



Yesh Din

Volunteers for Human Rights

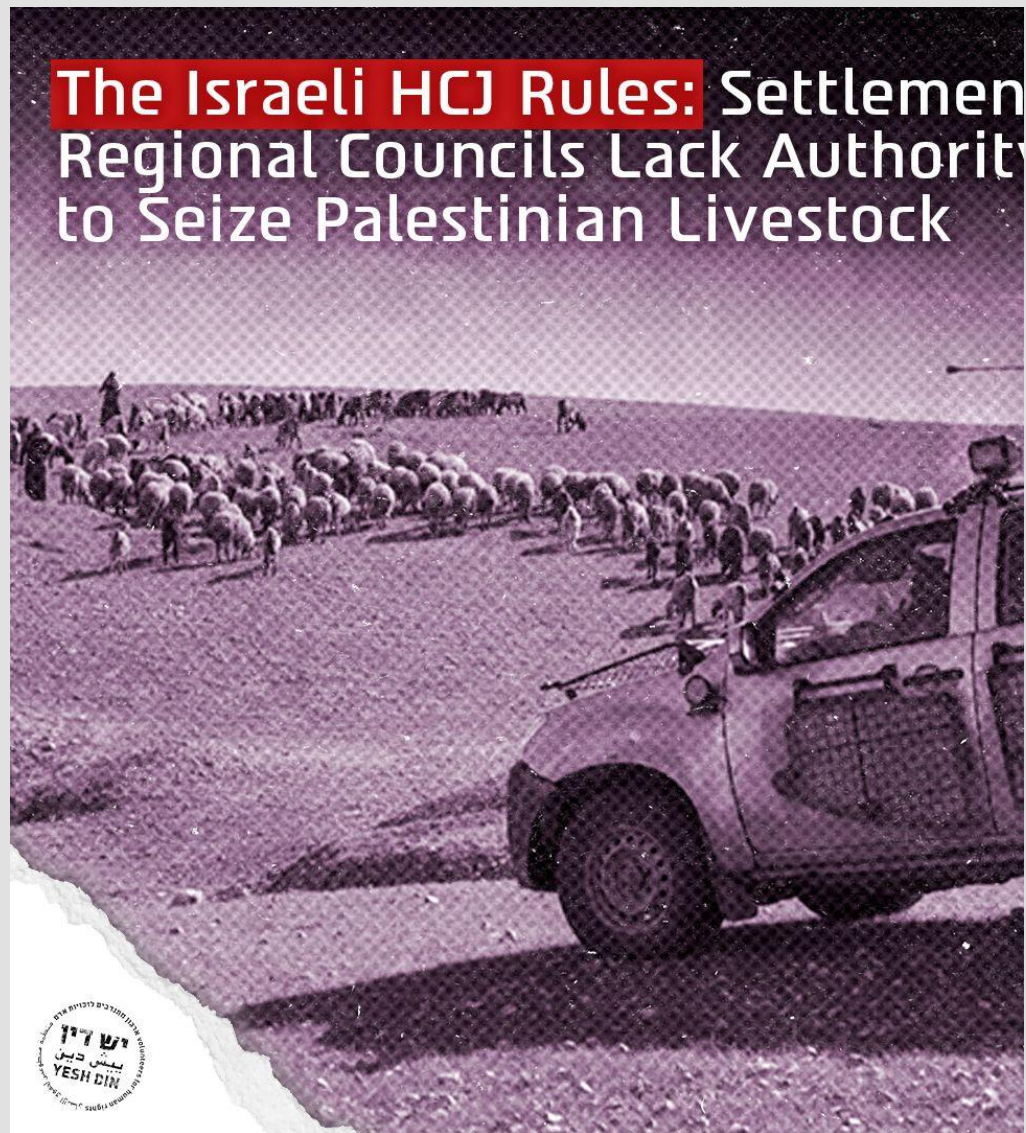
New Petition to the HCJ Demanding the Dismantling of an Illegal Outpost on the Lands of Silwad

On October 20, 2025, Yesh Din filed a petition on behalf of four residents of Silwad as well as the head of the village council. The petition focuses on a new illegal outpost that was established in December 2024 in the heart of Silwad's agricultural lands near Ein Yabrud, far from any Israeli settlement. Since its establishment, the outpost has become a constant source of acts of violence against residents and structures in nearby communities. Alongside the establishment of the outpost, as often occurs in such circumstances, a metal gate was installed, blocking the access routes of Palestinian farmers to their land. Despite repeated appeals over a long period, the army has taken no action to stop the encroachment. Part of the encroachment also extends into an area designated as an archaeological site.

The petition requests that the military commander evacuate the illegal outpost and enforce the law according to his duties to protect the

property rights of the land owners, their safety, and free access to their land.

[Read the full petition \(Hebrew\)](#)



As part of Israel's annexation policy and its takeover of Area C while pushing Palestinians out, the Jordan Valley Regional Council adopted a new and unlawful practice: confiscating Palestinian flocks of sheep and cattle and demanding exorbitant sums of money from the flock

owners in exchange for their release. This practice began after October 7, 2023, when the council delegated itself a nonexistent authority, seized flocks and livestock, and in some cases demanded hundreds of thousands of shekels for their release.

In March 2024, the Darajmeh and Adayes families, whose herds had been confiscated by the council, [petitioned the High Court of Justice](#) with the assistance of Yesh Din and Jordan Valley activists. We demanded that the Jordan Valley Regional Council return all confiscated animals, refund the money already paid for their release, and cease applying its grazing bylaws to the petitioners and their herds.

In its ruling delivered on October 23, 2025, the High Court of Justice determined that the regional council must refrain from exercising powers derived from its municipal bylaws over livestock belonging to Palestinians. The prohibition applies to the seizure of animals, their detention in enclosures, and the collection of fees for their care. The justices also instructed the Military Commander to take the necessary steps to ensure that the regional council complies with the ruling. In addition, the council was ordered to pay 20,000 NIS in legal expenses to the petitioners, and the Military Commander was ordered to pay an additional 5,000 NIS. The ruling states:

“The severity of the overreach is compounded by the fact that the regional council acted in direct contradiction to [the legal position of the Legal Advisor for the Judea and Samaria Area](#) [...]. It could have been expected that the regional council would heed the position of the Legal Advisor for the Judea and Samaria Area, or at the very least, respond substantively to his legal claims. Instead, the regional council chose to ignore this legal position and persist in its erroneous

interpretation of the law. In doing so, it harmed the rights of the petitioners, and equally, the rule of law.”

The judgment explicitly states that the authority of the regional council is limited to providing municipal services to its residents and does not extend to Palestinian residents of the West Bank, “who do not participate in the elections for the regional councils, are not represented in them, and do not benefit from the municipal services they provide.” Authority to act vis-à-vis Palestinian residents of the area in general, and specifically in matters related to stray animals belonging to them, rests exclusively with the military authorities.

[Read the HCJ Ruling \(Hebrew\)](#)

The NGO Taxation Bill is Back on the Table

On November 3, 2025, the Knesset Constitution, Law, and Justice Committee will be deliberating [the proposed NGO Taxation bill](#), in preparation for its first vote (out of three). On May 28, 2025, the previous session of the committee was held, in which the bill was deliberated. The bill has since been re-drafted to target human rights NGOs specifically.

In this recent version of the bill, if an NGO receives more than a certain percent of its funding from foreign state bodies (the exact amount does not appear in this draft and is to be determined), the NGO will be considered to be a “long arm” of those countries, rendering it ineligible to engage in political issues or to petition the Israeli courts. Instead of the 80% tax levied on foreign donations from the original version, donations from foreign political entities would be taxed at a rate of 23%.

If, however, an NGO declares that it will not engage in any “political activities” (see list of such activities [here](#)), it can avoid this tax - though a violation would be penalized with increased taxation, as well as other financial penalties. This contradicts the purpose of civil society; CSOs cannot make this declaration, since lobbying in the Knesset, criticizing government policy, and engaging in other “political activities” in the public sphere is an integral part of their work - therefore they would be forced to pay the 23% tax rate. Although this bill is different from the original draft, it is no less harmful. It still fundamentally seeks to prevent human and civil rights organizations from carrying out their work, whether by levying onerous tax rates on their donations or by prohibiting their activities.

We urge governments and institutions to publicly oppose the proposed legislation and its devastating implications for Israeli democracy and human rights. A united and vocal stance against this bill is crucial to signal the international community’s commitment to upholding civil society and democratic norms in Israel.

Join Our WhatsApp Group for Diplomatic Updates

We invite you to join our WhatsApp group for diplomatic updates, in which we send periodic updates on important developments in the West Bank easily and conveniently. It is a ‘silent’ group, meaning only the administrators can post messages, and there are no conversations or debates. You are welcome to join and share the link with colleagues.

Join Yesh Din’s new WhatsApp group

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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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