



## Press Release

27 April, 2021  
Canberra, Australia

### Israeli violations against Palestinians in occupied East Jerusalem

On 14 April 2021, UN Special Rapporteurs warned that Israeli settler violence has dramatically increased in recent months, with no appropriate measures being taken by Israeli occupation forces: "We are deeply worried by the atmosphere of impunity in which these attacks are taking place. In many cases, the Israeli military has been present, or nearby, and has not taken sufficient steps to protect the Palestinians from this violence." Undoubtedly, this is a very dangerous development. There has also been a recent increase in attacks by Occupation Forces, who regularly use excessive lethal force against unarmed Palestinian civilians, including children.

The ongoing incitement campaign by Jewish extremist groups involves violent nightly marches through the city of Jerusalem, with extremists chanting such threatening slogans as, "Death to Arabs". So far, 140 Palestinians have been injured and 100 have been arrested.

Religious sites have been increasingly targeted by extremist settler violence since the beginning of the holy month of Ramadan, with settlers preventing Palestinian worshippers from accessing Al-Haram Al-Sharif and Al-Aqsa Mosque. It is of deep concern that settler violence has been so emboldened by Israel's many extremist politicians who incite violent hatred against an entire population, and the rhetoric of occupation which fosters a culture of impunity and supremacy.

The eviction campaigns against Palestinian families living in East Jerusalem is ongoing and increasing in intensity. An ethnic cleansing of Palestinian Jerusalemites from the city is being undertaken by Israel in order to ensure a Jewish majority in Jerusalem. Israel's policy of displacement through home demolitions and seizures is part of this ethnic cleansing effort, as is the illegal transfer of Jewish settlers to East Jerusalem.

It is also worth mentioning that as of yet, Israel has not responded to a request by the European Union for a delegation of observers to help monitor the upcoming Palestinian elections, and has not yet responded to a letter from Palestinian leadership calling to allow Palestinians in East Jerusalem to vote and participate effectively in the election process. Israel has also taken measures to disrupt the election process in Palestine, including preventing election-related meetings in East Jerusalem from taking place and arresting candidates (three have been detained so far).

The General Delegation of Palestine to Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific kindly urges the Australian, New Zealand and Pacific governments to uphold their support to International Law and Democracy by condemning Israel's neglect of the Palestinian people living under its occupation, and the eviction and demolition campaigns ongoing in East Jerusalem which constitute ethnic cleansing and a crime against humanity.

For more information, please contact the General Delegation of Palestine to Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific: ph. (02) 6286 9193.

