



Yesh Din

Volunteers for Human Rights

Urgent Letter Opposing the Cabinet Decision to Resume Settlement of Title Procedures

On May 11, 2025, the Political-Security Cabinet approved the proposal by Minister Bezalel Smotrich to resume the land registration process in the West Bank, also known as 'Settlement of Title'. This will have far-reaching, long-term ramifications for Palestinians and is a clear measure of annexation. On May 19, Yesh Din sent an urgent letter to the Prime Minister, the Minister of Defense, the Attorney General, the Military Advocate General, the Commander of the West Bank, the Head of the Civil Administration, and others, demanding the revocation of the aforementioned Cabinet Decision.

The letter states: "The regime in the West Bank is not a democratic one. Palestinians living under occupation take no part in legislative or decision-making processes (while Israelis living in the West Bank do participate via their elected officials in the Knesset, who have discussed and decided to pursue the matter). Such an arrangement might have been justified, if only theoretically, were it strictly necessary for genuine security needs, which define the legislative powers of the military

commander of the area – yet, this justification does not apply to the complex process of renewing Settlement of Title.”

[Read the full letter \(translated into English\)](#)

[Read the Cabinet Decision \(translated into English\)](#)

[Further information on the decision](#)

Ongoing Rampage in the West Bank

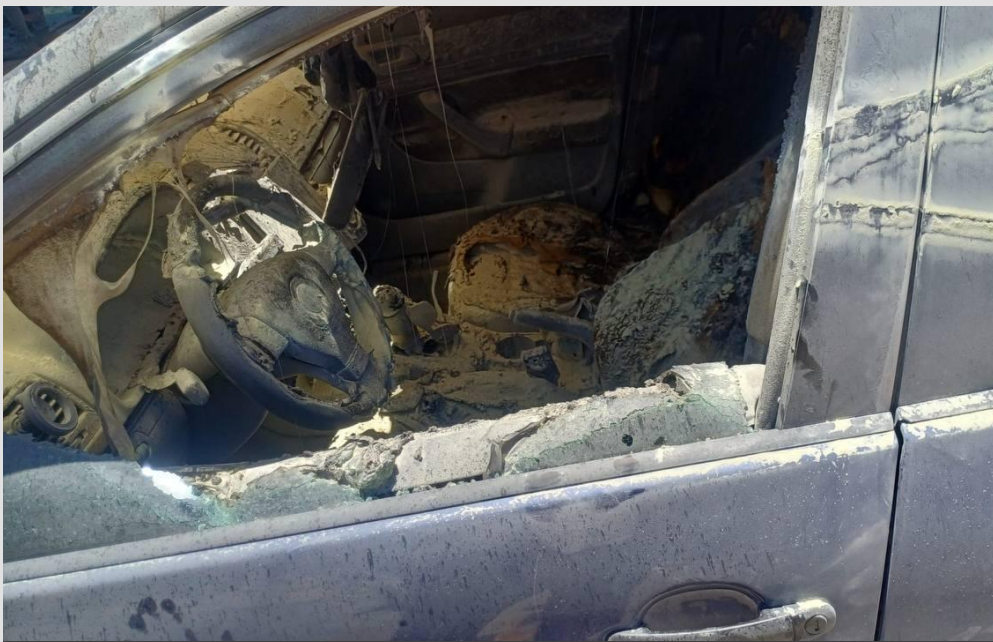
Dozens of violent settlers have carried out attacks against Palestinian villages during the past few days. These are only a select number of incidents Yesh Din has confirmed and documented:

On **Monday, May 26**, 2025, in the early afternoon, settlers entered the village of Khallet a-Dabea in Masafer Yatta, which had been mostly demolished by the military and Civil Administration a few weeks ago. They took over a residential cave and expelled the Palestinian family living in it. The settlers grazed their sheep on village lands, damaging trees and crops, and effectively trapping other Palestinian families inside their caves and tents. The settlers remained in the seized cave overnight, stayed in the area the following days, attempted to take over additional caves where residents live, and continued to harass residents.

On **May 27**, 2025, in the early afternoon, dozens of settlers set fire to agricultural fields on the lands of the village of Al-Mughayir. The settlers

attacked Palestinian residents who tried to extinguish the fire and protect the land, and a Palestinian journalist who was present was assaulted and injured. Soldiers who arrived at the scene did not stop the attackers but instead used tear gas, stun grenades, and rubber bullets to drive the Palestinians away. Later, settlers arrived at the site with a tractor and plowed the land belonging to Al-Mughayir.

Additionally, during the early afternoon, dozens of settlers entered the village of Qaryut, set fire to homes and vehicles, and caused significant property damage. Soldiers who arrived at the scene used tear gas and stun grenades, directed at the Palestinians. At least nine residents were injured by stone-throwing and tear gas.



A torched vehicle in the village of Qaryut, May 27, 2025. Photo: Qaryut Village Council.

In the evening of **May 27**, settlers blocked Route 60 for an extended period near the village of a-Lubban a-Sharqiyah. They threw stones at homes close to the road and prevented cars from entering the village.

Soldiers were present at the scene and did not stop the attack. That same evening, settlers threw stones at houses in the western neighborhood of the village of Deir Dobwan, near Route 60, causing damage to Palestinian property. Settlers established a new outpost near Route 60, close to the *British Police Junction*.

On **May 28**, 2025, during the early morning hours, settlers set fire to four vehicles and sprayed graffiti on the walls of homes in the village of Rammun.

These are only a sample of incidents, which are reflective of the situation across the West Bank at this time. Yesh Din calls upon the international community to demand accountability for those who participated in the attacks, and to demand urgent protection for Palestinians of the West Bank.

Developments on the NGO Taxation Proposed Bill

On May 28, 2025, a session of the Knesset Constitution, Law, and Justice Committee was held, which continued deliberations on MK Ariel Kallner's [NGO taxation bill](#) - a serious threat to civil society in Israel. The Registrar of Nonprofits (*Rasham Amutot* in Hebrew) presented data on the enforcement and oversight of NGO funding. Of 100 NGOs audited, only five were found to have violated foreign funding reporting requirements, out of thousands operating in Israel.

A closed, confidential committee meeting is scheduled for June 4, with a public session to follow on June 10. The closed meeting—ostensibly to discuss diplomatic ramifications—is unusual in this context, and appears aimed at shielding the coalition from criticism over the bill's negative consequences. Another open hearing is expected to take

place during the following week, reinforcing that both MK Kallner and committee chair MK Rothman are determined to advance the bill despite significant opposition.

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

Follow Yesh Din on Twitter

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