



Yesh Din

Volunteers for Human Rights

Apology

We have noticed that our updates to the diplomatic & international community have not been received since October 7, and we want to apologize for this technical mistake. Please read our updates from the past two weeks retroactively in this link:

[Click to read Yesh Din's updates from the past two weeks](#)

West Bank Settler Violence Escalation Continues

Yesh Din continues to monitor and document the escalation of violent attacks on Palestinians in the West Bank under the cover of war. Since the war broke out, dozens of violent incidents have been carried out by settlers against Palestinians in the West Bank. During these days **security forces and settlers killed 71 Palestinians**. Most

recently, on the night of October 17, dozens of armed settlers invaded the village of Madama, [set a vehicle on fire](#) & threw stones at homes & vehicles. Yesterday, October 18, hundreds of olive trees – some hundreds of years old – were [destroyed by bulldozers](#) as part of a massive land takeover operations being carried out in the West Bank since October 7. These operations are ongoing and increasing daily, even as these words are being written.

Please visit our summary of events, which is updated daily



During the night of October 17, dozens of armed settlers invaded the village of Madama, set a vehicle on fire & threw stones at homes & vehicles. Soldiers were present & did nothing.

Joint Appeals Regarding the War

Together with other human rights organizations, on October 16, Yesh Din appealed to the members of the Israeli State Security Cabinet, the Chief of Staff, and the Commissioner of the Police, demanding an end to the settlers' rampage in the West Bank. We called on the government to act in accordance with international law by immediately protecting the Palestinians from the rampant violence, and allowing the [displaced individuals](#) to return to their homes. Read the appeal [here](#) (Hebrew).

Joint Appeal to President Biden upon his arrival to Israel

Yesterday, October 18, Yesh Din and 15 other Israeli CSOs published a joint appeal to President Joe Biden, urging him to work for the immediate release of all hostages and for an end to the bombardment of civilians, both in Israel and in Gaza. It was published in Haaretz newspaper upon his arrival, and is available [here](#):

DEAR PRESIDENT BIDEN,

We, Israeli human rights organizations, appeal to you in these terrible times — as we bury loved ones killed by Hamas' brutal assault and fear for those wounded, missing and held hostage in Gaza; as our Palestinian colleagues in Gaza are under bombardments of the Israeli military which have wiped out entire families, and face mass displacement and a humanitarian crisis. We raise our voices loudly and clearly against the harm to innocent civilians, both in Israel and Gaza.

We urge you to work for the immediate release of all hostages and for an end to the bombardment of civilians, both in Israel and in Gaza. In Gaza, the civilian population must be shielded from the fighting and receive humanitarian assistance; medical facilities and places of refuge must not be harmed; and vital resources such as water, electricity and fuel must be restored.

We urge you to make these issues your urgent priority.

Machsom Watch | Combatants for Peace | BIMKOM - Planners for Planning Rights
Breaking the Silence | Parents Against Child Detention | HaMoked - Center for the
Defence of the Individual | Torat Tzedek | Ir Amim | Mothers Against Violence | Zazim -
Community Action | Yesh Din | Physicians for Human Rights-Israel | Gisha - Legal
Center for Freedom of Movement | Mehazkim | Zochrot | Rabbis for Human Rights

Some of these organizations receive over half of their funding from foreign governmental entities.

**“I Was There. In Kfar Azza.
Indiscriminate Bombing of Gaza Is Not the Solution.”**

During Hamas’s reprehensible attack on Israel on October 7, Yesh Din’s Executive Director, Ziv Stahl, was herself trapped inside a bomb shelter with her family in Kibbutz Kfar Azza, fearing for her life, while Hamas was massacring a significant percentage of the community right outside the door, including a member of her own family. Read the [op-ed by Ziv published in Haaretz](#) newspaper on October 15, describing her personal account of the attack, urging the Government of Israel not to take the path of revenge and violence, but rather to **work towards a political solution**, which, in her words, “is the only pragmatic thing that is possible - we are obligated to try, and we must begin this work today.”

We ask that you consider our Executive Director’s words when making decisions regarding the current situation:

“Indiscriminate bombing in Gaza and the killing of civilians uninvolved with these horrible crimes are no solution. Rather, this is the surest way to prolong the violence, terror, sorrow, and bereavement. I need to know that there are those who think and worry even now about the future of those who remain, the future of Kibbutz Kfar Azza and the Gaza perimeter, the future of all of the human beings who live here, Israelis and Palestinians. I am not naïve, I know how long and difficult this will be. But as the last twenty years, and even more so the events of this horrific Sabbath prove, all the military might on earth will not provide defense and security. A political solution is the only pragmatic thing that is possible - we are obligated to try, and we must begin this work today.”

[Click to follow Yesh Din's Twitter account](#)

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Yesh Din is required by law to make the following statement:

Yesh Din is mostly funded by foreign governmental entities - through grants devoted to the provision of humanitarian assistance and the promotion of human rights. A list of our donors is available on the Israeli Associations Register's website and on Yesh Din's website.

Yesh Din is proud to be funded by States that are committed to the rule of law, that believe the occupation is not an internal Israeli matter, and that support the defense of international humanitarian law and human rights.



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