

Committee: Security council

Topic: The question of the situation in Israel and Gaza

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Introduction

The ongoing conflict between Israel and the Palestinian territories of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank continues to be a complex and continuous issue on a global scale, with heavy shelling and airstrikes destroying large parts of the Gaza Strip, since the war broke down. The incident began on October 7, 2023, when Hamas-led militant groups launched an unprecedented attack on Israel from Gaza - resulting in one of Israel's deadliest days since the country gained its independence.

The conflict between Israel and the Gaza Strip has become an unbounded challenge throughout the international community, marked by its recurring violence, proceeding humanitarian challenges, and irremovable political discontent. The friction has faced various escalations, with hostile attacks from side to side, resulting in significant civilian casualties and the region's devastation. Since the beginning of the war, at least 29,145 people have been killed and 90,257 injured in the war on Gaza, conforming to an official death toll dealing with the Israel-Palestine war. In specific, Israel's ground offensive in Gaza has killed more than 35,000 Palestinians, mostly civilians, and over 2.3 million people were displaced from their homes, according to the Palestinian health authorities. Israeli citizens from the Hamas led attacks, on the other hand, are reported to have 1,139 deaths with dozens of people still held captive in the Gaza Strip.

In Gaza, hospitals and other health facilities have been constantly under attack, leaving many not functioning. Food, water, and medicines are scarce. People are trying to survive in extremely dire circumstances. According to the medical aid agencies, the medical situation in Gaza's hospitals has reached an unimaginable state of crisis in which large open wounds are being left untreated, and medical staff are facing chronic shortages of even the most basic medical supplies, including the surgical gauze and materials to pin fractures. As the war continues, the hospitals located within Gaza

are facing difficulties with medical support whereas more and more injured people are in need of the care of the medical staff. Another issue related to Gaza's hospitals is that the Israeli forces are continuing to assault Gaza hospitals, including the most recent attack on the al-Shifa hospital in Gaza City, which has been the focus of recent heavy clashes after the Israeli forces said Hamas had tried to entrench itself in the hospital buildings.

Furthermore, the situation in Gaza presents a complex and urgent humanitarian crisis, marked by significant challenges in the delivery process and the distribution of aid. With a population of over 2 million people living in one of the most densely populated areas in the world, the region of Gaza faces severe shortages of essential resources including the medical supply as mentioned above, as well as food, water, electricity, and many more aspects. The ongoing conflict between Israel and Palestine, composed of recurring hostilities, has exacerbated the region of Gaza's humanitarian needs. Despite the efforts of international organizations to provide aid, access to Gaza is frequently limited due to security concerns and other traits, making it difficult to reach people in need. The volatile situation, coupled with the destruction of the infrastructure, altogether stands to reason for the ineffective delivery of humanitarian assistance. Thus, this report has the intention of exploring the means the conflict could be ceased or even alleviated within multifaceted challenges that we are currently undergoing.

Definition of Key Terms

Gaza Strip

The Gaza Strip is a narrow piece of land between Israel and Egypt, located on the eastern coast of the Mediterranean Sea, northeast of the Sinai Peninsula. More than 2 million people live in the 140 square mile enclave, making the place one of the most densely populated places on earth.



Picture illustrating the specific location of the Gaza Strip, along the eastern coast of the Mediterranean ocean

Hamas

Hamas (Islamic Resistance Movement), or Harakat al-Muqawama al-Islamiya, refers to the largest and most capable militant group in the Palestinian territories and one of the territories' two major political parties, governing parts of the occupied Gaza Strip.

Gulf Arab States

Gulf Arab state indicates the group of Arab nations situated around the Persian Gulf, consisting of seven member states of the Arab League: Bahrain, Iraq, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE (United Arab Emirates).

Humanitarian Crisis

A humanitarian crisis (or humanitarian disaster) is defined as a singular event or a series of events that are threatening in terms of health, safety or well-being of a community or large group of people. It may be an internal or external conflict and usually occurs throughout a large land area. Local, national and international responses are necessary in such events.

Civilian Casualties

Civilian casualties occur when a civilian is killed or injured by non-civilians, mostly law enforcement officers, military personnel, rebel group forces, or terrorists. Under the law of war, it refers to civilians who perish or suffer wounds as a result of wartime effects.

Blockade

A blockade is the isolation by a warring nation of an enemy area, such as a harbor, by troops or warships to prevent the passage of persons or supplies from a particular location.

Self-Governance

The term Self-Governance refers to the ability of a person or group to exercise all necessary functions of regulation without intervention from an external authority. In the context of nation-states, self-governance is called national sovereignty, which is an important concept in international law. In the context of administrative division, a self-governing territory is called an autonomous region.

Intifada

The word “intifada” is an Arabic term that means rebellion or uprising, or resistance movement. It can be used to refer to an uprising against oppression. In English-language usage, the word primarily refers to Palestinian uprisings against Israeli occupation.

Massacre

The term massacre refers to an event of killing people who are not engaged in hostilities or are defenseless. The word is generally used to describe a targeted killing of civilians en masse by an armed group or person.

Jerusalem

Jerusalem is a city in the Southern Levant, between the Mediterranean and the Dead Sea. It is one of the oldest cities in the world and is considered holy to the three major Abrahamic religions—Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Both the state of Israel and Palestine claim Jerusalem as their capital city. Israel maintains its primary governmental institutions in Jerusalem, and Palestine ultimately foresees the location as its seat of government. Yet, neither claim is widely recognized internationally.



Picture illustrating the specific location of Jerusalem

Background Information

Historical Background of Israel-Palestine conflict:

Israel fought three wars in the Egyptian-administered Gaza Strip: the 1948 Palestine War, the first occupation of Gaza during the Suez Crisis, and the capture of Gaza in 1967. During the first occupation, 1% of the Gaza Strip's population was either killed, tortured or imprisoned by Israel. Following two periods of low-level insurgencies, a major conflict between Israelis and Palestinians erupted in the First Intifada. The 1993 Oslo Accords brought a period of calm. But, in 2000 the Second Intifada erupted. Towards the end of the Second Intifada, Israel disengaged from Gaza in 2005, Hamas won the 2006 election, and seized control of Gaza in 2007.

- 1948 Palestine War:

The 1948 Palestine war was fought in the territory of what had been the domains of Palestine. During the war, the British Withdrew from Palestine, the Zionist forces conquered territory and established the state of Israel, and over 700,000 Palestinians fled or were expelled. The war was initiated when the five Arab nations invaded territory in the former Palestinian mandate immediately following the announcement of the independence of the state of Israel on May 14, 1948. In 1947, the United states had offered the recognition of the Israeli Provisional government, but during the war, the United States maintained an arms against all belligerents.

- Suez Crisis:

The Suez Crisis also known as the Second Arab–Israeli War, is an international crisis in the Middle East, precipitated on July 26, 1956, when the Egyptian president, Gamal Abdel Nasser, nationalised the Suez canal. The canal had been owned by the Suez Canal company, which was controlled by French and British interests.

- The first intifada:

The proximate causes of the first intifada were intensified Israeli land expropriation and settlement construction in the West Bank and Gaza strip after the victory of the right-wing Likud party in 1977; increasing Israeli repression in response to heightened Palestinian protests following the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1982. The emergence of a new cadre of local Palestinian activists who challenged the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), a process aided by Israel's stepped-up attempts to curb political activism and break the PLO's ties to the occupied territories in the early 1980s; and, in reaction to the invasion of Lebanon, the emergence of a strong peace camp on the Israeli side, which many Palestinians thought provided a basis for change in Israeli policy. With motivation, means, and perceived opportunity in place, only a precipitant was required to start an uprising. This occurred in December 1987 when an Israeli vehicle struck two vans carrying Palestinian workers, killing four of them, an event that was perceived by Palestinians as an act of revenge for the death by stabbing of an Israeli in Gaza a few days earlier. Just as the PLO turned to pragmatism, however, a new organization, Hamas, headed in the opposite direction, articulating a vision of an Islamic state in all of historical Palestine. Hamas rejected the Oslo Accords, and in a move to scuttle peace talks, initiated a series of suicide attacks against Israeli targets. Meanwhile, Israel continued to build settlements in the occupied territories, and the Palestinians imported arms and built up their security forces, in violation of the terms of the Oslo Accords. As a result, talks broke down in 2000 in a wave of frustration and mutual recrimination. Shortly afterwards, Likud's prime ministerial candidate, Ariel Sharon, visited the Temple Mount in Jerusalem as an assertion of Israel's sovereignty over Al-Aqsa Mosque, Islam's third holiest site. Rioting broke out, Israeli police responded with lethal force, and unrest quickly spread throughout the occupied territories. The second intifada had begun.

- The Second intifada:

The second intifada was much more violent than the first. During the approximately five-year uprising, more than 4,300 fatalities were registered, and again the ratio of Palestinian to Israeli deaths was slightly more than 3 to 1. In March 2002, following an especially horrific suicide bombing that killed 30 people, the Israeli army launched Operation Defensive Shield to reoccupy the West Bank and parts of Gaza. One year later Israel started building a separation barrier in the West Bank to match a similar barrier erected in Gaza in 1996. Also helping to suppress the uprising were more than 200 state-directed assassinations of Palestinian military operatives and political leaders. Although the violence had nearly subsided by the end of 2005, the conditions causing it had in some respects worsened. Israeli

settlement activity in the West Bank continued, and tight controls were placed on the movement of Palestinian goods and people, stifling economic growth. Negotiations were at a standstill. In addition, the Palestinian Authority lost support amid charges of widespread corruption. Many Palestinians now turned to Hamas, which won the 2006 legislative elections and took power by force in Gaza in 2007.

In 2007, Israel imposed a land, air, and sea blockade of the Gaza Strip, turning it into an "open-air prison". The blockade was widely condemned as a form of collective punishment, while Israel defended it as necessary to stop Palestinian rocket attacks. Hamas considered it a declaration of war. A 2008–2009 Israeli invasion of Gaza resulted in more than 1,000 deaths and widespread destruction of homes, schools and hospitals. A 2012 Israeli operation also killed more than 100 people.

In 2014, Israel invaded Gaza in a major war that resulted in the deaths of 73 Israeli soldiers and 2,251 Palestinians (mostly civilians). The invasion resulted in damaging 25% of homes in Gaza City and 70% of homes in Beit Hanoun. After 2014, notable events in the conflict included the "Great March of Return" (2018–2019) and clashes in November 2018, May 2019 and November 2019. The 2021 crisis saw 256 Palestinians and 15 Israelis killed.

On 7 October 2023, Palestinian militants attacked Israel, killing 1,143 people, who were mostly civilians, and beginning the Israel–Hamas war. Israel responded by bombing the Gaza Strip and launching an invasion that has killed more than 34,000 Gazans.

Major Historical Background of Israel

- Israel's war of independence:

Israel declared its independence on May 14, 1948. The act of independence was triggered by the invasion of the surrounding Arab nations, including the Arab states, Egypt, Jordan, Syria, Iraq, and Lebanon, yet ended with Israel's survival. The event has the significance of being the initial of the construction of the Nation Israel, with its power of successfully defending itself from the invasion from the neighboring Arab countries. After the declaration, Israel gained worldwide recognition from various countries, which also incorporated the United States and the Soviet Union, which were two of the most influential parties at that time. This acceptance lent Israel international support and legitimacy. It also marked the beginning of the

Arab-Israeli conflict and resulted in the displacement of an estimated 700,000-800,000 Palestinian Arabs to many surrounding Arab Nations.

The view of Israel is set in the present War in Gaza as it has been guided by their decades-old questions of security and defense of its citizens, particularly after the October 7, 2023, attack from Hamas that killed over 1,000 Israelis and abducted many more. The unprecedented nature of the attack left Israel feeling far more vulnerable than before, which then provoked a robust military strike to destroy Hamas infrastructures in Gaza through airstrikes, artillery shelling, and a ground offensive under "Operation Iron Swords." Israel views these activities as necessary for forestalling further attacks and protecting its population, even as it receives international condemnation for the high level of civilian casualties in Gaza. This has killed more than 8,000 Palestinians and wounded scores of thousands more when Israeli attacks hit Hamas' military targets, which the Israelis say are deliberately placed in most densely packed parts of the territory. While Israel has gotten backing from allies, such as the United States, which says the nation has a right to defend itself, there is also pressure from the international community to de-escalate and address the acute humanitarian crisis in Gaza. Both sides in the war have seen devastating losses, with thousands injured and killed, underlining long-seething hostility and complex security concerns that make it very hard to find any way out of this conflict.

As of September 2024, the Israel-Gaza conflict remains intense and deadly, with significant military actions continuing on both sides. Starting from the beginning of the Hamas-Israeli conflict on October 7, 2023, following a massive and deadly attack by Hamas on Israel, the conflict has escalated into one of the deadliest in the region's history. The death toll in Gaza has reportedly exceeded 39,000, with tens of thousands more injured, though these figures are heavily disputed and vary depending on the source. The Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) have conducted extensive military operations, including airstrikes and ground offensives, targeting Hamas infrastructure, which Israel claims is embedded within civilian areas. This has led to widespread destruction, with approximately 80% of buildings in Gaza damaged or destroyed, and around 90% of the population displaced.

The humanitarian situation in Gaza is dire, with severe shortages of food, water, and medical supplies. The conflict has also taken a heavy toll on journalists, with at least 116 media workers killed while covering the war. Meanwhile, Israel continues to face rocket attacks from Gaza and the broader threat of regional escalation, which has kept the conflict at the forefront of global attention. Despite international calls for ceasefires and negotiations, both sides remain entrenched in their positions, making the prospect of peace seem distant.

Previous Attempts to Solve the Issue:

- The Oslo Accords

The Oslo Accords are a pair of interim agreements between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) that took place on September 13, 1993. During the negotiation, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and PLO's negotiator Mahmoud Abbas signed a declaration of principles on Self-Govern agreements, commonly known as the "Oslo Accords" at the white house.

Among the notable outcomes of the negotiation was the creation of the Palestinian National Authority, while Israel recognized the PLO as the representative of the Palestinian people. The PLO renounced terrorism and acknowledge Israel's right to a peaceful existence. The Oslo Accords provided limited self-govern over parts of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip over a five-year transition period, with both parties agreeing to the establishment of the Palestinian Authority(PA). This marked international recognition of the PLO as Israel's partner in ongoing talks to resolve issues related to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The talks focused on key issues such as the future borders between Israel and Palestine and a potential Palestinian State, Israeli settlements, the status of Jerusalem, refugees, and Israel's security control after Palestinian autonomy. However, the Oslo Accords did not Establish a clear Palestinian state.

With active participation from both parties within the negotiation, it has been a cycle of negotiations, suspension, mediation, restart of the negotiations, and suspensions all over again. Although a number of agreements were reached, the Oslo process ended after the failure of the Camp David Summit in 2000.

- 2000 Camp David summit

The 2000 Camp David Summit was a summit at Camp David between United States President Bill Clinton, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak and the Palestinian authority chairman Yasser Arafat. The summit took place between 11 and 25 July and was an effort to end the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. However, the summit ended without an agreement, largely due to irreconcilable differences between Israelis and Palestinians on the status of Jerusalem. Its failure was considered one of the main triggers of the Second Intifada.

- Arab peace initiative

The Arab peace initiative, also known as the Saudi initiative, is a 10-sentence proposal for an end to the Arab–Israeli conflict that was endorsed by the Arab League in 2002. The initiative offers normalization of relations by the Arab region with Israel, in return for a complete withdrawal of the Israeli army from the previously occupied territories by Israel, including the West Bank, Gaza, the Golan Heights, and Lebanon.

To specify, the Palestinian authority led by Yasser Arafat immediately embraced the Arab initiative. His successor Mahmoud Abbas also supported the plan and officially requested the United States President Barack Obama to adopt the initiative as part of the Middle East policy. Initial reports show that the Islamist political party Hamas, the elected government of the Gaza Strip, was deeply divided, but later had accepted the peace initiative. On the other side, the Israeli government under Ariel Sharon rejected the Arab initiative because the initiative required Israel to withdraw to pre-June borders. In 2015, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu expressed his support towards the Arab initiative. But in 2018, he rejected the proposal as a basis for future negotiations with the Palestinians.

- Support from Surrounding Countries - Qatar and Egypt

Both Qatar and Egypt have played a pivotal role as mediators in the recent conflict, facilitating a seven day ceasefire agreement. During this period, negotiations brokered by these countries led to the exchange of hostages held by Hamas for prisoners detained by Israel. Furthermore, the ceasefire allowed for increased humanitarian aid to be delivered to Gaza, addressing urgent humanitarian needs in the region. Qatar and Egypt's diplomatic efforts underscore their commitment to promoting stability and facilitating negotiations between the conflicting parties, with the aim of alleviating tensions and advancing prospects for a lasting peace settlement.

Possible solutions

Negotiation of Ceasefire between associated countries within the Gaza conflict

Negotiation of a ceasefire could be proposed between Israel and Hamas as they resolve the conflict by agreeing to mutual compliance. The terms of the agreement could be related to the territorial agreement, the exchange of hostages, humanitarian aid, and the consideration of the safety of both parties, Israel and Palestine. A ceasefire negotiation would set its goals towards hampering the impact of the conflict on the livelihoods of civilians involved in the conflict. This would be due to the current situation of producing a myriad of innocent civilians who are injured or may even be dead. With intense negotiations between the two groups, it would create more of a humane world with people living in harmony, with the current conflict state being relieved. Even Though the 2 major parties involved may demand terms and conditions that are more favorable towards themselves while negotiating for a ceasefire, the individual benefits should be put aside for a while as both parties must consider the impact on humanity in general.

Humanitarian Aid

Humanitarian aid could be provided by the international community to the conflict zone between Israel and Hamas. These humanitarian aids could manifest through food rationing, rebuilding infrastructure, supplying necessary healthcare, providing refugee camps for the people, provision of education, and other humanitarian factors that would meet the basic needs of survival for the civilians included in the Israel-Palestine conflict.

Additionally, the international community could establish safe zones or corridors to facilitate the safe delivery of humanitarian and the evacuation of vulnerable civilians. Long-term solutions might involve coordinated efforts to rebuild the conflict region's economy, promote negotiations between the conflicting parties, and ensure that aid reaches those who need it the most, without being obstructed by any hindrances. These efforts could work as a key to alleviate immediate suffering and make the foundation for a more sustainable and peaceful resolution to the Gaza conflict.

Regional and International Cooperation

The regional cooperation involves enhancing collaboration among the neighboring Arab states to address the Israel-Palestine conflict and foster stability in the region. By working together, these nations can leverage their influence and resources to facilitate negotiations, promote dialogue between Israelis and Palestinians, and contribute to the establishment of a lasting peace. International cooperation also plays a crucial role in supporting regional efforts, with involvement from global organizations and other relevant actors. The international community can complement regional endeavors and help create an environment conducive to resolving the conflict and fostering border regional stability.

International Legal Frameworks - Human rights

International Legal Frameworks such as the International Criminal Court (ICC) provide avenues to hold individuals accountable for human rights abuses and violations of international humanitarian law committed during the Israel-Palestine conflict. Through investigations and trials, the ICC can prosecute perpetrators of grave violations, including unlawful killings and attacks on civilians. Utilizing these frameworks, delivers a strong moral against impunity for atrocities, promoting justice and deterrence. Supporting international legal frameworks reaffirms the commitment to upholding fundamental principles of accountability and contributing to lasting peace in the region.

Major parties involved

The State of Israel

The state of Israel has been one of the two major groups involved in the Gaza conflict, playing a pivotal role in resolving the conflict with the Palestinians. Israel, officially the state of Israel, is a country that shares its borders with the West Bank to the east, and the Gaza Strip to the west. The ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict remains a central issue with the country, influencing Israel's relations with its neighboring countries and the other countries included in the conflict as a whole. The current war on Gaza Strip is also giving impact to the broader international community. In recent years, Israel has made strides in diplomacy, particularly through the Abraham Accords, which have opened a new stage for cooperation with several Arab states. Yet, this relation with surrounding countries may alter with every decision the state of Israel makes corresponding to its future and the results of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

The Palestine Liberation Organization

The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) is a Palestinian nationalist coalition that is internationally recognized as the official representative of the Palestinian people. It also runs the Palestinian National Authority (PA), which is responsible for governing the Palestinian territories until an agreement is reached with Israel. The PLO also engages in peace negotiations on behalf of the Palestinians, but its ability to implement agreements had been hindered in the past due to strained relations with Hamas.

United States of America

U.S. President Joe Biden has reiterated U.S. backing for a two-state resolution, advocating for the establishment of independent Israeli and Palestinian states with borders akin to those prior to the 1967 war. This encompasses territories such as the Gaza Strip, the West Bank, and portions of East Jerusalem. While it has consistently backed a two-state resolution, the U.S. has typically refrained from endorsing Palestinian initiatives for statehood at the United Nations, contending that such determinations should be reached exclusively through negotiations with Israel.

People's Republic of China

The former China Foreign Minister informed the foreign ministers of Israel and Palestine that China was prepared to assist in facilitating peace talks. Beijing, the capital of China, expressed serious concerns regarding the escalation of conflict and emphasized the need for peace. China maintains support for a two-state solution to the Israel-Palestine conflict, predicated on pre-1967 borders and with East Jerusalem designated as the capital of an independent Palestinian state. Additionally, China has advocated for international development aid to benefit Palestinians.

The Russian Federation

Russia maintains strong relations with Israel while also engaging diplomatically with Hamas without labeling it as a terrorist organization, and has responded cautiously to this unprecedented crisis with measured discretion. A key aspect of Russia's strategy regarding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is to uphold a balanced approach and maintain constructive relations with all parties involved. Ultimately, Russia aims to stabilize the situation in Israel-Palestine and prevent additional violence. It advocates for the implementation of a ceasefire and is advocating for a United Nations Security Council resolution that would compel the involved parties to adhere to it. In an effort to utilize its relationships with Israel and Hamas, Russia has also proposed mediating between the two sides.

French Republic République française

France advocates for a two-state solution, with Israel and Palestine existing peacefully together without having a war. France has condemned violence from both sides, calling for an immediate ceasefire during escalations. It supports Israel's right to security but also emphasizes the need to address the humanitarian situation in Gaza. In addition, France is an influential player in European diplomacy and has often participated in international efforts to mediate the conflict that is currently situated in the Gaza Strip. It has provided humanitarian aid to Gaza and called for an end to the blockade. France's stance reflects its broader commitment to human rights and international law, but it also navigates complex relations with both Israel and the broader Arab world.

The State of Qatar

Qatar is renowned for its mediation endeavors in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and its continuous support for Gaza, which has endured a 16-year Israeli blockade. Doha played a role in facilitating the release of four Israeli hostages held by Palestinian militants. It also assisted in negotiating - in

collaboration with various countries - the safe departure of foreigners stranded in Gaza through the territory's borders crossing with Egypt. Furthermore, Qatar has provided assistance to Gaza by supplying construction materials following the destruction caused by previous Israeli conflicts. Additionally, it has contributed funds to support United Nations food distribution programs, benefiting some of Gaza's most impoverished families.

The Republic of India

India maintains a balance in its approach to the Gaza situation. Historically, India has supported the Palestinians and has consistently called for a two-state solution. However, recently, India has strengthened its relations with Israel, particularly in areas like defense and technology. India's position reflects its broader foreign policy strategy of maintaining strong ties with both Israel and Arab countries. While continuing to support Palestinian statehood in principle, India avoids taking sides in the conflict and emphasizes dialogue and diplomacy as the means to achieve peace. India's growing relationship with Israel has led to a more nuanced and less vocal stance on the Gaza situation compared to the past.

The Republic of Turkey

The Republic of Turkey has a strong criticism of Israel's policies in Gaza and is a vocal supporter of Palestinian rights. Turkey has condemned Israel's military actions and provided several humanitarian aid to the area of Gaza. The current situation Turkey has been facing is that the country's stance on Gaza has strained its relations with Israel and moved towards supporting the people and the government of Palestine. Turkey aims to enhance its influence in the Muslim world through its support for Palestine.

Federal Republic of Germany

Germany is a strong ally of Israel, committed to Israel's security due to historical reasons related to the Holocaust. Germany supports Israel's right to defend itself against attacks, including those from Gaza. However, Germany also advocates for a two-state solution and has expressed concern about the humanitarian situation in Gaza. Germany plays a role in European and international diplomacy regarding the Israel-Palestine conflict. It has provided humanitarian aid to Gaza and has urged both sides to return to peace negotiations. While Germany's strong support for Israel is unwavering, it also

engages in efforts to mediate and support peace initiatives, balancing its historical responsibility with a commitment to human rights and international stability.

The Arab Republic of Egypt

Cairo has historically served as a mediator between Israel and Palestinian factions during prior conflicts. The Egyptian Minister urged for an immediate cessation of hostilities in the Gaza Strip and emphasized the importance of permitting adequate humanitarian assistance to address the needs of the territory's inhabitants. Additionally, he called upon influential international actors, including the United States, to fulfill their obligations in restraining Israel's actions in Gaza and emphasized the importance of holding those responsible accountable.

The Arab League

The Arab League is the regional organization in the Arab world, consisting of 22 members. The objectives of the League are to enhance and synchronize the political, cultural, economic, and social initiatives of its member states. As well as to facilitate resolution of conflicts among them with external parties through mediation. The Arab League has been making concerted efforts to issue and adopt a resolution to halt a deadly Israeli military campaign in the Gaza Strip. The Arab League also urged Israel to cease its aggression against the Palestinians, withdraw from the Gaza Strip, lift the siege, and halt its initiatives at forced displacements.

Timeline Of Events

Date	Description of event
1897	<u>First Zionist Congress</u> The Zoinist movement, founded by Theodor Herzl, published an idea called the “Jewish State”. The idea calls for the establishment of a new nation to protect Jewish people from prejudice and racism.
1917	<u>The Balfour Declaration</u> The Bafour declaration was established as it was issued by UK Foreign Secretary Arthur James Balfour. The declaration promised the aid of the establishment of a Jewish home in the region of Palestine.
1947	<u>UN Resolution 181</u> The United Nations Partition Plan was established as they have called for a resolution for the division of Palestine into Jewish and Arab states with the holy city of Jerusalem under the control of the UN.
1948	<u>Israel’s War of Independence</u> Israel declared its independence however this sparked conflicts between the Arab and Jewish groups. The Arab-Israeli war started when neighboring countries such as Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon and Saudi Arabia invaded the territory that formerly belonged to Palestine.
1956	<u>Suez Crisis(Sinai War)</u> Israel, along with Britain and France, invaded Egypt in response to Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser's nationalization of the Suez Canal. International pressure, including from the United States and the Soviet Union, forced the withdrawal of the invading forces.
1967	<u>Six-Day War</u> The six-day war began in 1967 when Israel attacked Egyptian and Syrian air forces as Egypt mobilized troops near the Sinai Peninsula border near Israel and imposed a shipping blockade in the Red Sea.
1990s	<u>First Intifada</u> The first intifada, which means “shaking off” in Arabic, referred to hundreds of thousands of Palestinians who rose up against the Israeli government as they protested their discontentment and frustration.
2000	<u>Second Intifada</u> The start of the second intifada was motivated by the Israel opposition leader, Ariel Sharon, visiting the Al Aqsa mosque in east Jerusalem, which was considered to be Islam's 3rd holiest site. The protest and anger were considered to be more violent than the first intifada.
2006	Hamas, a political party in Palestine and considered a terrorist organization by the Western governments, won the parliamentary elections in 2006 as they defeated the previous party Fatah. Hamas has called for a total annihilation of Israel as one of their main political goals.
2014	<u>Operation Protective edge</u> During the summer of 2014, tensions began to flare between Hamas and the Israeli military. The conflict led to thousands of rockets being fired into Israel and an Israeli counter-offensive into the Gaza region.

2021	<p><u>May Conflict in Gaza</u></p> <p>In May of 2021, hundreds of Palestinians were wounded as they clashed with the Israeli army in the AL AQsa mosque. This is caused by the Israeli government's movement in the conviction of Palestinian families living in the East Jerusalem Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood.</p>
2023	<p><u>October 7 Hamas Massacre</u></p> <p>Hamas launched a surprise attack on Israel during October which resulted in a series of rocket strikes and a ground invasion of Israel as militants breached the security fence between Gaza and Israel. Hamas fighters gunned down civilians and rampaged through an Israeli music festival. This marks the deadliest day in Israel history after the country's independence. Israel responded with a series of missiles and a counter offensive on Gaza which resulted in the killing of thousands of civilians.</p>

UN Involvement, Resolutions, Treaties and Events

Resolution 181(1947)

Resolution 181 addresses the division between Arab and Jewish states in the Palestine region with Jerusalem having an international status controlled by the United Nations. This resolution had the meaning of leading to the establishment of Israel but was met with rejection by Arab states, triggering the Arab-Israeli war of 1948-1949.

Resolution 194 (1948)

Resolution 194 establishes the protection of and free access to Jerusalem and other holy places during the end of the Israel and Palestine war.

Resolution 2252 (1967)

Resolution 2252 calls for urgent needs of humanitarian aid due to the 6-day war between Israel and the neighboring countries.

Resolution ES-10/21 (2023)

The resolution ES-10/21 calls for immediate and sustained humanitarian aid and condemns all acts of violence against the Israeli and Palestinian people.

Resolution ES-10/22

The resolution ES-10/22 calls for an immediate ceasefire between both parties in the Israel-Hamas war, and also calls for the immediate and unconditional hostage release and ensures that all parties comply with international law.

United Nations World Health Organization(WHO)

The United Nations World Health Organization (WHO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations that is concerned with international public health. The organization has extended assistance to health authorities in both Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory. It is actively procuring medical supplies locally to meet demand and preparing additional supplies from its Global Medical Logistic Hub in Dubai, UAE. The organization is deeply concerned about the health and well-being of hostages, including elderly civilians, who were abducted by Hamas during attacks on October 7th. Urgent attention is needed to address the health and medical needs of hostages, and WHO calls for their safe release.

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