

SUMMARY OF ISRAELI ROAD MAP VIOLATIONS SINCE ANNAPOLIS

28 November 2007 - 27 November 2008

Since the parties renewed their respective commitments under the Road Map at the Annapolis Conference on 27 November 2007, Israel has failed to implement any of its Road Map obligations. Following is a summary of Israeli Road Map violations in the year since Annapolis, during which many serious Israeli violations took place with respect to: (1) settlement activity, (2) attacks against Palestinians and their property, (3) internal closures, (4) Jerusalem institutions, and (5) other Road Map obligations.

I. SETTLEMENT ACTIVITY

Obligation: “Consistent with the Mitchell Report, [Government of Israel] freezes all settlement activity (including natural growth of settlements).”

Status: Far from being “frozen”, Israeli settlement activity throughout the West Bank increased dramatically in the year since Annapolis in virtually all areas—from planning to authorization to construction—particularly in and around East Jerusalem.

A. Settlement Construction

Settlement construction, including both housing and infrastructure, continued at an accelerated pace throughout the West Bank, particularly in and around East Jerusalem.

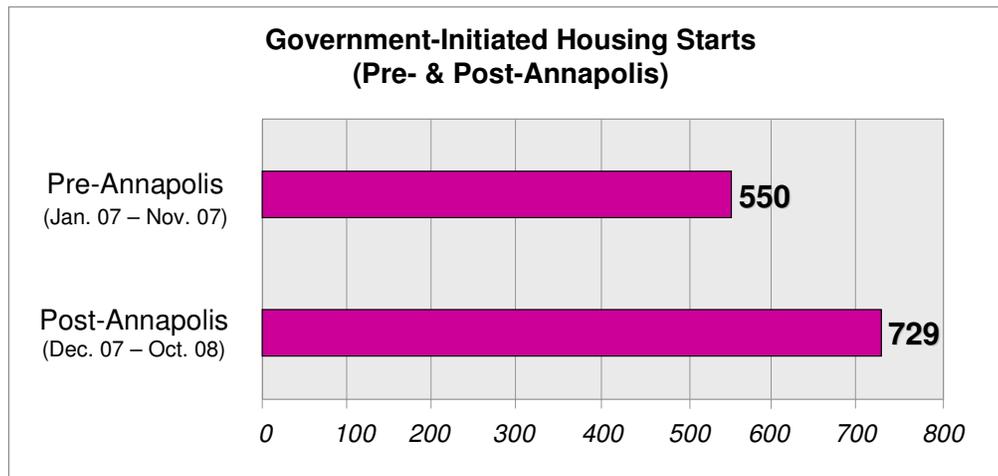
1. Housing Units

- **Construction Projects:** The Israeli Ministry of Construction and Housing (MoCH) currently identifies construction projects, at various stages of development, in at least 77 sites in nine “urban” settlements in the West Bank (including East Jerusalem), totalling **4,554 settlement housing units**.¹ Some **94 percent** of these units are in **Metropolitan Jerusalem**, with 43 percent in Har Homa alone. Following is a breakdown of current settlement construction projects:

Settlement	Governorate	# Housing Units	# Sold
Alfe Menashe	Qalqilya	144	63
Ariel	Salfit	106	53
Betar ‘Illit	Bethlehem	540	374
Efrata	Bethlehem	102	77
Geva’ Binyamin (Adam)	Jerusalem	180	104
Giv’at Ze’ev	Jerusalem	546	67
Har Homa	Jerusalem	1,962	964
Ma’ale Adumim	Jerusalem	944	436
Qarne Shomron	Salfit	30	0
		4,554	2,138

¹ Available figures are only for “urban” construction (*i.e.*, settlement municipal and local councils, but not regional councils). Available at: <http://www.moch.gov.il/Moch/ProjektyBniya.htm> (accessed on 27 November 2008).

- Active Construction: According to the latest available data from the Israeli government, as of 30 June 2008, some **2,893 housing units** were under active construction in West Bank settlements (*excluding* those in and around East Jerusalem), which were split almost evenly between government-sponsored construction (1,425 units) and private construction (1,468 units). This represents a slight increase over the previous year (June 2007), during which 2,839 units were under active construction.²
- Housing Starts
 - *Government-initiated construction*: Government-sponsored construction in the settlements increased dramatically after Annapolis. According to official data, the Israeli government began construction on **at least 729 new housing units** in West Bank settlements in the first 11 months after the Annapolis Conference (Dec. 07 – Oct. 08).³ This is an **increase of 33 percent** over the 11-month period prior to Annapolis, during which the government initiated construction on 550 units, as indicated in the diagram below. (NOTE: Figures do *not* include publicly-initiated construction in East Jerusalem settlements, for which data is not yet available.)



- *Privately-initiated construction*: Construction initiated by the private sector in West Bank settlements proceeded more or less apace with pre-Annapolis levels. For example, during the first half of 2008 (Jan. 08 – Jun. 08), private construction began on **500 settlement housing units**, as compared with 411 units during the first half of 2007.⁴ (Note: Figures do *not* include privately-initiated settlement construction in East Jerusalem settlements, for which data is not yet available.)

² Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics, "Dwellings, by Construction Initiator and District" (Table O/4). Available at: http://www1.cbs.gov.il/reader/yarhon/yarmenu_e_new.html (accessed 27 November 2008).

³ Ministry of Construction and Housing, "Housing Starts Initiated by Ministry of Construction and Housing, By District - Urban and Rural Areas," (Table A.7(A)); "Housing Completions Initiated by Ministry of Construction and Housing, By District - Urban and Rural Areas," (Table A.8(A)). Available at: <http://www.moch.gov.il/MOCH/MonthlyBulletin/boards.htm> (accessed on 27 November 2008).

⁴ Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics (Table O/4).

2. Roads and Infrastructure

- Throughout the reporting period, construction work continued on three major settlement infrastructure projects in and around Jerusalem:
 - Excavation work for **three tunnels** adjacent to **Al-Aqsa Mosque compound** (Haram al-Sharif) in Jerusalem's Old City and the neighborhood of Silwan.
 - The northern section of the **Jerusalem Ring Road** (Rd. # 20), which will connect to the eastern ring road via the newly built settler bypass road around `Anata and Az-Zaim.
 - The first phase of the **Jerusalem Light Rail** (currently concentrated in the Shu'fat and Shaykh Jarrah areas), is aimed at linking the settlements of Pisgat Ze'ev, Neve Ya'kov and French Hill with West Jerusalem.
- Road and infrastructure preparation also continued in the **E-1 expansion area** between East Jerusalem and Ma'ale Adumim settlement, particularly in relation to the **newly constructed police headquarters** in the eastern part of E-1, which was officially inaugurated on May 19. The new police station, the second to be built inside the E-1 area, will replace the one located in Ras al-Amud neighbourhood in East Jerusalem, which in turn was handed over to settler groups for their use.

3. The Wall

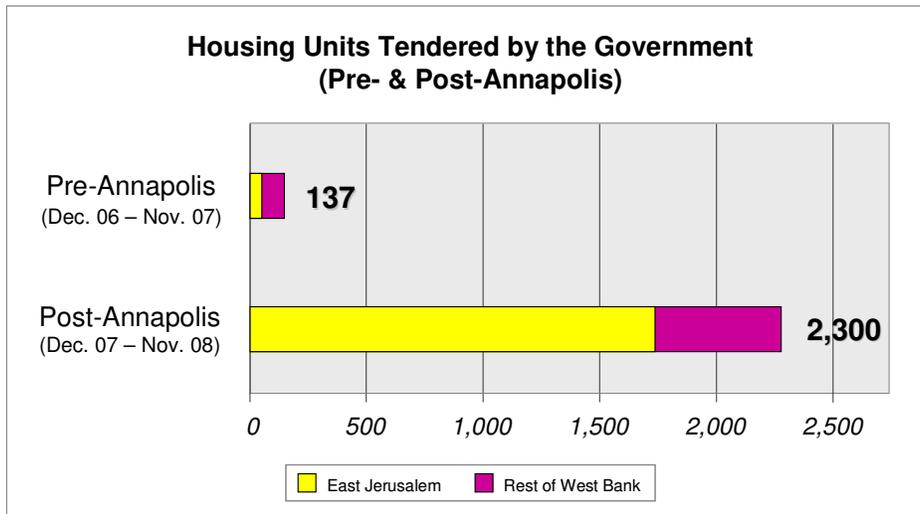
Work on the Wall, which is an integral component of Israel's settlement enterprise, along with its supporting infrastructure, continued in several places throughout the West Bank, particularly in the Jerusalem area and in the southern West Bank. According to UN-OCHA, as of 11 September, approximately **57 percent** (415 km) of the 723 km planned route of the Wall had been completed, with another 9 percent currently under construction.⁵

B. Settlement Authorization and Planning

1. Tenders

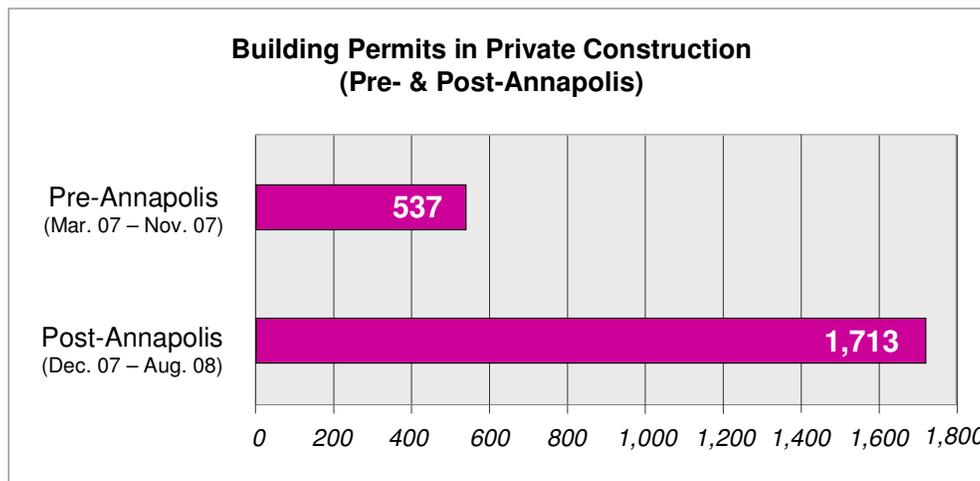
Government tenders for settlement construction, primarily in and around East Jerusalem, have reached record highs since Annapolis. In the 12 months since Annapolis, Israeli authorities have issued 19 tenders for settlement construction, totalling **2,300 new housing units**, which is **nearly 17 times as many** housing units tendered in the 12 months prior to Annapolis (see graph below). Moreover, **77 percent** of these are in settlements located in East Jerusalem, as compared with 34 percent during the 11 months prior to Annapolis.

⁵ UN-OCHA, "Closure Update: Occupied Palestinian Territory" (30 April – 11 September 2008).



2. Building Permits

In terms of privately-initiated construction, the Israeli government issued building permits for **at least 1,713 housing units** in West Bank settlements (*excluding* those in and around East Jerusalem) in the first nine months after Annapolis (Dec. 07 – Aug. 08). This is **more than three times** as many as the 537 permits issued in the nine-month period prior to Annapolis.⁶



3. Other Plans and Approvals

Even as settlement construction intensified on the ground, Israeli authorities continued to authorize and plan for thousands of additional housing units throughout the West Bank:

- In East Jerusalem alone, Israeli authorities have advanced plans for **some 9,617 housing units** in Israeli settlements since Annapolis. Of these:
 - Town planning schemes for **4,370 housing units** in East Jerusalem settlements have been approved and are ready for immediate implementation, including in

⁶ Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics, "Construction Area, Buildings and Dwellings Approved in Private Construction" (Table O/8). Available at: http://www.cbs.gov.il/yarhon/08_e.htm (accessed 27 November 2008).

East Talpiot (620 units), Har Homa (2,653 units), Pisgat Ze'ev (759 units), Ramot (338 units) and Gilo (hotels and residences).⁷

- An additional **5,247 units** were submitted for public review and are awaiting final approval, including the settlements of East Talpiot (104 units), Giv'at HaMatos (3,150 units), Neve Ya'aqov (393 units) and Ramot (1,600 units).⁸
- Similar plans have been approved elsewhere in the West Bank as well:
 - In the first six months after Annapolis (Dec. 07 – May 08), Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak approved the construction of **at least 946 housing units** in several West Bank settlements, including Ariel, Avenat, Betar 'Illit, Elqana, Efrata, Giv'at Ze'ev, Ma'ale Adumim, Modi'in 'Illit, Talmon, Negohot and Sha'are Tiqva.⁹
 - An additional **750 units** in **Giv'at Zeev** were moved toward implementation on March 9 when Prime Minister Olmert approved the resumption of the construction project, which had been suspended since 2001. (Reuters, *Ha'aretz*)
 - In early April, the Israeli Ministry of Construction and Housing presented a plan developed in coordination with the Prime Minister's Office to build **1,908 new settlement housing units in 2008** for settlers evacuated from Gaza in 2005. The plan calls for the construction of 158 housing units in Efrata, 682 in Betar 'Illit, 160 in Geva' Binyamin, 510 in Giv'at Ze'ev, 302 in Ma'ale Adumim, 48 in Qiryat Arba', and 48 in Ariel. (*Yedi'ot Ahranot*)

C. Settlement Outposts

Obligation: *“GOI immediately dismantles settlement outposts erected since March 2001.”*

Status: *The Israeli government has failed to meet this obligation, or to take any meaningful action against the outposts since Annapolis. Indeed, rather than dismantle the outposts, Israeli authorities are seeking ways to legitimize or maintain the majority of these nascent settlements.*

- Of the approximately 110 outposts in the West Bank, some 58 of which were established since March 2001, **none were dismantled** since Annapolis.¹⁰ Meanwhile, according to Peace Now, approximately **125 new structures** have been added to the outposts since Annapolis, including at least 30 permanent houses.
- The recent decision by the Israeli cabinet on November 3 to cut off funding and other direct government support for a handful of so-called “unauthorized” outposts, is not sufficient to satisfy Israeli obligations under the Road Map for two reasons:

⁷ Ir Amim Monitoring Report, “Negotiations toward an Accord on Jerusalem: Declarations vs. Actions,” April 2008.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Peace Now, “The Death of the Settlement Freeze - 4 Months Since Annapolis,” March 2008.

¹⁰ This does not include the handful of outposts removed by the Israeli army immediately or shortly after being established, or outposts that were only partially dismantled.

- Israeli authorities continue to speak of removing only “unauthorized” outposts (*i.e.*, those established in violation of Israeli domestic law), having identified only 26 such outposts, although the Road Map contains no such distinction.
- Under an agreement previously reached between the Israeli Ministry of Defense and settler leaders, the evacuation of even these limited outposts would take place in exchange for their relocation to the large settlement “blocs” or to settlements near Jerusalem, along with government assurances to approve building permits and other expansion plans for more established settlements.

II. ATTACKS ON PALESTINIANS

Obligation: *“GOI takes no actions undermining trust, including deportations, attacks on civilians; confiscation and/or demolition of Palestinian homes and property, as a punitive measure or to facilitate Israeli construction; destruction of Palestinian institutions and infrastructure; and other measures specified in the Tenet work plan.”*

Status: *Since Annapolis, Israeli incursions, assassinations, arrests, home demolitions and other attacks on Palestinians and their property have continued more or less unabated, as detailed below.*

A. Palestinian Deaths and Injuries

As with other post-Annapolis indicators, the numbers of Palestinians killed and injured by Israeli forces increased substantially after November 2007. Whereas 330 Palestinians were killed and another 1,706 injured by Israeli forces in the first 11 months of 2007, at least **498** Palestinians were killed and another **2,148** injured in the 11 months after Annapolis, an increase of 51% and 26% respectively.¹¹ (See tables below for details)

1. Palestinians Killed by Israeli Forces since Annapolis (Dec. 07 – Oct. 08)

Location	Number of Deaths	Of which Children (%)
West Bank (including East Jerusalem)	51	11 (22%)
Gaza Strip	447	69 (15%)
Total	498	80 (16%)

2. Palestinians Injured by Israeli Forces since Annapolis (Dec. 07 – Oct. 08)

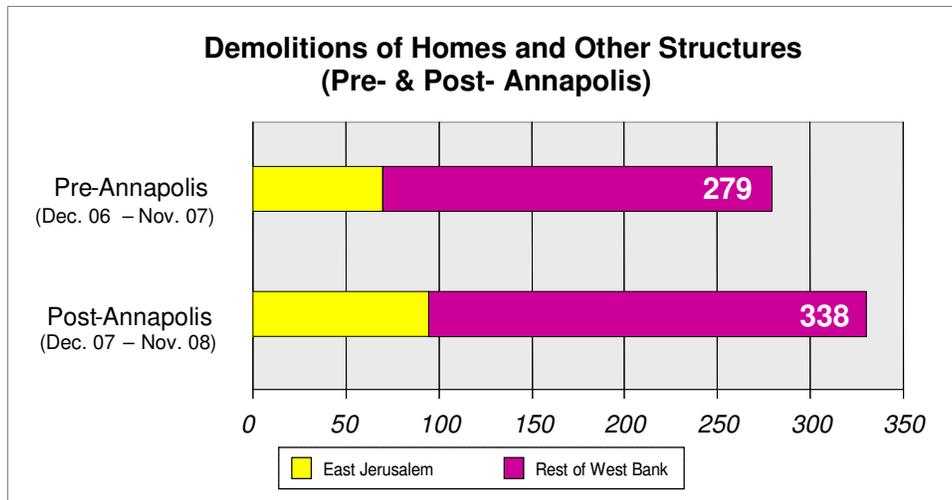
Location	Number of Injuries	Of which Children (%)
West Bank (including East Jerusalem)	1,210	343 (28%)
Gaza Strip	938	141 (15%)
Total	2,148	484 (23%)

¹¹ United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN-OCHA) Protection of Civilians database: <http://www.ochaopt.org/poc/> (accessed on 30 November 2008).

B. Home Demolitions

Israeli demolitions of Palestinian homes have also intensified since Annapolis, particularly in and around East Jerusalem. According to the Israeli Committee Against Home Demolitions (ICAHD), Israeli authorities have demolished at least **338 Palestinian homes** and other structures in the year since Annapolis (28 Nov. 2007 – 27 Nov. 2008), 99 of them in East Jerusalem. This represents an overall **increase of 21 percent** over the 12-month period prior to Annapolis, as indicated in the graph below. Israeli demolitions of Palestinian homes in East Jerusalem intensified in November, including the following:

- From November 4-6, Israeli authorities demolished five Palestinian structures in East Jerusalem, including three homes in the Silwan neighbourhood, a home in Shu'fat and a wedding hall in Beit Hanina. The Israeli demolitions resulted in the **displacement of more than 20 Palestinians**, most of them children. The demolitions in Silwan are part of a group of more than 80 homes that received demolition orders in June 2005 in order to build a park adjacent to the **proposed settlement of Ir David**, where numerous Palestinian homes have already been seized by Israeli settlers. While the demolitions were subsequently suspended by Israel's Attorney General following widespread international protests, they were never cancelled and are now being implemented. If carried out, the demolitions would result in the displacement of around 1,000 Palestinians, including more than 700 children, making it one of the largest mass demolitions of Palestinian homes in Jerusalem since the destruction of the Maghribi Quarter of the Old City in June 1967.
- On November 9, Israeli authorities forcibly expelled the Palestinian **Al-Kurd family** from their home in East Jerusalem, in which they had lived since 1956 after becoming refugees in 1948. The Al-Kurd house, located in the neighborhood of Sheikh Jarrah, is the first of 28 Palestinian houses designated for eviction to make way for a new settlement known as "**Shimon HaTsadiq**". A plan for the settlement, consisting of 200 housing units on 18 dunams, has already been submitted to the Jerusalem Local Planning and Building Commission. If completed, the new settlement would create geographic contiguity between French Hill and Neve Ya'qov settlements and the Old City, further severing Palestinian East Jerusalem from the rest of the West Bank.
- On November 18, Israeli authorities demolished the home of Jamal Abu Sneineh in the **'Issawiya** neighbourhood of East Jerusalem, located between French Hill settlement and the E-1 expansion of Ma'ale Adumim. The demolition, which was carried out on the pretext of building without a license, resulted in the displacement of six people, including one child.



C. Residency Revocations

Israel's policy of revoking ID cards/residency of Palestinians, particularly those in East Jerusalem, is functionally the same as physical deportation. Although recent statistics on the number of Palestinian ID/residency revocations since Annapolis are not yet available, according to the most recent available data, the number of Jerusalem-area Palestinians who had their residency rights revoked by Israel increased sharply in 2006 to **1,363**, which is more than the previous six years combined and more than any single year since 1967.¹²

III. INTERNAL CLOSURES

Obligation: *"As comprehensive security performance moves forward, IDF withdraws progressively from areas occupied since September 28, 2000 and the two sides restore the status quo that existed prior to September 28, 2000."*

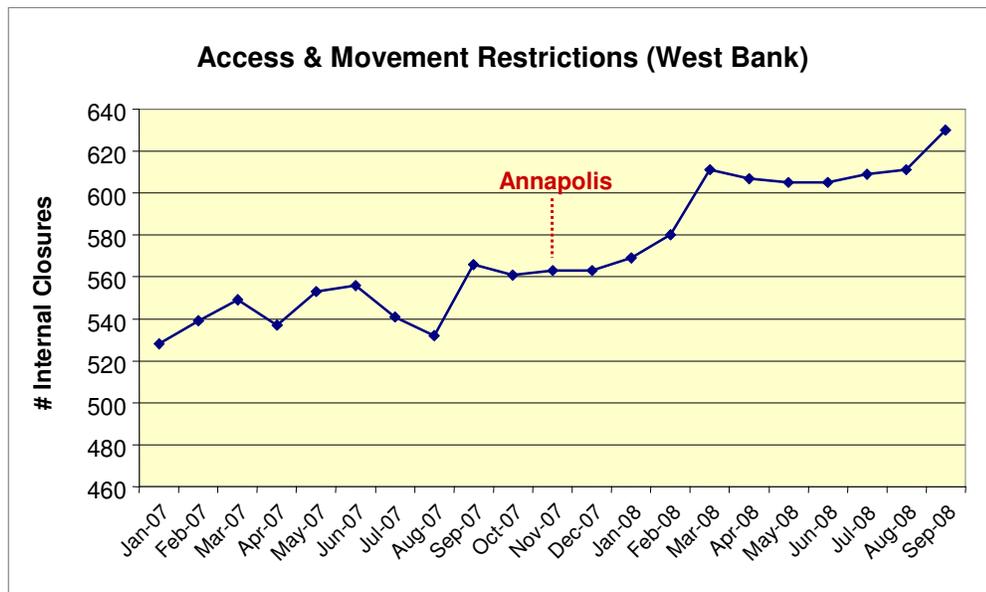
Status: *Despite significant progress and ongoing Palestinian efforts to improve security performance, the Israel military has shown no signs of redeploying to its pre-September 28 positions, and instead has expanded its presence and control over the West Bank. Indeed, Israeli-imposed internal movement and access restrictions on the Palestinian population have steadily increased since the Gaza evacuation of August 2005, a trend that has continued since the Annapolis Conference in November 2007 (see graph below).*

- During the period between 30 April and 11 September 2008, Israel had established some **630 checkpoints, roadblocks and other physical barriers** to Palestinian movement throughout the West Bank, including 93 manned checkpoints.¹³ This represents a net increase of 12 percent since Annapolis (Nov. 2007) and a **68 percent increase** since August 2005.

¹² Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories (B'Tselem)

¹³ UN-OCHA, "Closure Update: Occupied Palestinian Territory" (30 April – 11 September 2008).

- Meanwhile, the weekly average of random (or “flying”) checkpoints **increased by 35 percent** between 30 April and 11 September as compared with the previous four months, from 66 per week to 89 per week.¹⁴



IV. JERUSALEM INSTITUTIONS

Obligation: “GOI reopens the Palestinian Chamber of Commerce and other closed Palestinian institutions in East Jerusalem.”

Status: The Israeli government has failed to reopen any of the 10 institutions that were closed in August 2001, while at the same time curtailing the activities of other Palestinian institutions in Jerusalem.

- Since Annapolis, Israel’s Minister of Internal Security Avi Dichter **has twice renewed the closure of all 10 Palestinian institutions** that were closed in August 2001, including Orient House, first on February 8 and again on August 5.
- On November 9, the Israeli Minister of Internal Security issued an order cancelling a cultural event entitled “Jerusalem: Arab Cultural Capital 2009” sponsored by the Palestinian National Theater, a non-profit organization based in East Jerusalem. The title of the event, which was previously cancelled on March 28, stems from the city’s designation as Arab Cultural Capital for 2009 by the 22-member League of Arab States in concert with UNESCO’s Cultural Capital Program.

¹⁴ Ibid.

V. OTHER OBLIGATIONS

Obligation: *“Israeli leadership issues unequivocal statement affirming its commitment to the two-state vision of an independent, viable, sovereign Palestinian state living in peace and security alongside Israel, as expressed by President Bush, and calling for an immediate end to violence against Palestinians everywhere.”*

Status: *Although the government of Ehud Olmert and that of his predecessor Ariel Sharon have accepted the goal of creating a Palestinian state, no Israeli leader or government has ever articulated a clear and unequivocal commitment to the establishment of an “independent, viable and sovereign” Palestinian state, as such.*