



FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
Charles University in Prague

The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

Infrastructure

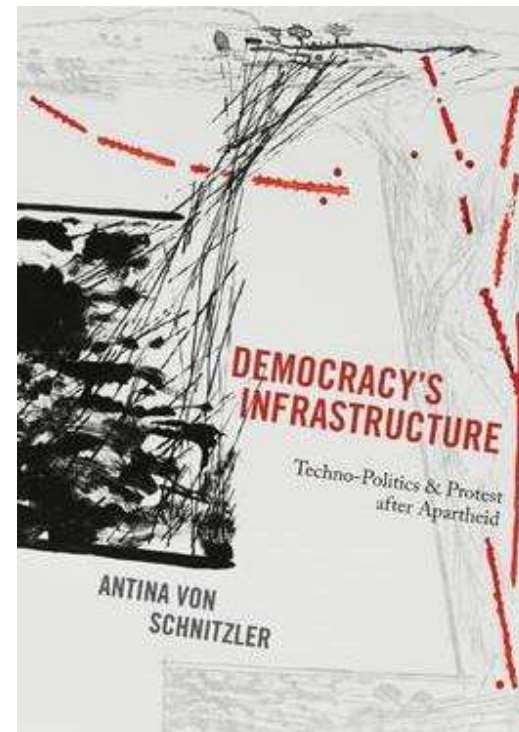
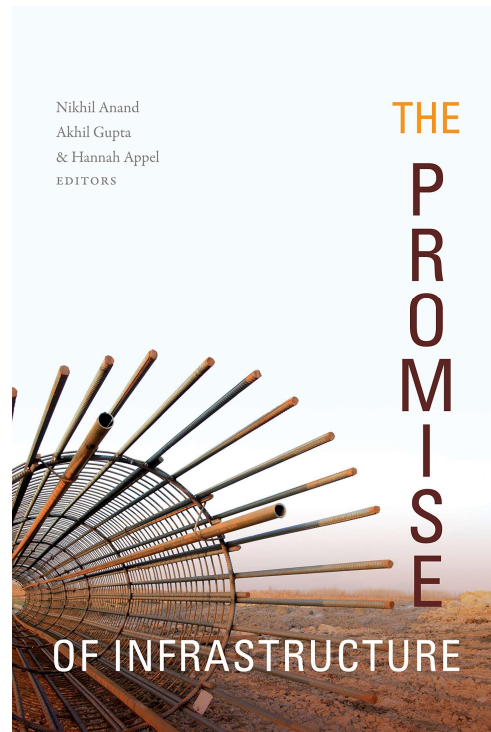
April 28, 2020

Outline

- Organizational matters
- What is infrastructure?
- The wall/fence/barrier
- Checkpoints
- Roads
- Water

- Folder for the final paper proposals set up in moodle
- Make-up weekly assignment will be due on May 22

Infrastructure



- “infrastructure appears only as a relational property not as a thing stripped of use” (Star and Ruhleder 1996: 113)
- “we notice [infrastructures] mainly when they fail, which they rarely do” (Edwards 2004: 185)
- “Class, gender, race, and kinship are all refracted through differentiated access to infrastructure, deciding whether water or electricity is available and to whom” (Appel, Anand and Gupta 2018: 6)
- “one person’s infrastructure is another one’s issue, or difficulty” Star (1999: 380)

Bureaucratic Infrastructure

- According to the Berda's text, what have been the main transformations of the Israeli rule over the Palestinians since 1967?
- Why does she talk about „effective inefficiency“?
- What are the most problematic aspects of the permit system?

The wall/fence/barrier

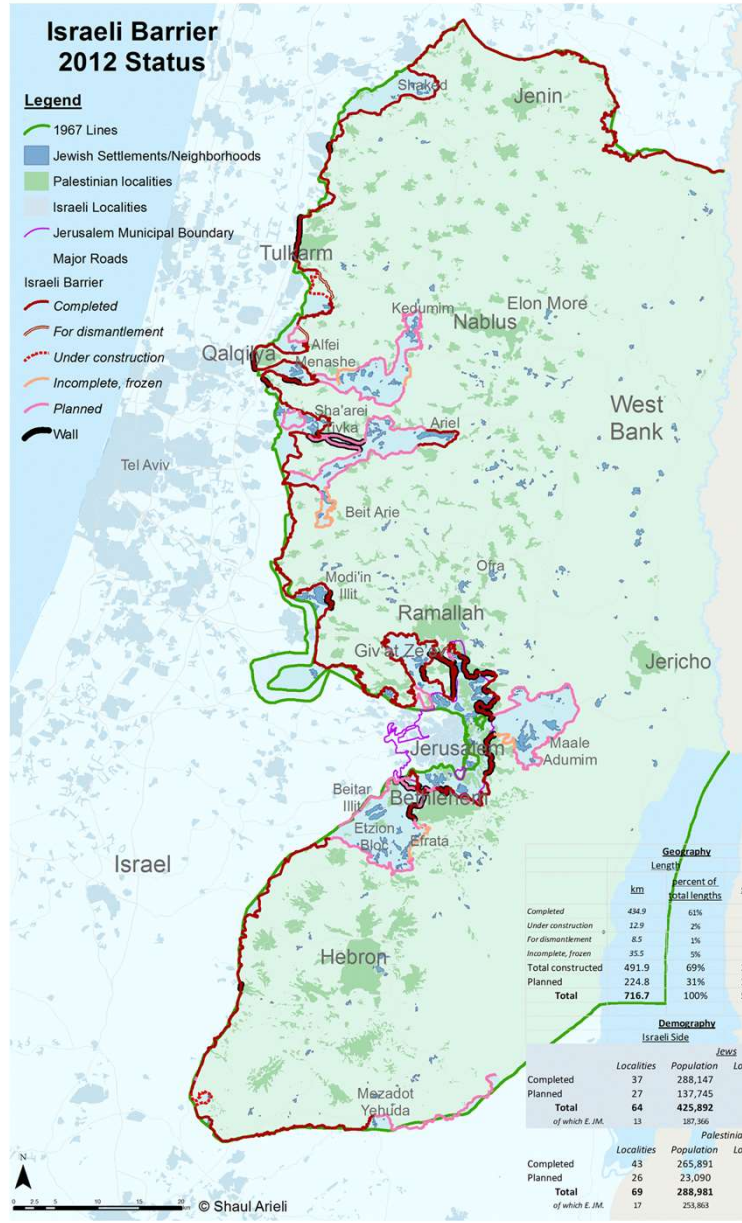
- Do the labels matter? Why?



- Israeli officials: security fence
- Israeli settlers: separation barrier
- Palestinians and international activists: Apartheid wall

Israeli Barrier 2012 Status

- Legend**
- 1967 Lines
 - Jewish Settlements/Neighborhoods
 - Palestinian localities
 - Israeli Localities
 - Jerusalem Municipal Boundary
 - Major Roads
 - Israeli Barrier
 - Completed
 - For dismantlement
 - Under construction
 - Incomplete, frozen
 - Planned
 - Wall

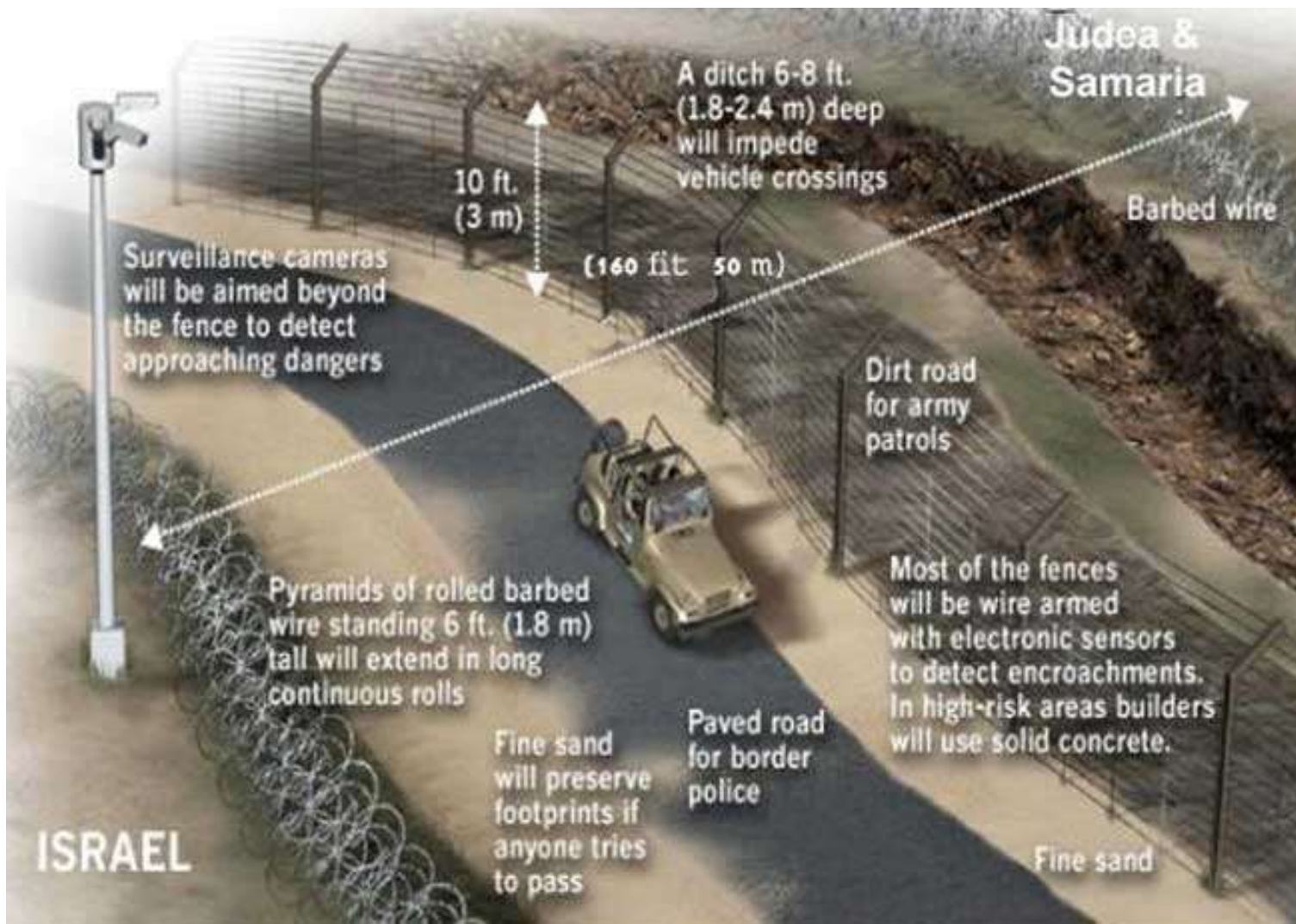


Statistics			
Length	km		Area
	km	percent of total length	sq km
Completed	434.9	61%	
Under construction	12.9	2%	
For dismantlement	8.5	1%	
Incomplete, frozen	35.5	5%	
Total constructed	491.9	69%	298.7
Planned	224.8	31%	221.4
Total	716.7	100%	520.1

Demography				
	Israeli Side		Palestinian Side	
	Localities	Population	Localities	Population
Completed	37	288,147		
Planned	27	137,745		
Total	64	425,892	74	72,464
of which E.J.M.	13	187,366		
	Palestinians		Jews	
Completed	43	265,891		
Planned	26	23,090		
Total	69	288,981	723	2,124,944
of which E.J.M.	17	253,863	2	25,598







Judea & Samaria

A ditch 6-8 ft. (1.8-2.4 m) deep will impede vehicle crossings

Barbed wire

10 ft. (3 m)

(160 ft 50 m)

Surveillance cameras will be aimed beyond the fence to detect approaching dangers

Dirt road for army patrols

Pyramids of rolled barbed wire standing 6 ft. (1.8 m) tall will extend in long continuous rolls

Most of the fences will be wire armed with electronic sensors to detect encroachments. In high-risk areas builders will use solid concrete.

Fine sand will preserve footprints if anyone tries to pass

Paved road for border police

Fine sand

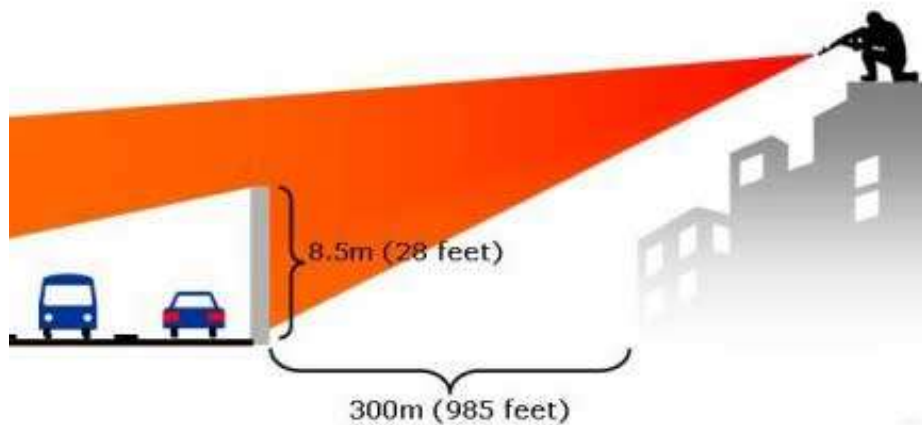
ISRAEL

- What does Weizman mean by the notion of “lesser evil” and how it relates to humanitarian policies?
- Based on the chapter, how was the barrier’s route designed?
- What were the considerations and rationales that determined its exact route?
- What are some of the main critiques of the barrier’s existence?

Group discussion

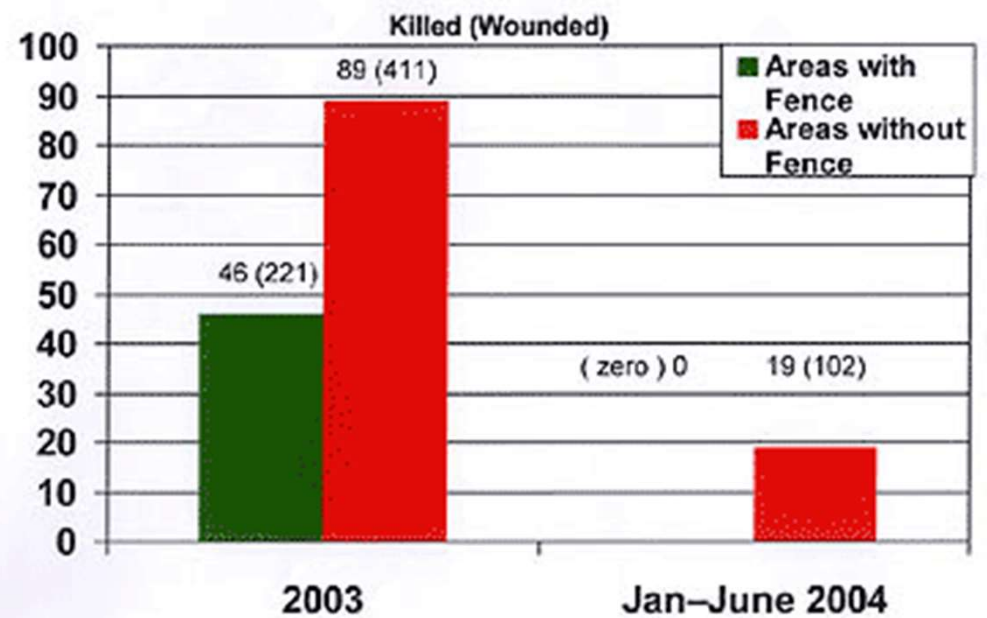
- Weizman talks about the hesitance of the Palestinian lawyer to participate in the judicial process regarding the barrier's route
- What dilemmas did he (and other Palestinians and NGOs involved) faced?

- Do you see the Palestinian lawyer's decision as understandable?
- What would be advisable course of action in your opinion?
- Should the Palestinians, NGOs and human rights lawyers cooperate with the Israeli authorities? Why yes/no?



Victims of suicide attacks before & after Security Fence

* Attacks in Israel originating in Judea & Samaria *





סכנת חיים
שטח צבאי

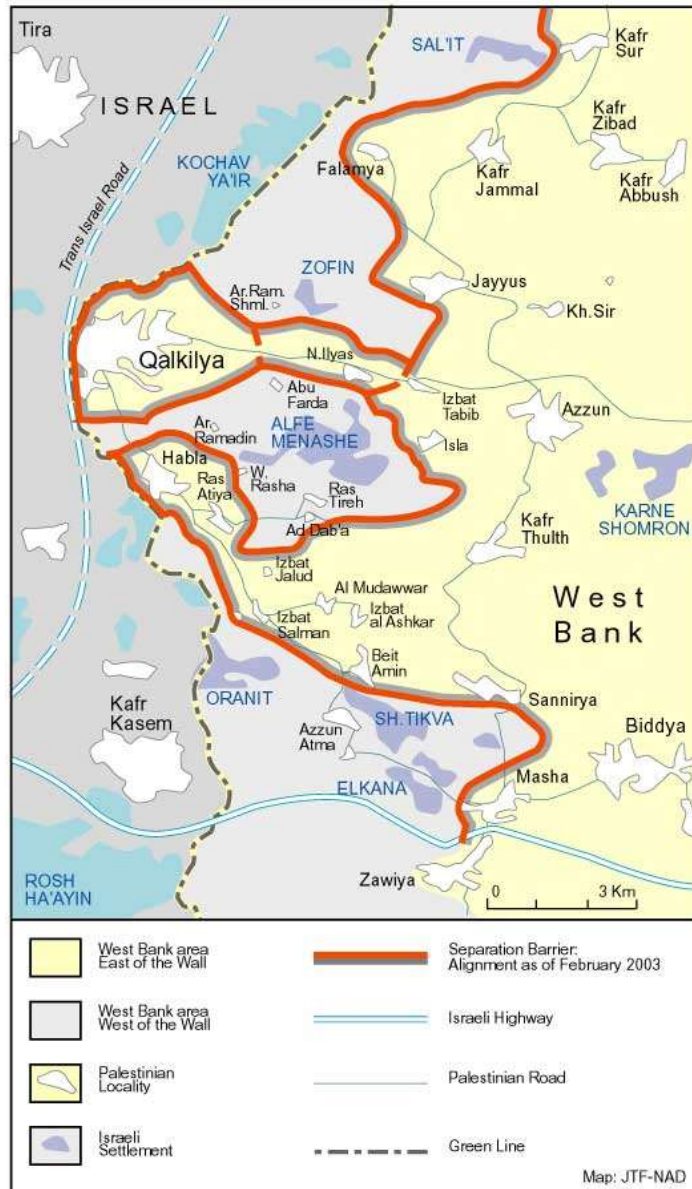
כל העובר או הפוגע בגדר
מסתכן בנפשו

خطر الموت - منطقة عسكرية

كل من يعبر أو يلمس الجدار
يعرض نفسه للخطر

MORTAL DANGER - MILITARY ZONE
ANY PERSON WHO PASSES OR DAMAGES THE FENCE
ENDANGERS HIS LIFE

West Bank Separation Barrier: Qalkilya and Environs

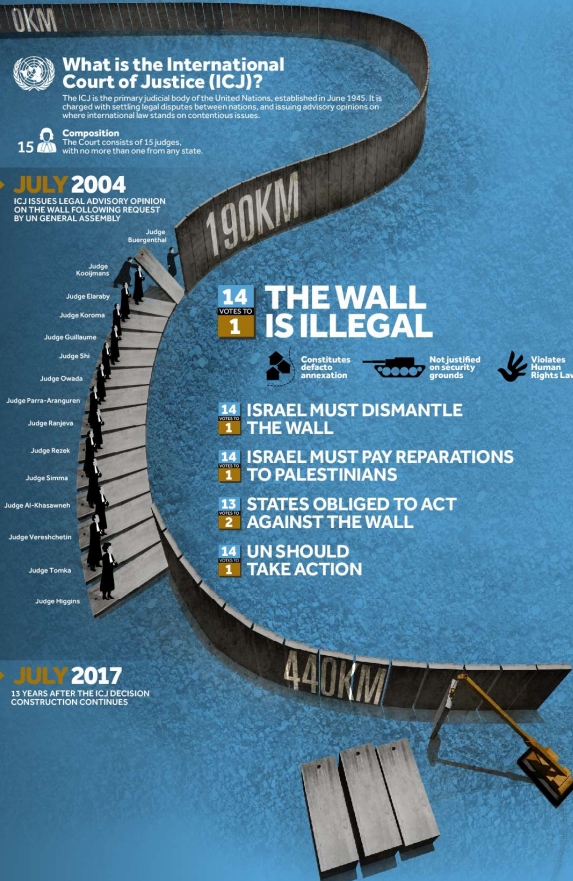


WHERE LAW STANDS ON THE WALL

INTERNATIONAL LAW AND THE ONGOING CONSTRUCTION OF ISRAEL'S WALL IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN WEST BANK

JUNE 2002

ISRAELI CABINET APPROVES THE CONSTRUCTION OF A "CONTINUOUS FENCE" IN THE WEST BANK



What is the International Court of Justice (ICJ)?

The ICJ is the primary judicial body of the United Nations, established in June 1945. It is charged with settling legal disputes between nations, and issuing advisory opinions on where international law stands on contentious issues.

Composition
The Court consists of 15 judges, with no more than one from any state.

JULY 2004

ICJ ISSUES LEGAL ADVISORY OPINION ON THE WALL FOLLOWING REQUEST BY UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- Judge Buergenthal
- Judge Koopmans
- Judge Elaraby
- Judge Koroma
- Judge Oustama
- Judge Shi
- Judge Owada
- Judge Parra-Aranguren
- Judge Ranjiva
- Judge Rezek
- Judge Simma
- Judge Al-Khasawneh
- Judge Vereshchetin
- Judge Tonka
- Judge Higgins

14 VOTES TO
1 AGAINST

THE WALL IS ILLEGAL

- Constitutes de facto annexation
- Not justified on security grounds
- Violates Human Rights Law

14 VOTES TO
1 AGAINST

ISRAEL MUST DISMANTLE THE WALL

14 VOTES TO
1 AGAINST

ISRAEL MUST PAY REPARATIONS TO PALESTINIANS

13 VOTES TO
2 AGAINST

STATES OBLIGED TO ACT AGAINST THE WALL

14 VOTES TO
1 AGAINST

UN SHOULD TAKE ACTION

JULY 2017

15 YEARS AFTER THE ICJ DECISION CONSTRUCTION CONTINUES

SOURCES
 ICJ, 2012, About the Court (accessed on 1 May 2013)
<http://www.icj-cij.org/CourP/index.php?l=13>
 ICJ, 2004, Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory
 UN OCHA, 2014, Fact Sheet on the Humanitarian Impact of the Barrier
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 05 JUL 2017

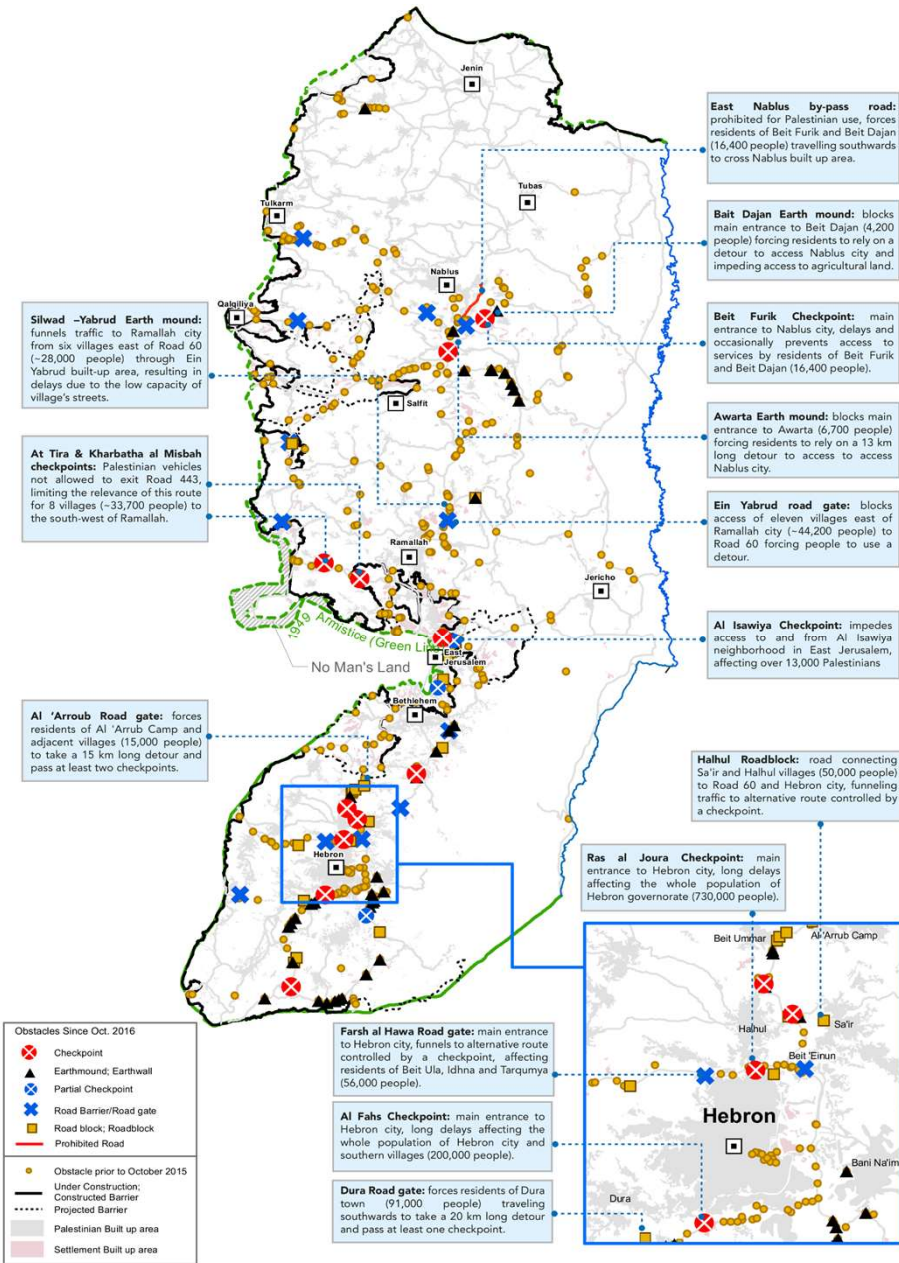
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Checkpoints

- According to Na'aman's article, why human rights violations occur at the checkpoints?



- According to B'Tselem, there were 215 checkpoints in 2006 in the West Bank (quoted in Tawil-Souri 2011: 8)
- According to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, there were 117 permanent checkpoints in the West Bank in 2005 (quoted in Abujidi 2011: 318).



The Barrier Route in the West Bank July 2011





Checkpoint 300

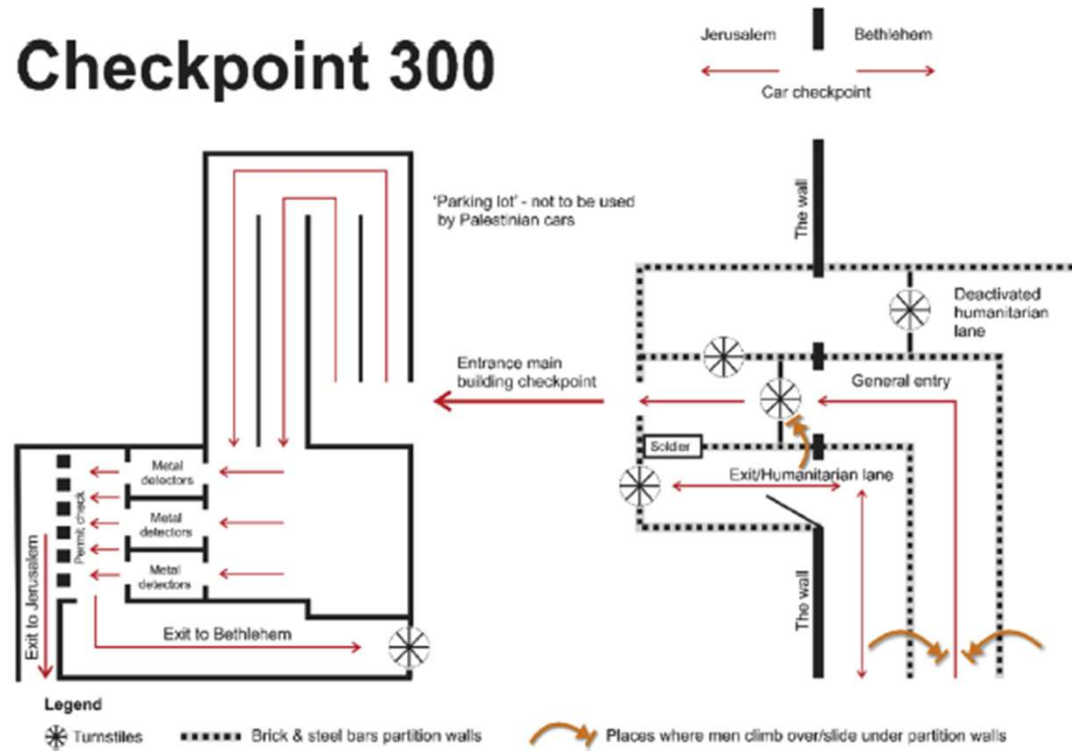


Fig. 1. A map of Checkpoint 300 based on the first author's field notes and drawings during her multiple passages of the checkpoint (source: Iulian Barba Lata).

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vn1ldFbNhIQ>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mvTJhxWeegY>

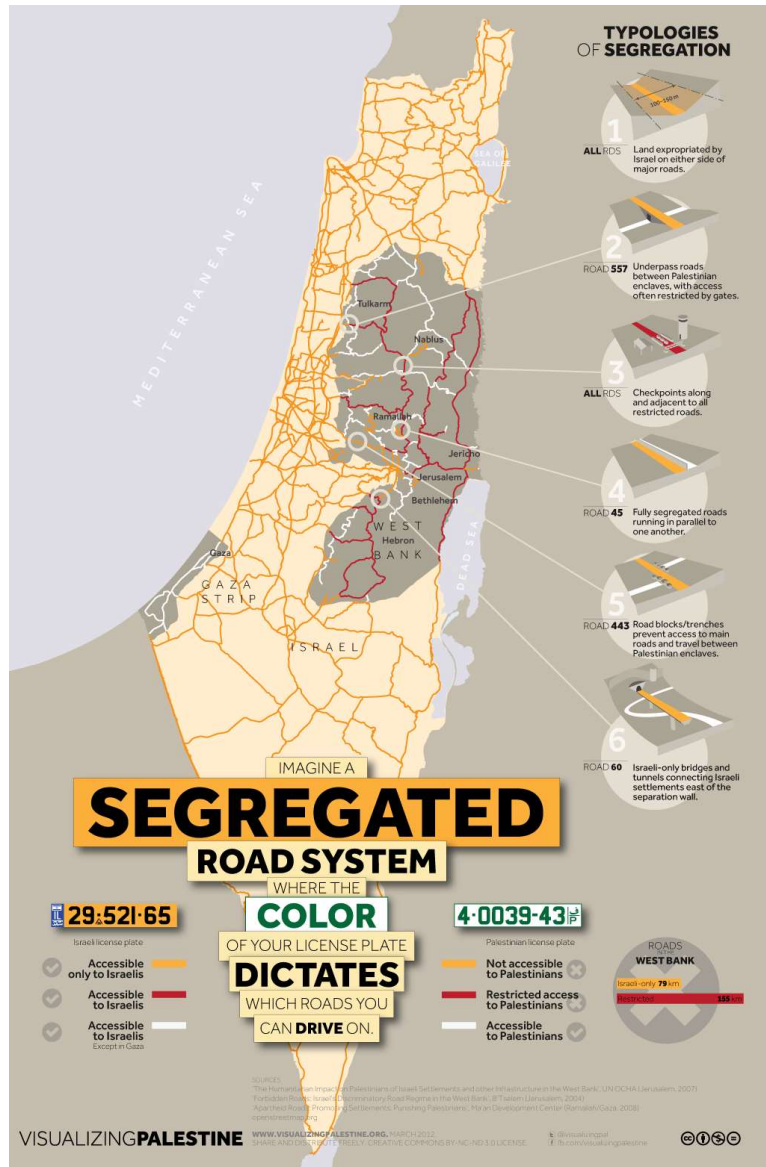
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ysbyGSShydG>

Group discussion

- Is the checkpoints' operating justifiable?
 - What purpose do they serve according to the Israeli authorities?
 - How does it compare with the costs imposed on the Palestinians?
 - Could their functioning be improved?



Roads





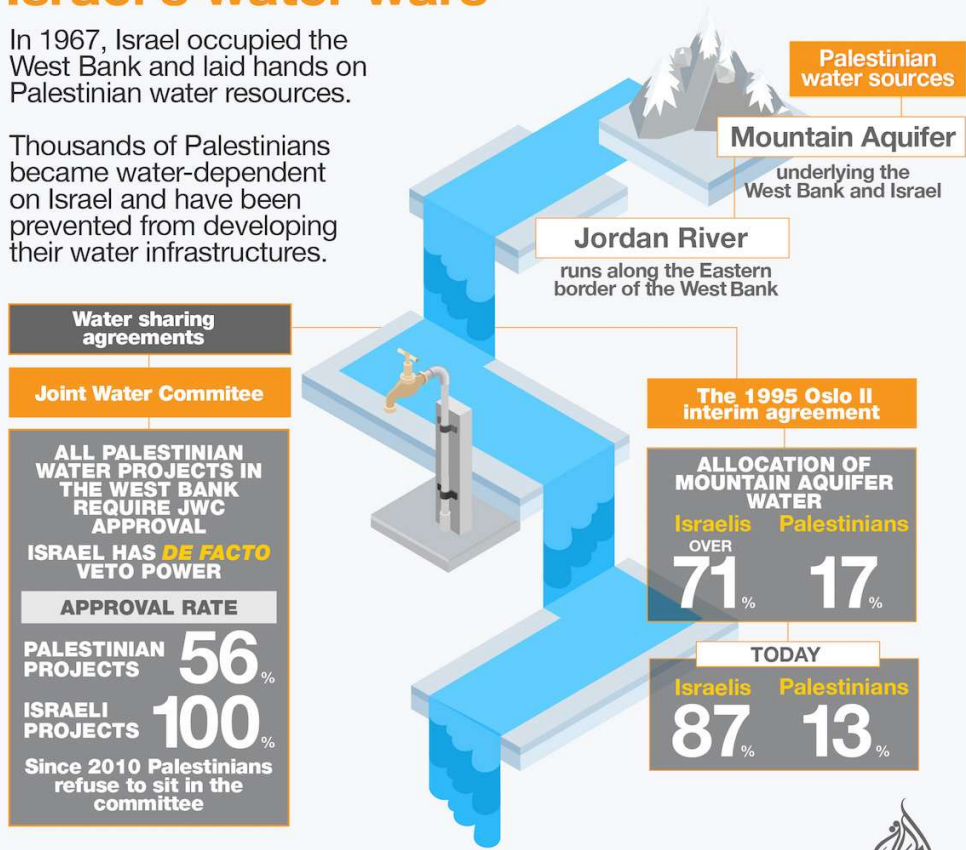


Water

Israel's water wars

In 1967, Israel occupied the West Bank and laid hands on Palestinian water resources.

Thousands of Palestinians became water-dependent on Israel and have been prevented from developing their water infrastructures.



Sources: EWASH | United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)



Israel's water wars

Every year the water supply to Palestinian towns and villages in the West Bank is cut off for days - if not weeks.

Here is how much water each person in the West Bank has access to per day



In Area C, under Israeli administrative and military control **180 Palestinian communities** are not connected to the water network

Vulnerable Palestinian households spend up to **one fifth** of their salary on water



Sources: EWASH | United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)



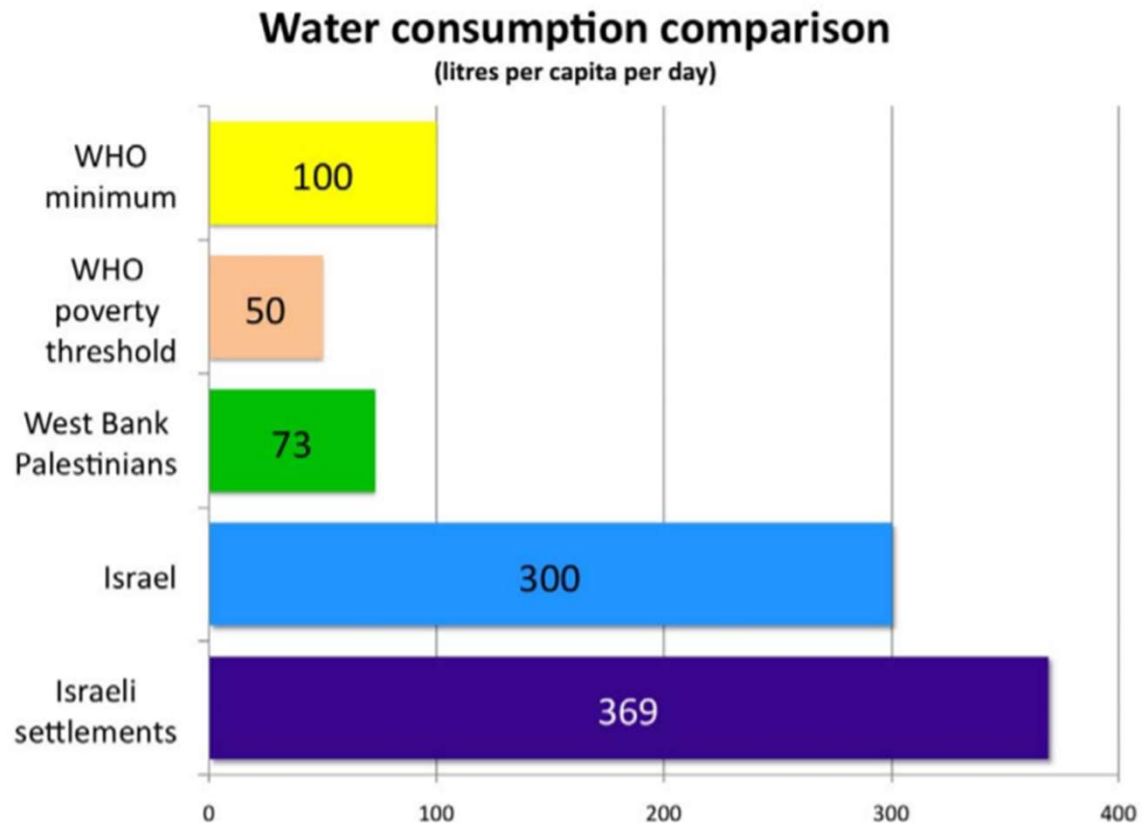
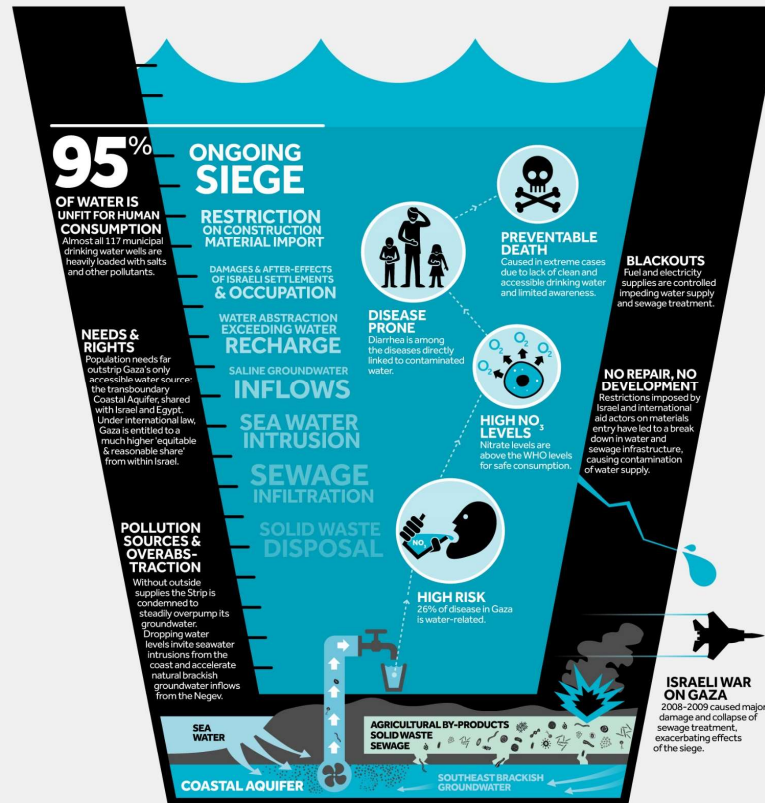


Figure 12: Water consumption comparison in the region.

<http://www.alhaq.org/publications/publications-index/item/water-for-one-people-only-discriminatory-access-and-water-apartheid-in-the-opt>

GAZA WATER CONFINED & CONTAMINATED



SOURCES

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 See the Children and Medical Aid for Palestine, 2012, Gaza's Children: Facing Beyond The effects of the blockade on their health in Gaza, pp. 5, 16, 17.
 The Right to Justice, 2003, Right to Water in PT, pp. 19, 20.
 UNICEF, March 2011, Protecting Children from Unsafe Water in Gaza, pp. 7, 9, 10, 16.
 World Bank, 2009, Assessment of Restrictions on Palestinian Water Sector Development - West Bank and Gaza - pp. 27, 28, 30 (30) for source. February review, WHO, Gaza City, November 2012.

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29 AUG 2012