

PALESTINE CHRONOLOGY 2014

JANUARY

Jan. 10: Israel approves plans for 1,400 settler homes; chief negotiator Saeb Erekat responds by saying this "shows Israel's clear commitment to the destruction of peace efforts and the imposition of an apartheid regime".

Jan. 16: Prime Minister Netanyahu says that the Palestinian demand of a "so-called right of return" is "not right, not justified and not legitimate."

- The UN International Year of Solidarity with the Palestinian People is launched.

FEBRUARY

Feb. 1: Pres. Abbas proposes an American-led NATO force to patrol a future Palestinian State.

Feb. 9: Fatah and Hamas representatives meet to discuss steps towards reconciliation.

Feb. 26: Jordan warns that it might review its 1994 peace treaty with Israel after Knesset members began a debate on allowing Jewish prayers at the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound.

MARCH

March 11: An internal EU report states that Israel was largely responsible for Gaza's economic and humanitarian woes.

March 28: The Palestinian leadership accuses Israel of trying to blackmail the PA with new conditions for continuing the diplomatic process after failing to release the fourth tranche of 26 Palestinian prisoners as scheduled.

APRIL

April 1: President Abbas signs letters for accession to 15 international treaties and conventions.

April 13: Israeli Minister of Defense Ya'alon announces large project of expanding the settlement block of Gush Etzion.

April 23: Hamas and the PLO sign agreement to form national consensus government, hold elections.

April 24: Israeli Cabinet says it will not negotiate with a Palestinian government backed by Hamas.

- UN Roundtable on Legal Aspects of the Question of Palestine opens in Geneva

April 29: As the deadline for 9-month peace talks expires with no agreement, talks are suspended.

- Peace Now reports that during the 9 months of talks Israel approved at least 13,851 new settlement units.

MAY

May 8: Pres. Abbas says negotiations may only resume if Israel releases the fourth batch of prisoners, and halts settlement construction for three months.

May 11: PM Rami Hamdallah is notified officially that the UN had accepted Palestine as a signatory to the UN Convention against Corruption.

May 15: Israeli forces shoot dead two Palestinian teenagers during a demonstration near Ramallah.

- PM Netanyahu says: "I don't think the status quo is desirable ... and I'm engaging in consultations with my own coalition partners and with others, to see if we have other alternatives... because I don't want a binational State."

May 25: Pres. Abbas meets Pope Francis in Bethlehem, briefs him on the obstacles facing the peace process.

May 27: Fatah and Hamas agree on the make-up of a national unity Government, officials from both parties said.

JUNE

June 2: President Abbas swears in the new unity cabinet.

June 8: Pope Francis hosts a peace prayer in the Vatican with Pres. Shimon Peres and Mahmoud Abbas.

June 12: Israel decides to freeze some of its settlement expansion plans amid criticism by Western diplomats.

June 14: Three Israeli yeshiva students, disappear near Gush Etzion. In response, Israel closes off the southern West Bank and launches Operation "Brother's Keeper". Within less than a week, 3 Palestinians are killed (two have them minors), many more injured, over 300 are arrested and several homes damaged.

June 30: The bodies of the three missing Israelis are found near Halhul, triggering a series of violence and counter-violence.

JULY

July 2: Violent clashes break out in Jerusalem following the abduction and murder of Palestinian teenager Mohammed Abu Khdeir from Shufat.

July 8: Israel launches Operation 'Protective Edge' and attacks at least 50 sites in Gaza by air and sea.

July 13: Israeli troops initiate a ground assault on Gaza after dozens of rockets have been fired at Tel Aviv and Jerusalem.

July 15: Hamas rejects an Egyptian ceasefire proposal for Gaza as it was not part of the negotiations.

July 24: UN Sec.-Gen. Ban Ki-moon condemns an attack on a UN school in Gaza where hundreds of people had taken refuge.

:28July A UNSC emergency session calls for an "immediate and unconditional" ceasefire, allowing for the delivery of urgently needed humanitarian assistance to the Gaza Strip.

July 31: In Gaza, the death toll climbs to 1,363.

AUGUST

Aug. 7: Amnesty International calls for an immediate investigation into Israeli attacks against health professionals and hospitals in Gaza.

Aug. 14: PA Tourism and Antiquities Minister Rula Ma'ayah calls the destruction of 41 mosques during Israel's military operation in Gaza a war crime.

Aug. 26: Israel and Hamas agree to an open-ended ceasefire to stop seven weeks of unprecedented fighting in Gaza, which left according to the UN 2,130 Palestinians killed, 70% of them civilians and at least 491 children, over 11,100 wounded and 520,000 people displaced. On the Israeli side, 68 people were killed (64 soldiers, 4 civilians). Half a million school children are unable to start the school year as at least 277 schools are damaged.

August 30: Pres. Abbas and Hamas reportedly agree on a three-phase plan towards establishing a Palestinian State.

Aug. 31: Israeli authorities announce plans to confiscate 4,000 dunums of Palestinian-owned land west of Bethlehem, near the Gush Etzion.

SEPTEMBER

Sept. 4: The PA says rebuilding Gaza will cost \$7.8 billion.

Sept. 25: Fatah and Hamas reach a comprehensive agreement to return to unity government.

Sept. 30: President Abbas vows to join the International Criminal Court, if the UNSC fails to pass a planned resolution that would set a timetable for ending Israeli occupation.

OCTOBER

Oct. 8: Pres. Abbas warns Israel of the repercussions of its actions against Al-Aqsa Mosque.

Oct. 9: The Palestinian unity government holds its first ever meeting in Gaza City.

Oct. 12: Envoys from countries around the world gather in Cairo to discuss aid for Palestinians, eventually pledging \$5.4 billions for Gaza's reconstruction.

Oct. 22: A Palestinian kills 1 and injures 8 Israelis when he slams his car into a light-rail station in Jerusalem.

Oct. 30: Sweden officially recognizes the state of Palestine.

NOVEMBER

Nov. 6: Two drivers plow their cars into Israelis in separate episodes in Jerusalem and the West Bank, killing one police officer and injuring three soldiers.

Nov. 11: Israeli authorities confiscate 12,852 dunums of Beit Iksa village land north of Jerusalem.

Nov. 18: Two Palestinians armed with gun, knives and axes storm a synagogue in West-Jerusalem, killing four men.