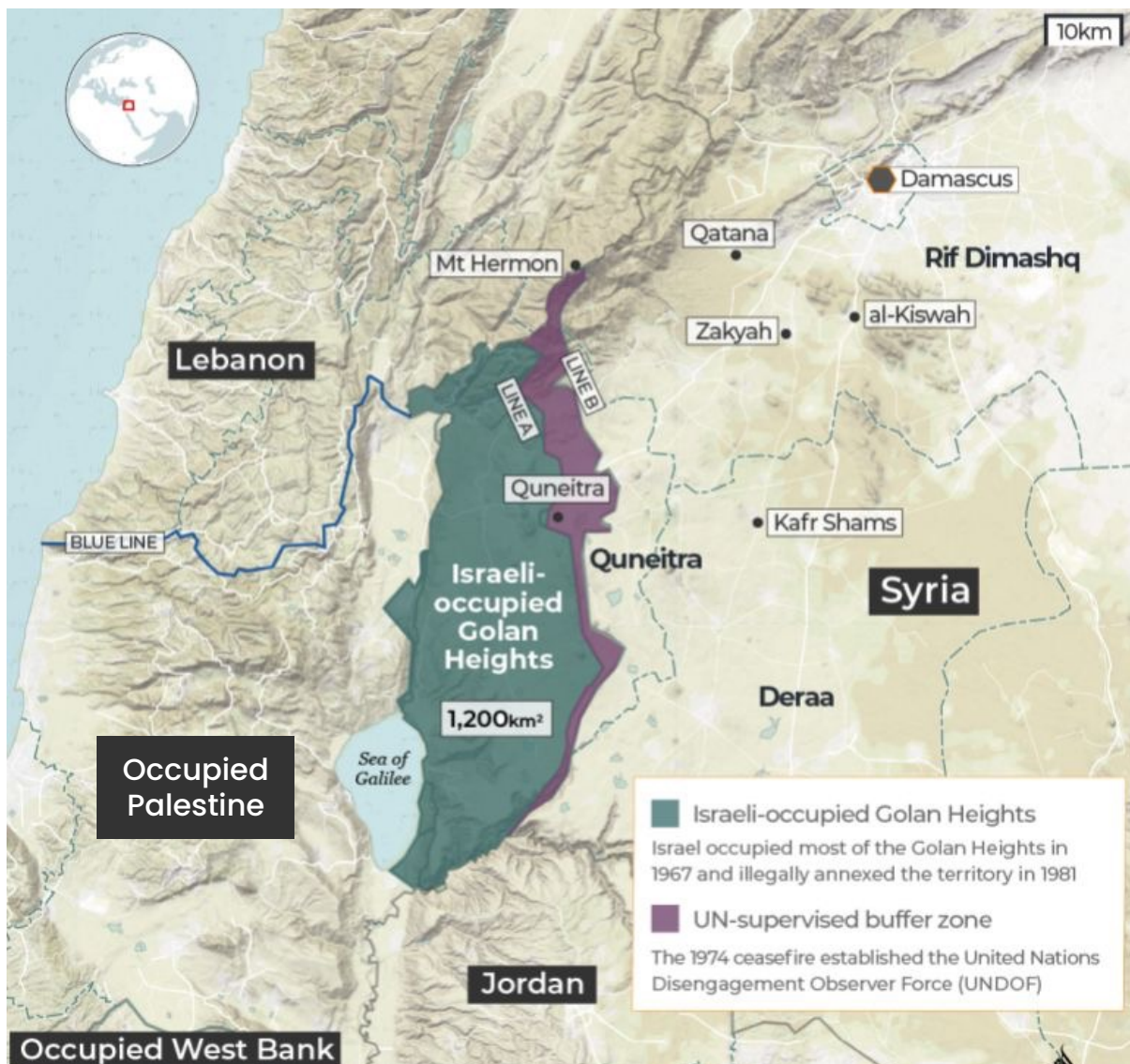
# Israeli Colonisation in Syria

Since 1967, the IOF has occupied the Syrian Golan Heights, and repeatedly attacked Syria since then.<sup>71</sup>

Following the overthrow of the Assad regime, the IOF began to expand its occupation of Syrian land beyond the Golan Heights, towards Mount Hermon and other areas of southern Syria.<sup>72</sup>

IOF have advanced a further 12 miles into Syrian territory since then, built at least nine military bases and expanded occupation road networks and other communications infrastructure.<sup>73</sup>

## Israel's Occupation of the Syrian Golan Heights



## Israeli Colonisation in Syria continued...

In December 2024, a group of religious Orthodox Israelis went to the summit of Mount Al-Sheikh in Syria, recently occupied by the Israeli army, and held a religious ceremony there, under the sight of Israeli soldiers.<sup>74</sup>

In the six months following Assad's fall, the IOF launched over 600 air, drone, or artillery attacks across Syria, roughly one every three to four days, mostly in southern areas which Israel is attempting to ethnically cleanse, preceding expanding their occupation.<sup>75</sup>

### Exploiting the Druze

Israel has tried to portray its occupation of the Syrian Golan Heights as locally sanctioned by weaponising the loyalty of Israeli Druze, and pretending that their attacks and occupation of southern Syria are in defence of the Druze population against extremists, rather than capitalising on Syria's instability to pursue the Greater Israel project.<sup>76</sup>

Statements such as that by wanted war criminal and Polish-Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu that Israel would not tolerate "any threat against the Druze community in southern Syria" are intended to create division between Druze and other Syrian communities in order to create conflict and facilitate Israeli occupation.<sup>77</sup>

**“The IOF is prepared to stay in Syria for an unlimited amount of time. We will hold the [...] area in Hermon and make sure that all [...] southern Syria is demilitarised.”**

**Israel Katz**  
Romanian-Israeli  
'Defence' Minister.<sup>78</sup>



06

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# Israel's Undermining of Egyptian Sovereignty



# Israel's Undermining of Egyptian Sovereignty

Israel has repeatedly undermined Egyptian sovereignty, working alongside Britain and France against Egypt's nationalisation of the Suez Canal in 1956 and their blockade of Israeli shipping through the Tiran Straits.<sup>79</sup>

The IOF has invaded and occupied the Sinai Peninsula twice in 1956 and 1967, with the latter resulting in a years-long war of attrition and the 1973 October War to recapture the occupied Sinai.<sup>80</sup>

Since the 1979 Camp David Accords, Israel has utilised US economic and military power to undermine Egyptian sovereignty and suppress popular support for Palestinian liberation.<sup>81</sup>

The US has used \$1.3 billion of annual military aid to leverage Egypt into a strategic, peaceful alignment with Israel, transforming Egypt into a partner in maintaining Israel's regional dominance.<sup>82</sup>

This relationship secures Israeli military superiority, keeps Egypt within the US sphere of influence, and prevents another major war between Egypt and the Israeli occupation.<sup>83</sup>

Moreover, US military aid has been used to strengthen Egyptian security services and repressive infrastructure in order to crackdown upon Egyptian popular protests, particularly those in support of Palestine and against normalisation, through severe brutality by Egyptian police and security forces, and the imprisonment and torture of thousands of Egyptian activists.<sup>84</sup>

**“We believe this is our land. We planted grapes and figs here. We don’t recognise the occupying state. We are alone, but we will stay here on our land.”**

**Sheikh Abu Nasr**

a 70 year old Syrian man from Al-Rafeed village in Quneitra, Syria.<sup>85</sup>



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# Israel's Undermining of Jordanian Sovereignty



07

# Israel's Undermining of Jordanian Sovereignty

Israel has consistently attempted to weaken Jordan in order to facilitate its eventual colonisation under the Greater Israel Project.<sup>86</sup>

## 1968 Battle of Karama

In 1968, the IOF attempted to invade Jordan by launching surprise attacks in two separate locations, al-Karama and Ghor al-Safi, with over 15,000 troops and IOF aircraft.<sup>87</sup>

In the battle, over 80 Jordanian soldiers were killed and 80 Jordanian tanks destroyed, while on the Israeli side, 28 IOF soldiers died, 69 were wounded, four IOF tanks and four other heavy vehicles were destroyed, and an IOF aircraft was shot down.<sup>88</sup>

Although the IOF succeeded in destroying a Palestinian resistance base near al-Karama, the Jordanian army's resistance pushed back a wider Israeli occupation of Jordan.<sup>89</sup>

## Israeli Water Colonisation

Since Israel's occupation of the Syrian Golan Heights in 1967, Israel has controlled all the water that flows to the Jordan river basin and Yarmouk river basin – Jordan's only two major freshwater supplies.<sup>90</sup> This occupation has made Jordan totally reliant on Israel for vital freshwater supplies.<sup>91</sup>

In the 1970s, Israel took three to four times its share from the Yarmouk River, as determined in the 1955 Johnston Plan, and blocked Jordan from carrying out projects using the river, like the Maqarin (or Wehda) Dam.<sup>92</sup>

Subsequent infrastructure developments, such as the Adassiyeh Weir and canal diversions, consolidated Israel's upstream control while constraining Jordan's ability to secure even its allocated shares under international agreements.<sup>93</sup>

Compounded by the impact of climate change, this water stress and Israeli domination of water resources has undermined Jordan's sovereignty and stability.<sup>94</sup>

## Zionist Ambitions to Occupy Jordan

Since 1931, Zionist militias advocated for the colonisation of Jordan as part of the Greater Israel project.<sup>95</sup>

The symbol of the Irgun militia – which was later absorbed into the IOF – showed a map of their vision for Israel which included both Jordan and historic Palestine.<sup>96</sup>



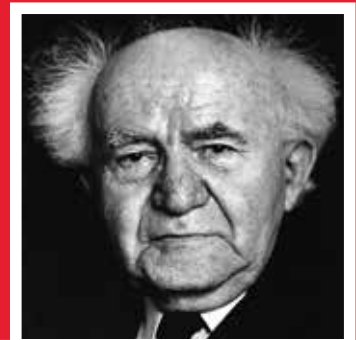
Since then, successive Israeli government officials, from the first Prime Minister of Israel David Ben Gurion to current Prime Minister and wanted war criminal Benjamin Netanyahu, have advocated for the colonisation of Jordan as part of the Greater Israel project.<sup>97</sup>

In 2023, Ukrainian-Israeli Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich spoke at an event with a podium depicting a map of 'Greater Israel', which included all of Jordan as well as the entirety of historic Palestine.<sup>98</sup> In 2024, when asked if Israel's borders should extend to the other side of the Jordan River, he said, "Absolutely, but slowly".<sup>99</sup>

**“The acceptance of partition does not commit us to renounce Transjordan... We shall accept a state in the boundaries fixed today, but the boundaries of Zionist aspirations are the concern of the Jewish people.”**

**David Ben Gurion**

the Polish-born first Prime Minister of Israel, in a letter to his son prior to the colonial partition of Palestine.<sup>100</sup>



08

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# Israel's Destabilising of Iraq



# Israel's Destabilising of Iraq

Israel has repeatedly attempted to destabilise Iraq by supporting Iranian and US-led attacks against Iraq, attacking Iraq's nuclear reactor, and sowing internal division.<sup>101</sup>

## Destroying Iraq's Nuclear Reactor

In 1981, Israel bombed Iraq's Osirak nuclear reactor, intended to prevent Iraq from obtaining nuclear capability.<sup>102</sup>

Although it is unknown whether Iraq would have ever developed nuclear weapons, this bombardment enabled the later US-led attacks on Iraq in 1991 and 2003 by preventing Iraqi nuclear development, and strengthened Israel's position as the only nuclear power in the region, which was necessary for Israel's expansion and fulfilment of the Greater Israel project.<sup>103</sup>

## Iran-Iraq War

During the Iran-Iraq War, Israel sold weapons to Iran in hopes of weakening Iraq, which they perceived as a threat due to Saddam Hussein's anti-Israel stance. Israel was one of Iran's main supporters and suppliers of military equipment during the war, with Israeli arms sales to Iran amounting to around \$2 billion per year in the early 1980s.<sup>104</sup>

In 1983 alone, Iran purchased over \$100 million of arms from Israel, including spare parts for F-4s, overhauled jet engines, spare parts for M-48 tanks, and ammunition.<sup>105</sup>

## 2003 Iraq War

In the buildup to the 2003 invasion, Israel and Israeli lobby groups advocated for the invasion and manufactured false evidence of weapons of mass destruction to encourage the US-led attack – despite knowing no such weapons existed.<sup>106</sup>

Israeli intelligence and political figures such as Ariel Sharon played a significant part in persuading the Bush administration that Iraq posed an urgent threat due to WMDs.<sup>107</sup>

Jewish American neoconservatives in the U.S. administration with ties to Israel were key proponents of the 'pre-emptive' war strategy against Iraq, particularly those who were members of the Project for the New American Century (PNAC) – including senior officials in the George W. Bush administration Elliott Abram, Lewis Libby, Dick Cheney, Donald Rumsfeld, Paul Wolfowitz, and Paula Dobriansky.<sup>108</sup>

These neoconservatives subscribed to the 1996 'A Clean Break: A New Strategy for Securing the Realm' policy paper, which proposed strengthening Israel by destabilising its neighbours, including Iraq.<sup>109</sup> This paper advocated a radical departure from the "land for peace" diplomatic frameworks of the post-Oslo Accords era.<sup>109</sup> Instead, it proposed that Israel, operating with unconditional US backing, could achieve permanent security by aggressively reshaping Middle East order through military interventions.<sup>110</sup>

The strategy called for regime change, starting with the removal of Saddam Hussein in Iraq as a vital Israeli strategic objective, followed by containment, destabilisation and rollback of Syria, Iran and potentially Lebanon through strategic alliances with countries like Türkiye and Jordan.<sup>111</sup>

## Israel's Destabilising of Iraq continued...

### Internal Division

Israel has also attempted to sow division in Iraq by importing oil from the Kurdish region of Iraq and supporting Iraqi Kurdish groups.<sup>112</sup>

Since its inception, Israel has followed the 'alliance of the peripheries' strategy, conceived by its first Prime Minister David Ben Gurion, to strengthen Israel's ties with non-Arab Muslim states or groups in the region, in order to break the isolation of the Zionist state.<sup>113</sup>

Under this strategy, Israel has attempted to forge strong relations, in particular with Druze, Lebanese Christians, and Kurds in the region.<sup>114</sup>

In the 1960s, Israel sent Mossad advisors to support Iraqi Kurdish leader Mustafa Barzani, the father of the current President of Iraqi Kurdistan, Masoud Barzani.<sup>115</sup>

Mustafa Barzani also visited Israel twice during his time in office.<sup>116</sup>

The creation of an independent Kurdish state in the Middle East fits perfectly into Oded Yion's 1982 plan for the Middle East, which advocated for the destruction of the Arab World along ethnic and sectarian lines to strengthen Israel and expand its hegemony.<sup>117</sup>

In 2015, Israel imported 19 million barrels of oil from the Kurdish region of Iraq, worth over \$1 billion.<sup>118</sup>

In 2017, Israel imported 77 percent of its oil supplies from the Kurdish region of Iraq.<sup>119</sup>

**“I wish that, God willing, next year the land of Israel will all be ours. That we will continue to conquer it—and I mean the two banks of Jordan and south Lebanon. That we will get rid of the Arabs and deport them, at long last. That whoever needs to get the death penalty there, will.”**

**Ayala Nimrod**

wife of Kurdish-Israeli Minister of National Security Itamar Ben-Gvir and active member of the Temple Mount Movement.<sup>120</sup>



09

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# Western Media Bias

© France 24 via YouTube



**ISRAEL-HEZBOLLAH CONFLICT**  
**Israel seeking buffer zone since 1982**

Israel expands ground and air attacks in Lebanon  
השחדת הפקדה של חיזבאללה  
THESE GOVERNMENTS TO UNSC



09

# Western Media Bias

## Framing occupation as 'buffer zones'

Western media outlets have continued to portray Israeli occupation areas as 'buffer zones' or defensive frontiers, legitimising the illegal colonisation of Arab land under false pretences of security.

**B B C NEWS**

**Israel says it will take control of large  
buffer zone in southern Lebanon**

**The  
Guardian**

**Israel says it is expanding 'buffer zone'  
in Lebanon – as it happened**

**WSJ | OPINION**

**Israel Launches Risky Offensive to  
Carve Out Buffer Zone in Lebanon**

## Western Media Bias continued...

The Guardian

Israel says it will seize parts of southern Lebanon as ‘defensive buffer’

BBC NEWS

**New images show Israeli control line deeper into Gaza than expected**

FT FINANCIAL TIMES

**Israel insists on keeping troops in Gaza buffer zones after any peace**

FRANCE 24

**Netanyahu visits Israeli troops inside Syrian buffer zone as tensions rise**

## **Western Media Bias continued...**



**INDEPENDENT**

**Israeli military raids in Syria raise tensions as they carve out a buffer zone**



**The National**

**Israel unswayed by US peace efforts as it pursues expanded Syria buffer zone**



**Fears as Israel expands Gaza buffer zone**

**AP**

**Why Israel is expanding its frontiers into Gaza, Lebanon and Syria**

**“We are here on a mission for generations. There are generations of Jews who dreamed that we would get here, and there are generations of Jews who will come after us. So you ask if I feel I am on a mission, historically and spiritually, and the answer is yes.”**

**Interviewer:**

Do you connect with the vision of Greater Israel?

**“Very much.”**

**Benjamin Netanyahu (Mileikowsky)**

wanted war criminal and Polish-Israeli Prime Minister.<sup>121</sup>



# Endnotes

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