



# General Assembly Security Council

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**General Assembly**  
**Tenth emergency special session**  
Agenda item 5

**Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and  
the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory**

**Security Council**  
**Seventy-fourth year**

## **Identical letters dated 8 August 2019 from the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council**

In our second letter in less than a week, we are compelled to write to you to place on record our unequivocal condemnation of Israel's continued building and expansion of illegal settlements in the Occupied State of Palestine, including East Jerusalem. With its continued colonization of confiscated and stolen Palestinian land, Israel, the occupying Power, is sending a clear message that it is determined to continue to arrogantly and aggressively defy the will of the international community, violate international law, including international criminal law as articulated in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and defy the resolutions of the United Nations, including Security Council resolutions. We regret to reiterate that continued international inaction has clearly emboldened Israel's defiance and intransigence.

In this regard, over the past couple of days, Israel, the occupying Power, has advanced more than 2,300 settlement units in the Occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem, in continuation of its destructive, voracious and never-ending colonization campaign. It should be noted that this latest provocative announcement comes on the heels of last week's declaration by the occupying Power of plans to construct an additional 6,000 settlement units throughout the Occupied West Bank. With these latest illegal Israeli annexation schemes, the population of illegal settlers continues to grow, as does the number of violent and criminal attacks perpetrated by settlers against Palestinian civilians, which continue to be carried out under the watchful gaze of the Israeli occupying forces.

Such announcements and the actual advancement of these plans by the occupying Power are being made in grave breach of international law, in direct violation of relevant United Nations resolutions and in deliberate contempt for the international community. In this regard, we wish to recall the statement made about this latest announcement yesterday, Wednesday, 7 August 2019, by the Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Nickolay Mladenov, in which he stated: "The expansion of settlements has no legal effect and constitutes a flagrant



violation of international law. By advancing the effective annexation of the West Bank, it undermines the chances for establishing a Palestinian State based on relevant UN resolutions, as part of a negotiated two-State solution. It must cease immediately and completely.” It is clear from its continuing actions and policies that Israel has no reservations about blatantly disrespecting world opinion or international law, as it continues its expansion and building of illegal settlements throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem.

The responsibilities of the international community are clear, and it is more urgent than ever to uphold the law and hold Israel to account for its breaches. We call on the Security Council, in particular, to shoulder its responsibilities and act forthwith to uphold its resolutions, including resolution [2334 \(2016\)](#), with a view to bringing a halt to the occupying Power’s crimes, including its colonization and attempts at annexation of the Palestinian land, and salvaging the possibility for a just and peaceful solution to this conflict.

This letter is in follow-up to our 671 letters regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which constitutes the territory of the State of Palestine. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 ([A/55/432-S/2000/921](#)) to 2 August 2019 ([A/ES-10/823-S/2019/626](#)), constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, acts of State terrorism and systematic human rights violations being committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **Riyad Mansour**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine  
to the United Nations