

GLOBAL  CONFLICTS

PALESTINE



Mission Sheets

Mission Sheet - Mission 3: Settlements

This document provides you with a short introduction before playing mission 3.

- Read this mission sheet.
- Play mission 3 about settlements.
- Discuss mission 3 and answer the questions from the worksheet.
- Write a follow up article based on the article template.

You can find the material online at <http://learning.seriousgames.dk>

Background

Settlements are closely ingrained in Israel's self-understanding. They are seen as crucial to the founding of the state of Israel and its very soul. Settlements were used to cultivate land, and also served as defensive structures. The first settlements came in the late 1880s, where Jewish settlements were established in Israel/Palestine.

However, today settlements refer to the illegal construction of settlements in the West Bank and Gaza. The settlements in Gaza were dismantled in 2005. The settlements receive privileged access to roads and water as well as other benefits making it attractive even with the continuing security risks.

Most settlers are armed and there are regular clashes with Palestinians often over land, but also direct unprovoked attacks from both sides.

Quick statistics

The estimate of Israeli settlements (and settlers) depend on the source:

270.000 in 150 settlements.
(Source: Jewish Library)

390.000 in 198 settlements
(Source:Palestine Monitor)

Terms

Expropriation: A government overtaking property by paying compensation but against the owner's will. The compensation is often limited when Israel takes over property due to security concerns.

Geneva convention: Four treaties that set the international law for humanitarian behavior.

IDF: This is the abbreviation used for the Israeli Defense Forces.

Occupied territories: This is used to describe the areas Gaza and the West Bank.

Palestinian national authority: Established after peace talks in 1992 to govern Palestinian affairs in the self-rule areas within the West Bank and Gaza.

Torah: Refers to all Jewish religious literature, law and teaching that guide the right way of living.