



Yesh Din

Volunteers for Human Rights

Update on Olive Harvest and Important Court Hearings

15.10.2026

Violence and Access Restrictions Against Palestinians Continue on eve of the Olive Harvest.

Rampant settler and soldier violence, as well as access restrictions, continue to take place in the lead-up to the annual Palestinian olive harvest, which officially begins today, 15th of October.

Between September 27 and October 14, 2026, Yesh Din recorded a total of 234 incidents of settler and soldier violence related to the olive harvest. **This averages 13 incidents per day.** In over a quarter of the incidents (26.5%) Israeli soldiers were involved or present.

The incidents included:

- 82 incidents involving violence against and attacks on olive harvesters.
- 79 incidents in which settlers and/or soldiers prevented Palestinians from harvesting.
- 135 incidents of crop theft and property damage.
- 39 incidents involving damage to olive trees.

As the Israeli elections approach, settler violence is escalating across the West Bank. Alongside violence targeting Palestinians during the olive harvest, the violence continues unabated, with 486 incidents of settler and soldier violence recorded between September 27 and October 14 alone.

These alarming numbers indicate extreme levels of violence and access restrictions, resulting in a high risk to Palestinian farmers and a significant loss of a vital source of livelihood.

We call on the international community to demand that the Israeli government fulfill its duty in providing Palestinian farmers access to their trees, guarantee their safety as they harvest, and hold perpetrators of violence accountable.

[The data is based on documentation by Yesh Din field researchers, verified reports from the field, and cross-checking of publications and public reports from various sources]

Read more about settler violence and access restriction in Yonatan Kanonich's (Yesh Din's Head of Research Department) [article](#): "Not many years ago, the military boasted that it allowed Palestinians to harvest under the cynical slogan "until the last olive." Today, the State of Israel – through its military orders, soldiers, and settlers – is effectively implementing a

policy of preventing the olive harvest in the West Bank, starting with the very first olive.”

Invitation to Important Upcoming Court Hearings

We highly encourage the diplomatic community to attend an upcoming court hearing. Diplomats who are interested in attending this hearing with Yesh Din are welcome to write to Jack Munayer (contact details at the end of this message).

State Will Attempt to Proceed with Land Registration Tender. 20th of October at 12:00, the District Court in Jerusalem

On 15 September 2026, the Jerusalem District Court issued an interim order directing the Israeli state to temporarily freeze the advancement of a tender to manage land registration proceedings in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem.

The order followed a petition filed by Yesh Din, Bimkom – Planners for Human Rights, and the Association for Civil Rights in Israel (ACRI), after the Ministry of Justice had published the tender in May 2026 and selected a winning bidder. The organizations argue that the Ministry lacks the legal authority to conduct land registration proceedings in occupied territory, let alone delegate these powers to a private entity; that the tender constitutes an unlawful privatization of governmental and quasi-judicial powers; and that its conditions effectively exclude Palestinian residents from participating. More fundamentally, they argue that renewing land registration in the occupied West Bank is an annexationist measure that risks dispossessing Palestinians of their

land, including people absent from the area who may be unable to establish their ownership. The court's interim order temporarily freezes the tender while the legal challenge proceeds.

In its updated response to the court, the state argues that the petition should be dismissed on the grounds that the matter has become *a fait accompli*. The state maintains that the tender process had already been completed before the court issued its interim injunction on September 15, 2026: a winning bidder was selected on July 14, and a contract was signed on July 22. According to the state, the process has therefore moved beyond the tender stage and into the contractual stage.

The hearing might have far-reaching implications because if the court will adopt the state's position and lifts the temporal freeze, the state will be able to proceed with the tender and, in effect, advance the process of land settlement of title in the West Bank.

Read Yesh Din's Position Paper on Land Registration [HERE](#) and the Impact of the Decision [HERE](#)

**A hearing regarding the Takeover of Homes in Area B
21 October 2026 at 11:30 at the High Court of Justice in
Jerusalem.**

In July 2026, two Palestinian families from the village of Atara, in Area B of the West Bank, petitioned the Israeli High Court of Justice with Yesh Din's assistance, demanding the removal of Israeli settlers who had taken over their homes and protection from further settler violence.

The takeover followed the establishment of the illegal outpost of “Kfar Tarfon” near the families’ homes in August 2025. After the military ordered residents to leave the area, settlers prevented the families from returning, broke into their homes, vandalized and looted their property, and have continued to occupy the houses. Despite repeated complaints and appeals to the police and military, the families have been unable to return home. The petition calls on the authorities to remove the settlers and fulfil their legal obligation to protect Palestinian residents and their property.

The takeover of Palestinian homes by Israeli settlers is part of a broader and increasingly widespread pattern of settler violence and dispossession in the West Bank. By seizing homes and preventing their Palestinian owners from returning, settlers consolidate control over Palestinian land while Israeli authorities fail to intervene and enforce the law. The hearing is therefore significant beyond the circumstances of the two families: it offers the High Court an opportunity to affirm the authorities’ obligation to protect Palestinian homes and property, and to address this growing phenomenon with the seriousness it demands. This case relates to a broad pattern that Yesh Din has covered in our recent [report](#).

More recently, outposts have also begun to be established in Area A. The expansion into Area B is publicly supported by senior ministers and actively provided with protection, backed and funded by the Israeli government, the military, and other official bodies. As outposts encroached into new areas, settler violence extended its reach as well. Yesh Din data from 2025 and 2026 show that a growing share of the settler violence incidents documented by the organization now occur in Areas A and B. In 2026, about two-thirds (62.6%) of the incidents of

violence against Palestinians documented by Yesh Din took place in Areas A or B.

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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For any enquiries, please contact Jack Munayer: jackm@yesh-din.org

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