

Israeli (Government) Institutions and Their Impact on Palestinians in East Jerusalem



INTRODUCTION



November 2020

Israeli policy has aimed since 1967 to politically unite the city of Jerusalem and consolidate in it a Jewish majority, while maintaining in practice an economic disparity between the Arab and Jewish parts of the city. Consequently, Israeli policymaking regarding East Jerusalem - whether in national or municipal institutions – has been to the clear disadvantage of the Palestinian population, severely limiting their growth and development.

The organizational structure of the Israeli system does not enable suitable representation of Palestinian Jerusalemites, who have no authority on their own as the Palestinian Authority (PA) has no jurisdiction in Jerusalem, leaving Arab East Jerusalem in a state of limbo. This, paired with the centralization of power towards national Israeli authorities, result in a widespread ignorance or neglect of Palestinian rights and needs.

In many areas – especially in fields related to planning and infrastructure - there is also an overlapping involvement of local (municipal) and central (national) government and often additional other agencies. This cross-over between municipality and government complicates the bureaucracy and highly politicizes decision-making.


This bulletin attempts to give an overview of the landscape of Israeli institutions with which ordinary Palestinians are forced to deal with in their daily lives in East Jerusalem, over which Israel claims *de jure* sovereignty, and show how they are *de facto* structurally disadvantaged by the activities of these institutions.


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LEGAL FRAMEWORK	
KNESSET	 <p>Israel's parliament serves as the legislative branch of government. Its legislation applies to East Jerusalem since 1967, when the Israeli government applied its laws, regulations and administration to the illegally annexed part of the city.</p>
What they do	<p>All the laws passed by the Knesset apply to East Jerusalem. Of special importance is the "Basic Law - Jerusalem Capital of Israel", passed by the Knesset in 1980, determining "united Jerusalem is Israel's capital." This basic law has been revised in 2017 to require a majority of 80 Members of Knesset (MK) (out of 120 in total, i.e., 66%) for redefining the city's municipal boundaries. Thus, legislation can redefine the city's municipal boundaries. Since 2018 Israeli MKs have tried and failed to shunt Arab majority areas beyond the separation barrier, seeking to preserve a receding Jewish majority within the city's municipal boundaries.</p>
Who has to deal with them	<p>Excising Arab majority parts of the city could be a step toward denying inhabitants of excised areas their permanent resident status and its associated social security and health rights as well as limit their freedom of access to the rest of city.</p>
How Palestinians are affected/discriminated	<p>The status of the overwhelming majority of Palestinian Jerusalemites in Israeli law is "permanent residents" rather than citizens. Knesset legislation directly affects them even though as such they do not have the right to vote or be elected.</p>



JUDICIAL FRAMEWORK	
HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE	 <p>Israel's Supreme Court, when ruling as the High Court of Justice (also known by its Hebrew acronym <i>Bagatz</i>), rules on legality of decisions made by the state authorities, municipalities and other public bodies.</p>
What they do	<p>The High Court can discuss issues that are beyond the jurisdiction of the regular juridical court instance. In a precedent setting case from 1988 the High Court of Justice enabled the State of Israel to revoke the residency of Mubarak Awad, a Jerusalem born Palestinian-American psychologist and an activist of nonviolent resistance. This ruling laid down the legal framework of revoking the residency and other rights of East-Jerusalemites.</p> <p>In 2017, the High Court of Justice has unanimously ruled, in another precedent setting case, that the Israeli status of East Jerusalem residents is unique by virtue of the fact that they were born in the city; therefore, an expired residency status may be restored.</p> <p>In 2018, the High Court canceled the strict separation of services given by the Ministry of Interior between East and West Jerusalem, enabling East Jerusalemites to receive services of the Population and Immigration Authority all over the city and not only in the designated, mediocre branch located in the Ministry of the Interior branch in East Jerusalem.</p>
Who has to deal with them	<p>Any person, not only Israeli residents or citizens, and civil society organizations, can appeal to the High Court of Justice against the different state authorities and court instances. Palestinian residents of East Jerusalem and civil society organization regularly appeal to the High Court on various issues.</p>

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<p>How Palestinians are affected/discriminated</p>	<p>The High Court of Justice is an address for Palestinian Jerusalemites to appeal against injustices caused to them by the Israeli system. On some issues, such as residency, education, services and welfare the High Court helps to moderate and reduce the damage caused to Palestinians from the Israeli discriminatory policies in East Jerusalem. On other issues, especially on matters of security, house demolition, planning and zoning, the High Court tends to minimize its involvement, <i>de facto</i> enabling the state to apply discriminatory actions.</p>
<p>THE ISRAELI COURTS IN JERUSALEM</p>	<div data-bbox="359 493 542 734" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>The local Magistrate and District Court in Jerusalem and the Supreme Court, form together the Israeli civil (administrative) and criminal court system. These institutions are the judiciary address of East Jerusalemites when faced with legal challenges, including, for example, evictions from properties taken by settlers.</p> <p>The Israeli court system has a separate religious court system that deals with religious and family affairs. In this sense East Jerusalem is an anomaly, having in tandem the Jordanian, Palestinian and Israeli religious courts.</p> <p>Similarly, work and labor issues are separately dealt with in the Labor Courts of Israel.</p>
<p>What they do</p>	<p>Judge and rule on all legal issues in Jerusalem according to the Israeli law.</p>
<p>Who has to deal with them</p>	<p>Jerusalemites and West-Bankers who have to deal with the Israeli law in Jerusalem.</p>
<p>How Palestinians are affected/discriminated</p>	<p>These courts rule according to the Israeli law. As such, they reflect the inherent discrimination imbedded in it.</p> <p>One manifest example is the way settlers' organizations such as Ateret Cohanim, Elad and others, dispossess Palestinians in East Jerusalem of their real-estate arguing ownership prior to 1948, while Palestinians cannot reclaim real-estate in West Jerusalem based on pre-1948 ownership.</p> <p>Palestinian children in East Jerusalem that throw stones are usually judged on ideological grounds, while Jewish children that commit a similar felony are judged on criminal grounds, thus enjoying protections they are entitled to as minors.¹</p>

<p>POLITICAL FRAMEWORK</p>	
<p>PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (PMO)</p>	<div data-bbox="335 1561 502 1744" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>The PMO sets policy parameters, also for Jerusalem, and initiates cabinet decisions regarding Jerusalem, notably ones directing funds to reinforce Israel's goals. It coordinates inter-ministerial activities in various fields, in accordance with government resolutions and the priorities.</p>
<p>What they do</p>	<p>The PMO generally does not officially involve itself in the daily running of East Jerusalem. When it does it is through contact with specific ministries (Housing, Interior, Health, and Internal Security) and the Municipality. The PMO does exceptionally directly shape Israel's policies towards the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound/Al-Haram Ash-Sharif.</p>
<p>Who has to deal with them</p>	<p>Official state institutions</p>

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<p>How Palestinians are affected/discriminated</p>	<p>In its activity, the PMO reflects the Israeli policy of maintaining demographic balance and strengthening the Israeli sovereignty in Jerusalem.</p>	
<p>GOVERNMENT</p>		<p>Israel's government allocates distinct funding to Jerusalem given its status as capital in Israeli law.</p>
<p>What they do</p>	<p>Israel's "capital grant" has been almost entirely focused on Jewish majority areas for decades. Since 2018 Israel's government allocates funding to "narrowing socio-economic gaps" between Arab and Jewish parts of the city – Government Decision 3790 for the Reduction of Socio-economic Gaps and Economic Development in East Jerusalem – NIS 400 million annually – an otherwise consequential sum which pales in contrast to decades of neglect and discrimination.</p> <p>Plan 3790's actual political goal is to assert Israeli sovereignty.</p>	
<p>Who has to deal with them</p>	<p>Israel's gap-narrowing funding since 2018 incentivizes Palestinian schools to adopt the Israeli curricula.</p>	
<p>How Palestinians are affected/discriminated</p>	<p>Successive Israeli governments have pursued the same course, by strengthening the Israeli hold on East Jerusalem through the construction of Jewish settlements, establishing Israeli institutions in the East, and restricting Palestinian growth.</p>	
<p>JERUSALEM MUNICIPALITY</p>		<p>The Jerusalem Municipality is the district authority for East and West Jerusalem.</p>
<p>What they do</p>	<p>The Jerusalem Municipality (City Hall) is charged with the day-to-day running of the city.</p> <p>Most of the Municipality's budget comes from locally raised property tax (the <i>Arnona</i>), but the city authorities are hampered by the fact that Jerusalem is the Capital City and the country's largest city, and also the poorest.</p> <p>City Hall deals on the local level with education, construction and housing, finance, health, transportation, tourism and more.</p>	
<p>Who has to deal with them</p>	<p>Residents of Jerusalem who reside and work in the city. Anyone that wants to build and/or develop anything in the city.</p> <p>Tentants and businessowners having to pay the municipal property tax (<i>Arnona</i>).</p> <p>East Jerusalem residents are entitled to vote in municipal elections but as part of the Palestinian practice of non-violent resistance to the Israeli occupation, they boycotted them and are not represented in the city council.</p>	




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<p>How Palestinians are affected/discriminated</p>	<p>The Jerusalem Municipality reflects at the local level, through its far-reaching, broad neglect of East Jerusalem's Palestinian areas (in infrastructure and services, education, construction and housing (including house demolition), finance, health, transport, and tourism), the government's decision to maintain a Jewish majority in Jerusalem.</p> <p>While in recent decades the Palestinian population in East Jerusalem amounted to 30%-40% of the city's population, the average municipal investment in the Palestinian areas of Jerusalem was only around 10% (maximalist models do not exceed 16%)². This discrimination goes even further due to the fact that poverty among Palestinians in East Jerusalem has been around 70%-80%, almost double from West Jerusalem, on its own one of the poorest cities in Israel.³</p> <p>Despite the significant socio-economic differences between East and West Jerusalem, Palestinians must pay the same tax rates as Israelis. Many Palestinian residents are unable to afford these costs, especially the municipal property tax (<i>arnona</i>), which accounts for most of the municipality's self-generated income⁴ and is calculated according to the area, size, state and quality of a building - is a huge burden for Palestinians and has forced many to move out of the city. Furthermore, in West Jerusalem most of the buildings constructed are multi-storey buildings, so the expenses are divided among several tenants, while in the Palestinian sector the units are much smaller, which increases the costs to be paid per household. The tax is therefore widely seen as a form of discrimination as it affects Palestinians disproportionately. If people are unable to pay their <i>arnona</i> tax, the municipality files cases against them and imposes punitive measures that vary from more fines to the seizure of property and even imprisonment.⁵</p> <p><i>Arnona</i> taxes also apply to businesses, where the rates are determined by the size and location of the property and not its economic revenue, which has forced many shops and other businesses to close. Israeli authorities have been offering merchants generous incentives to sell their stores if they cannot pay taxes, thus using taxation as a tool to confiscate Palestinian property and expand Jewish control over and colonization of the Old City.⁶</p>
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DEVELOPMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE FRAMEWORK		
<p>The issue of housing and construction (zoning, planning, building and demolishing homes, developing infrastructure etc.) is as a key tool for the state of Israel to implement its demographic policy in Jerusalem aimed at maintaining a Jewish majority, by curbing Palestinian residence and development in Jerusalem. Since 1967, the state of Israel has built over 50,000 housing units in its settlements in East Jerusalem and did not build a single new neighborhood for Palestinians in the city, despite the fact that their population has more than quadrupled. For Palestinians it is practically impossible to receive a building permit and houses built without a permit are heavily fined and demolished. These policies push Palestinians to move to the West Bank, where they are liable to lose their Jerusalem residency and/or their civil rights. All the different planning authorities on the national, regional and local (municipal) levels carry out this policy.</p>		
<p>THE AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE (JDC)</p>		<p>A large Jewish relief organization based in New York City.</p>
<p>What they do</p>	<p>During the second decade of the 21st Century the JDC started to finance humanitarian projects in East Jerusalem, focusing on socio-economic development. This engagement significantly increased after the Israeli government launched decision 3790 in 2018.</p>	
<p>Who has to deal with them</p>	<p>JDC Israel funds designated employment centers for the Arab Population in East Jerusalem, with special programs for women and young professional.</p>	
<p>How Palestinians are affected/discriminated</p>	<p>Tries to deepen the integration of Palestinian Jerusalemites in West Jerusalem and Israeli society, among others by helping tackle unemployment.</p>	



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JEWISH NATIONAL FUND (JNF)	 <p>JEWISH NATIONAL FUND <i>Your Voice in Israel</i></p>	<p>(Hebrew: Keren Kayemeth L'Yisrael or KKL, English: Perpetual Fund Capital for Israel). Pre-state Zionist organization founded in 1901 to raise funds in Jewish communities for the purpose of purchasing, settling and developing land in Palestine for Jews exclusively.</p>
What they do	<p>Engaged in “acquiring land in Palestine and transferring it to the ownership of the people, reclaiming and afforesting land, leasing out land for settlement and housing, and administering its lands.”⁷</p> <p>The JNF deals with acquiring and developing land and promoting Jewish settlements. In recent years the connection between the JNF and the Israeli right has been proven.⁸</p>	
Who has to deal with them	<p>Mainly Palestinian Jerusalemites evicted from their homes by settlers.</p> <p>In Jerusalem the JNF is closely cooperating with settler organizations, especially with Ela'd in Silwan, playing a key role in the eviction of Palestinians from their homes and inserting Jewish settlers in their place.</p> <p>This activity is done through JNF's subsidiarity, the Himanuta company.</p>	
How Palestinians are affected/discriminated	<p>The JNF itself does not shy away from admitting that its principal mission is to settle all of historic Palestine.</p> <p>It finances settlement activity in the occupied Palestinian territories, which is illegal under international law.</p> <p>At least 10 assets in Silwan and several other assets in Abu Tor were transferred to settlers with the active help of the JNF.⁹ Currently, the Palestinian Sumarin family from Silwan is conducting a legal struggle against the JNF to prevent the eviction of their home and transferring it to Ela'd.¹⁰</p>	
ISRAELI NATURE AND PARKS AUTHORITY (INPA)		<p>The INPA is the governing body for natural parks, nature reserves and sites of national heritage. Its powers are based on a law from 1968 (National Parks, Nature Reserves, National Sites and Memorial Sites Law). The INPA was established as two entities which were unified in 1998.¹¹</p>
What they do	<p>The INPA administers national heritage sites in Jerusalem. In these sites its authority and executive power bypasses the Jerusalem Municipality.</p>	
Who has to deal with them	<p>Palestinian East Jerusalemites who live in or adjacent to areas defined as a natural park or a national heritage site, especially in Walajeh, Silwan, At-Tur and Issawiya.</p>	
How Palestinians are affected/discriminated	<p>Parts of East Jerusalem are declared as national parks, promoting Zionist agendas and narratives. Land reserves are declared as national parks to limit Palestinian urban development as part of the demographic policy of maintaining a Jewish majority in the city and creating a bridge of land between Jerusalem and the illegal settlements inside the OPT.</p> <p>Manifest examples: Land of Walajeh village (parts of which are in the south of East Jerusalem) were taken and made national parks, including the Ein Haniya spring.¹²</p> <p>The national heritage and archeological site “City of David” located in Silwan was transferred by the INPA to Israeli right-wing settler organization Elad.¹³</p> <p>The “Mount Scopus Slopes” National Park takes away the land reserves of At-Tur and Issawiya, limiting future development of both villages/neighborhoods.¹⁴</p>	
JERUSALEM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (JDA)	 <p>THE JERUSALEM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY</p>	<p>The JDA is a statutory corporation and joint agency of the Israeli government/state of Israel and the Jerusalem Municipality.</p> <p>It is under the authority of the Minister of Finance, the Minister for Jerusalem Affairs and the Mayor.</p>


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What they do	<p>The JDA promotes and develops the Israeli economy of Jerusalem. As such it is an agent of land expropriation from Palestinians in the eastern part of the city. Its ties to both the Municipality and the Israeli Development Authority create a bridge between the local and national branches of the Israeli government, and together they have complete control over spatial matters in Jerusalem.</p> <p>The JDA promotes tourism and launches events and festivals around the Old City. It is also the main institutional engine behind the plan to build a cable car to Silwan and the Old City (together with the Ministry of Tourism), in cooperation with the settler organization Elad.</p> <p>The JDA promotes a specific zoning plan to the city center of East Jerusalem (located north of the Old City). It has also promoted construction in Jewish settlements in East Jerusalem and was involved in building the Jerusalem's largest industrial park in Atarot, adjacent to Qalandiya checkpoint.</p>	
Who has to deal with them	<p>Anyone needing to advance public and private initiatives including infrastructure projects. Residents of the Old City and its environs and those residing in proximity to touristic sites.</p>	
How Palestinians are affected/discriminated	<p>The JDA is an instrumental actor that saw through plans of settlement expansion in East Jerusalem, and it was the instigator behind the controversial Jerusalem light rail project.¹⁵</p> <p>It has also been instrumental in extending the Israeli presence through planning settlement and road construction along with other projects over the Green Line in East Jerusalem.¹⁶</p>	
NATIONAL PLANNING AND BUILDING COUNCIL (NPBC)		<p>The NPBC is the supreme authority for planning and building in the State of Israel, acting according to the Planning and Building Law and is subjected to governmental decision.</p> <p>The Council is an overarching state entity that oversees planning and building matters in Israel. It works alongside the Israeli Planning Administration (IPA) as well as the regional district planning committees and is made up of representatives from various sectors. Council members include representatives from the Prime Minister's office, the Ministry of Interior, the labor Ministry and the Treasury, as well as from the army, the Jewish Agency, the JNF, and the INPA, etc. alongside environmental and other civil society bodies.</p>
What they do	<p>The NPBC deals with planning and building on the national level.</p>	
Who has to deal with them	<p>Palestinian individuals and businesses who fail to secure construction permits.</p>	
How Palestinians are affected/discriminated	<p>The national and regional level institutions who hold the decision-making power over matters related to land distribution, planning and building, the financial bodies, and the executives and legislative branches of the State of Israel are clearly linked. The law does not oblige the Council to include a Palestinian representative making it difficult for Palestinians to have a say in matters related to planning and national master plans.</p>	
NATIONAL INFRA-STRUCTURE COMMITTEE (NIC)		<p>The National Infrastructure Committee is responsible for infrastructure projects and developments in all areas including water, fuel, electricity, and transportation.</p>
What they do	<p>Together with the land, development and planning authorities, the NIC has control over planning decisions at the regional and local level, i.e., over approval or denial of infrastructure plans.</p> <p>In charge of national infrastructure projects, in Jerusalem the NIC promotes the cable car project to the Old City and is involved in developing the fast train from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem's Old City.</p>	
Who has to deal with them	<p>Planners and builders.</p>	

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<p>How Palestinians are affected/discriminated</p>	<p>Planning is centralized by the national government, in which Palestinian representation, especially of Jerusalemites, is minimal. Palestinian individuals thus have little to no lobbying power in the decision-making process. Their only option is to sign a petition or submit objections.</p> <p>The NIC played a key role in allowing the Jerusalem cable car project to go ahead despite criticism from the Palestinian population as well as from Israeli environmentalists and architects.</p>	
<p>MORIAH</p>		<p>Company established in 1987 to join together the Municipality, Israeli government ministries, the Israel Land Authority, and other official bodies to coordinate in carrying out agreed development plans, many of which are in East Jerusalem.</p>
<p>What they do</p>	<p>Moriah develops the infrastructure in Jerusalem and performs public work for the local government. Projects included the light rail¹⁷ and many highways and roads</p>	
<p>Who has to deal with them</p>	<p>Local and national authorities, planners and builders.</p>	
<p>How Palestinians are affected/discriminated</p>	<p>Moriah promotes and builds projects all over the city, including in East Jerusalem, for instance building and developing the light rail system, sport sites, schools and parks.</p> <p>Currently, Moriah is also in charge of the largest transportation development in the Palestinian parts of East Jerusalem since 1967 – the “American Road” and the “Eastern Ring Road” projects.¹⁸</p>	
<p>GIHON</p>	 <small>HAGIHON COMPANY Jerusalem Region Water & Wastewater Utility</small>	<p>Jerusalem has its own Water Company, Gihon, separate from the national water company Mekorot.</p> <p>Gihon is an Israeli company also known as the Jerusalem Area’s Water and Wastewater Utility. It was founded in 1996 by the Israeli Jerusalem Municipality and currently provides water, sewage and drainage services for some one million people in the Greater Jerusalem area.</p>
<p>What they do</p>	<p>Since 2003, Gihon operates as an independent corporation in accordance with Jerusalem development and expansion plans, constructing, <i>inter alia</i>, industrial sewage treatment systems and pumping facilities.</p>	
<p>Who has to deal with them</p>	<p>All residents of Jerusalem using water and sewage services.</p>	
<p>How Palestinians are affected/discriminated</p>	<p>Palestinians in East Jerusalem suffer from discrimination in access to water and sewage services. Not all Palestinians in Jerusalem enjoy a regular water supply, a proper sewage system is lacking and due to planning issues there are constant problems with regard to the water pressure.</p> <p>Currently, only 44% of East Jerusalem residents are connected to the water network in a regulated and formal manner¹⁹ (i.e., to the Gihon Corporation’s water infrastructure).</p>	


BUILDING AND HOUSING

<p>MINISTRY OF HOUSING</p>		<p>Government ministry responsible for the development and implementation of government policy on housing and residential construction, including in illegal Israeli settlements in East Jerusalem and the Occupied Palestinian Territories.</p>
<p>What they do</p>	<p>Development and implementation of housing and residential construction, including East Jerusalem.</p>	
<p>Who has to deal with them</p>	<p>Planners, builders, real estate investors</p>	

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<p>How Palestinians are affected/discriminated</p>	<p>The political orientation of the minister and the decisions that are made on construction matters directly reflect overall Israeli government policy.</p> <p>The Housing Ministry subsidizes contractors in such a way that significantly reduces the development costs for Jewish citizens/land owners. This is an example of how institutions can facilitate opportunities for Jewish home owners in Jerusalem and make building more expensive and therefore less accessible to Palestinians.²⁰</p>
<p>LOCAL PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE (Jerusalem Municipality)</p>	<p>The Municipality's Local Planning and Construction Committee is the department in charge of planning and construction matters.</p>
<p>What they do</p>	<p>The Committee reviews permit applications, their compliance with the applicable plans, as well as safety and environmental standards. It determines whether applicants are allowed to build and/or renovate their property.</p>
<p>Who has to deal with them</p>	<p>People trying to build or renovate homes and people who face home demolitions due to "illegal building."</p>
<p>How Palestinians are affected/discriminated</p>	<p>Zoning and planning tools are primary means for maintaining a 60/40% demographic ratio,²¹ privileging Israeli planning and development projects while minimizing opportunities for growth in Palestinian communities.</p> <p>The Committee's decision-making process is lengthy and costly bureaucratic procedure, in which Palestinian citizens of Jerusalem are all too often on the losing side.</p> <p>Only 16.5% of planning permits issued by the Jerusalem Municipality go to Palestinian neighborhoods, although Palestinians represent almost 40% of the city's population.²²</p> <p>The Municipality is also responsible for the insufficient number of classrooms available in East Jerusalem, since it does not approve plans for public building construction in East Jerusalem neighborhoods.²³</p>
<p>DISTRICT PLANNING & BUILDING COMMITTEE (Interior Ministry)</p>	<p>Governmental-public body assigned with zoning, examining and criticizing in the field of planning and building.</p> <p>Between the national and the local level, Jerusalem is one of seven districts in Israel.</p> <p>The Committee is headed by the director of the Jerusalem district at the Ministry of Interior and is appointed by the Minister of the Interior.</p>
<p>What they do</p>	<p>Among other things, the committee works in accordance with national outline plans, approves planning schemes for depositing, discusses any objections that may arise, etc.</p>
<p>Who has to deal with them</p>	<p>Local and national authorities and public objections.</p>
<p>How Palestinians are affected/discriminated</p>	<p>Responsible on approving zoning, planning and building plans in Jerusalem. Throughout the years, many development plans of East Jerusalem (from both the local and the national levels) were hampered by the District Committee.²⁴</p>



ISRAEL LAND AUTHORITY		<p>Government agency responsible for managing national lands (i.e., lands of the state, the JNF, or the JDA). Some 93% of the land is public domain, including East Jerusalem and hundreds of thousands of dunums of occupied territory. According to the Israel Land Administration Law of 1960, the Agriculture and Finance Ministries are charged with its implementation.</p>
What they do	<p>Authority in charge of land registration and ownership. Among the functions of the ILA are safeguarding state lands, development planning, and making state land available for 'public use.'</p>	
Who has to deal with them	<p>Anyone claiming ownership over land or real-estate.</p>	
How Palestinians are affected/discriminated	<p>In May 2018, Israel adopted its five-year plan “Narrowing Socio-Economic Gaps and Economic Development in East Jerusalem” (Plan 3790), as part of which it launched a cataloguing of all occupied East Jerusalem lands in the Israel Lands Registry. Currently these lands are only partially registered, because Israel, when it unilaterally extended its laws to occupied East Jerusalem in 1967, never fully applied them, including with regard to land registration.²⁵ The cataloguing of East Jerusalem’s lands is seen as one of the most dangerous developments on the ground for East Jerusalem as it would “put much illegally built housing at increased risk of demolition and open the door to Israeli confiscation of unregistered lands” thus resulting in a further “deepening of its <i>de facto</i> annexation”.²⁶</p> <p>In order to advance the land registration in East Jerusalem, Plan 3790 has earmarked NIS 50 million and “advises Israeli decision-makers to use higher taxes collected from Arab areas for the benefit of East Jerusalem’s Arab population and to use identified absentee lands to address Palestinian public needs rather than hand them over to settler organisations.”²⁷</p> <p>Almost half the members of the ILA’s governing body belong to the JNF, whose explicit mandate is to develop and lease land for Jews. Further, the Land Ordinance (Acquisition of Public Purposes) 1943 enables the ILA to expropriate lands in the name of ‘public benefit projects’, a strategy that has enabled the organization to box in Palestinian communities.²⁸</p>	
CONSTRUCTION LICENSING AND INSPECTION DEPARTMENT (Jerusalem Municipality)	<p>Department in the Jerusalem municipality in charge of enforcing the construction laws and of punishing/penalizing “illegal” construction.</p>	
What they do	<p>Escorting construction projects from beginning to end and enforcing and treating construction violations.</p>	
Who has to deal with them	<p>Anyone building in Jerusalem. Hundreds of thousands of Palestinians in East Jerusalem lack building permits and are thus threatened with home demolition.</p>	
How Palestinians are affected/discriminated	<p>Estimations indicate that half of the 40,000 housing units built in Palestinian neighborhoods since 1967 lack permits, placing them at constant risk of demolition.²⁹</p> <p>Between 50 to 150 houses are demolished every year by the city or by the owners themselves (after being forced to do so and to avoid the high demolition costs charged by the municipality).</p> <p>The numbers indicate a systematic discrimination against Palestinian residents, who make up more than 60% of the population of East Jerusalem, but have received just 30% of permits to build homes.³⁰</p>	
NATIONAL UNIT FOR ENFORCING PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION LAWS	<p>Regulatory body working in parallel to the regional and local committees. It is part of the Ministry of Finance. In 2017 the controversial ‘Kaminitz Bill’ - an amendment to the Planning and Building Law proposed by the Knesset - was enacted, expanding the use of the Israeli state’s administrative powers to implement demolition and eviction orders and increase the severity of financial penalties on those building without a permit.</p>	

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What they do	The Unit is in charge of enforcement of planning and construction laws and implements demolition and eviction orders	
Who has to deal with them	Palestinians living in remote areas of East Jerusalem's outskirts.	
How Palestinians are affected/discriminated	<p>Thousands of Palestinian homes have been demolished in East Jerusalem and in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, from orders issued by this unit. With support from the Israeli police and the IDF, the Unit sends bulldozers, often in the middle of the night, to destroy houses that have been built without permits, especially in the outskirts of East Jerusalem, in areas such as Walajeh or the East Jerusalem neighborhoods outside the Separation Wall.</p> <p>The system is largely discriminatory as Palestinians are disproportionately denied building permits and their illegally construction is far more often destroyed.³¹</p>	
ISRAEL'S CUSTODIAN FOR ABSENTEES' PROPERTY	<p>Body based on the 1950 Absentee Property Law - legislation created by Israel for the purpose of legalizing use of Palestinian property left behind by the refugees ("absentees") in 1948 and transfer ownership over privately owned land and properties from Palestinians to Israelis.</p> <p>The law applies in East Jerusalem since June 1967 but was rarely used in the city until the 21st century.</p>	
What they do	<p>The Israeli Custodian of Absentee Property was empowered by the Knesset to acquire and prepare lands for the benefit of newly arriving Jewish immigrants.</p> <p>Absentee property was vested in the Israeli Custodian of Absentee Property (Ministry of Finance), with no possibility of appeal or compensation, who then sold it to the Development Authority.</p>	
Who has to deal with them	Palestinians who own properties in both East Jerusalem and the West Bank or Gaza	
How Palestinians are affected/discriminated	<p>The "absentee property" that was left behind by Palestinian refugees in 1948 (and also some of the property of Palestinians who are now citizens of Israel) was transferred to the State of Israel. This process authorized the theft of the property of approximately one million Palestinians, seized by Israel in 1948, including in West Jerusalem.</p> <p>Following the 1967 War, Israeli law was applied to East Jerusalem, but it was decided that the status of absentee would not apply to residents of East Jerusalem. However, West Bank residents with property in Jerusalem remained in a gray area: while considered absentees under the law and prohibited from officially registering their rights to the land, it did not affect their ownership of the property in practice.³²</p> <p>Owners could prove their existence and claim their property even though they were considered absentees under the law. In a cabinet meeting on 8 July 2004, this practice was rescinded after being in place for 37 years. In January 2005, the Israeli government decided to apply the Absentee Property Law to East Jerusalem property. In February 2005, Israel's Attorney General Menachem Mazuz ordered the government to cancel implementation of the law in East Jerusalem, stating that it violated obligations under international law. In 2015, a seven-justice panel of the Supreme Court nevertheless approved the application of the Absentee Property Law to assets in East Jerusalem.³³</p>	
ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL AND OFFICIAL RECEIVER (Ministry of Justice)		<p>The sole body authorized by the Government of Israel to represent the State of Israel in all transactions where any property is bestowed on the State of Israel.</p> <p>In charge on all assets in East Jerusalem that belonged to the Jordanian custodian of enemy properties, including assets Jews lost by Jews in 1948.</p>



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What they do	Under section 5 of the Legal and Administrative Matters (Regulation) Law [Consolidated Version] 1970, the Administrator General also manages property which was formerly administered by the Jordanian Custodian of Enemy Property. Following the 1948 War assets of Jews situated in areas of the West Bank outside the jurisdictional boundaries of the State of Israel were vested in the Jordanian Custodian of Enemy Property. In 1967 these assets were vested in the ruling military authorities and in 1970 responsibility for those assets within the jurisdiction of Greater Jerusalem's municipal boundaries was transferred to the Administrator General.	
Who has to deal with them	Palestinians living on land or in properties that belonged to Jews prior to 1948.	
How Palestinians are affected/discriminated	<p>While the "Absentees Property" law prevents Palestinians from claiming their assets lost in 1948 situated in West Jerusalem, the Administrator General enables Jews to reclaim their assets lost in 1948 in East Jerusalem. Consequently, Palestinians are evicted from their homes in areas such as Silwan, the Old City and Sheikh Jarrah, and Jewish Israeli settlers receive ownership. This anomaly discriminates Palestinians, since only Jews can reclaim their lost assets from 1948. The Jews are thus compensated twice, and in many cases, Palestinians lose their home for the second time without compensation.</p> <p>In recent years it has been revealed that settler organizations in East Jerusalem have intimate relations with the Administrator General.³⁴</p>	
ANTIQUITIES AUTHORITY		The Israel Antiquities Authority is in charge of the country's antiquities and antiquity sites, their excavation, preservation, conservation, study and publication thereof, as well as the country's antiquity treasures.
What they do	Conducting and monitoring archeological excavation and treatment of antiquities, including any asset of real estate predating 1700.	
Who has to deal with them	All Palestinians that reside around antiquities (the Old City, Silwan, etc.), especially if they wish to build on their land or develop their assets.	
How Palestinians are affected/discriminated	<p>East Jerusalem is filled with archeology and antiquities, also on private land. The development and construction on such land requires also receiving permits from the Israel Antiquities Authority. The cooperation between the Israel Antiquities Authority and settler organizations creates an inherent discrimination between Jews and Palestinians in East Jerusalem, and enables Elad to manage an archeological site.³⁵</p> <p>The archeological narrative is dictated by the Israel Antiquities Authority.</p>	
MINISTRY OF JERUSALEM AND HERITAGE		Founded in 1990 and reorganized in 2015, this government ministry was established to implement the <i>Basic Law: Jerusalem, Capital of Israel (1980)</i> , promoting economic development in the city. The Ministry is tasked with developing and preserving tangible and intangible national heritage assets, and making them accessible to the public, including integrating national heritage into the education system and army.
What they do	Implementing government decisions regarding Jerusalem, including the recent five-year-plan, known as Government Decision 3790 and other plans to develop the Old City area, the cable car to the Old City, etc.	
Who has to deal with them	While inhabitants and residents don't usually interact directly with the ministry, its decisions influence the lives of many Jerusalemites.	
How Palestinians are affected/discriminated	<p>Promoting governmental policies, the Ministry of Jerusalem and Heritage has advanced in recent years plans to entrench the Israeli <i>de facto</i> annexation of most of occupied East Jerusalem.³⁶</p> <p>Among other things, the Ministry suggested shunting the city's Palestinian areas lying east of the separation barrier into disconnected Israeli administrative units outside the municipality's jurisdiction to protect Jerusalem's Jewish majority; cataloguing all East Jerusalem's lands in the Israel Land Registry; and shifting East Jerusalem schools from the Palestinian to the Israeli curriculum.³⁷</p> <p>Current Minister Rabbi Rafi Peretz, leader of the ultra-nationalists Jewish Home party, is ideologically affiliated with the settler organizations in East Jerusalem and promotes their activity throughout the city.³⁸</p>	



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MINISTRY OF INTERNAL SECURITY		<p>Governmental law enforcement agency which oversees the Israel Police, the Israel Prison Service and the Israel National Fire and Rescue Services.</p>
What they do	<p>The ministry is in charge of the Israeli police, security and law enforcement agencies in Jerusalem, unlike in the West Bank, where law enforcement and security are carried out by the Israeli army. It is also responsible over the Border Police and “the Jerusalem envelope” headquarter (separation barrier around the city).</p> <p>The Minister of Internal Security is also the person in charge on maintaining the <i>status quo</i> in the Holy Esplanade of al-Aqsa Mosque.</p>	
Who has to deal with them	<p>All residents that have to deal with police.</p>	
How Palestinians are affected/discriminated	<p>The Israel Police under the responsibility of the Ministry of Internal Security is the main Israeli body to enforce Israeli sovereignty, rule and occupation in East Jerusalem. Palestinians are especially exposed to police violence.³⁹</p> <p>Minister Gilad Erdan (2015-2020) supported the erosion of the <i>status quo</i> at the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound/Al-Haram Ash-Sharif.⁴⁰</p>	

SETTLER ORGANIZATIONS

MOSKOWITZ FOUNDATION		<p>Irvin Moskowitz (died in 2016) was an American-Jewish businessman and tycoon who funded much of the Jewish settlement activity in East Jerusalem through the foundation he established in 1968.</p> <p>The Moskowitz Foundation transfers money to its sister organizations, such as the Moskowitz’s American Friends of the Everest, which benefit from the same charitable status as the JNF and therefore are tax exempt.</p>
What they do	<p>Helps to fund the illegal Israeli occupation, especially through acquiring Palestinian properties in the Old City and other Palestinian neighborhoods in East Jerusalem.</p> <p>Since 2008, the Moskowitz family awards the Moskowitz Prize for activity in realization of Zionism, usually given to Zionist hardliners and right-wing activist.</p>	
Who has to deal with them	<p>Palestinians who face the threat of eviction by settler organizations in East Jerusalem.</p>	
How Palestinians are affected/discriminated	<p>Clearly promoting an agenda of Judaization of Palestinian East Jerusalem.⁴¹</p>	
ATERET COHANIM		<p>(English: Crown of the Priests) Israeli settler institution that envisions a Jewish majority in the Old City and adjacent East Jerusalem neighborhoods, to create a ring of settlements around the holy Al-Aqsa Mosque compound.</p> <p>A Yeshiva in the Muslim quarter of the Old City carries the same name (albeit a separate entity) and is spiritually guided by the same leader – Rabbi Shlomo Aviner. The Yeshiva’s alumni have gone on to hold major positions of power within the Israeli state apparatus.</p> <p>Much of its funding comes from Jewish-American businessman Irving Moskowitz and two American based charities: American Friends of Ateret Cohanim (Jerusalem Chai) and American Friends of Yeshiva Ateret Yerushalayim.</p>



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What they do	<p>Judaize the Christian and Muslim Quarters of the Old City, as well as East Jerusalem, by taking over Palestinian property and fostering settlement construction. Owns over 70 buildings in the Old City.</p> <p>Supports numerous Jewish settlers living in the aforementioned neighborhoods, and is involved in the settlement building at Jabal Mukabber, Ras Al-Amud, Abu Dis, and Silwan.</p>	
Who has to deal with them	<p>Especially in Silwan, Palestinian residents are constantly involved in lost-cause legal battles with Ateret Cohanim over the organization's systematic eviction notices and house demolitions.</p>	
How Palestinians are affected/discriminated	<p>Both the District and High Court clearly side with the Israeli Custodian of Absentee Property and the Administrator General, which since 1967 has led to thousands of Palestinian-owned properties being stolen by organizations like Ateret Cohanim.⁴²</p> <p>The organization's settlers are escorted on the ground by private armed guards, whose salaries are paid by Israel's Ministry of Housing.⁴³</p>	
ELAD (IR DAVID FOUNDATION)		<p>(Hebrew acronym for: To the City of David; also known as Ir David Foundation) Israeli right-wing settler organization founded in 1986, with the goal to increase Jewish presence in the Palestinian neighborhood of Silwan, located outside the Old City.</p> <p>Elad has and remains very secretive about the identity of its donors, but is considered one of the strongest and wealthiest in Israel.⁴⁴ Most recently, it was revealed that Elad received some US\$100 million from Russian oligarch Roman Abramovich.⁴⁵</p> <p>Thanks to its close ties with the JNF and the Israeli government it obtained land through illegal expropriation in Silwan.</p>
What they do	<p>Elad promotes the settler-colonization of East Jerusalem, seeking to Judaize the entire city, erase Palestinian historical and cultural heritage, and strengthen Israel's control of Jerusalem. It purchases property for Jewish settlers (as of 2019, at least 400 settlers had moved to Silwan according to the Israeli NGO Terrestrial Jerusalem).</p> <p>It also develops Jewish tourism and archaeology and runs an archeological park that promotes the biblical (Jewish) history of the area. It furthermore manages the touristic settlement site "City of David", on behalf of the state of Israel.</p>	
Who has to deal with them	<p>Palestinians whose property falls under the Absentee Property Law as they are threatened with eviction from their homes.</p>	
How Palestinians are affected/discriminated	<p>Elad obtained from the ILA administrative and development power over the so-called "City of David" archeological site in Silwan.⁴⁶</p> <p>Dozens of Palestinian families who lost their house, land and belongings to controversial excavations and claims to home ownerships, especially in Silwan.</p> <p>This allows it to determine where to conduct excavations and dig tunnels in Silwan - of course without the consent of the Palestinian residents. Such works often result in cracked walls, collapsing floors and sinkholes in roads.⁴⁷</p> <p>The organization's settlers are escorted on the ground by private armed guards, their salaries are paid by Israel's Ministry of Housing.</p>	
ISRAEL LAND FUND (ILF)		<p>Founded in 2007 as a non-profit organization by Arie King, a radical right-wing activist and a member of Jerusalem's city council. The ILF purchases land from Palestinians and moves Jewish settlers into the heart of Palestinian neighborhoods in East Jerusalem.</p>

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What they do	The ILF acquires “the land of Israel for the Jewish people,” according to its website, “house by house, lot by lot, the Israel Land Fund is ensuring the land of Israel stays in the hands of the Jewish people forever.”
Who has to deal with them	Palestinians who face settler invasion into their communities in East Jerusalem.
How Palestinians are affected/discriminated	From his position on the city council and as deputy mayor of Jerusalem King promotes the interests of the settlers’ organizations in East Jerusalem, thereby increasing discrimination of Palestinians and limiting their development. ⁴⁸

RESIDENCY & PRIVATE SPHERE

MINISTRY OF INTERIOR		Ministry responsible on all issues of local governance and citizenship/residency status in Israel and in East Jerusalem.
What they do	The ministry is in charge of local government, supervision of city councils and local councils, elections, associations and supervision of planning and building. It further provides citizenship and permanent resident status, issues entry visas and staying visas, deals with all kind of administration such as personal registration, issuing Israeli identity cards, passports and laissez-passers (travel documents for residents), registration of birth, marriage etc.	
Who has to deal with them	Everyone with residency issues, including ID Cards, family reunification, child registration, travel documents/return visa.	
How Palestinians are affected/discriminated	<p>One of the main aspects of discrimination against East Jerusalemite Palestinians stem from their status of residents, which is less than a citizen and can be revoked. The Ministry of Interior in East Jerusalem became a symbol of the Israeli occupation and discrimination of Palestinians in the city.</p> <p>Many Palestinians in Jerusalem are caught between the hammer and the anvil. They cannot build homes in the city, but if they leave they will lose their residency and thus their right to live in the city. Palestinian Jerusalemites are under constant threat of residency revocation for a number of reasons that only apply to them but not to Israeli citizens, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Failure to prove center of life – Marriage to non-Jerusalemites – Leaving abroad for 7+ years – Applying for citizenship in a foreign country.⁴⁹ <p>Furthermore, on 31 July 2003, the Knesset enacted the Citizenship and Entry into Israel Law (Temporary Order) – 2003, which bans family unification for residency or citizenship status in cases where one spouse is a Palestinian from the Occupied Palestinian Territories (or, as added in 2007, from “enemy states” such as Lebanon, Syria, Iran or Iraq). The law also denies citizenship to children born to an Israeli citizen and a resident of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.⁵⁰</p>	
NATIONAL INSURANCE INSTITUTE (NII)		<p>Government body responsible for the social security of Israeli residents.</p> <p>Through its instruments, mainly investigating applicants’ eligibility, the NII is a major actor within the political instruments in order to displace Palestinians from Jerusalem.</p>

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<p>What they do</p>	<p>The NII implements the state's social policy and provides financial basis for subsistence to weak populations and families in fields with regard to issues such as unemployment, pension, health insurance, maternity/birth, child allowance, work injuries, general disability, bankruptcy, etc.</p> <p>In East Jerusalem, the NII does not grant benefits to any resident who does not "effectively" live in the city. To ensure that only people who are truly entitled receive benefits, the NII has its own team of investigators who examine information provided by residents applying for benefits.</p>
<p>Who has to deal with them</p>	<p>By law, each citizen or resident at the age of 18 must open a file at the NII, but this file is not automatically opened for Palestinian residents, who usually delay their application until they have an income in order to pay the contributions.</p> <p>Every Palestinian who usually claims any kind of benefit from the NII (to which they are entitled by law since they pay taxes) is suspected as tricking or lying and his case is processed for further investigation. The investigation can take approximately a year or up to two years. The application processes and investigations in the West Jerusalem branch of the NII take a reasonable period of between 30 to 45 days.</p>
<p>How Palestinians are affected/discriminated</p>	<p>The NII is one of the symbols of Israeli control in East Jerusalem. The NII's investigations of whether a beneficiary is "rightful" are closely connected to the "center of life" criteria, upon which Palestinian Jerusalemites must prove that their center of life is Jerusalem. Failing to do so results in the revocation of their social rights and in some cases of their "permanent residency" altogether, displacing them from their city and away from their families.⁵¹ The investigation about eligibility is a lengthy process during which the applicants are denied any social protection and health insurance.</p> <p>The investigations of the NII have been criticized by many human rights organizations for breaching principles of proper administration and grossly violating the rights of the Palestinian residents of Jerusalem. The investigations do neither follow principles of impartiality nor due process. Investigators very often violate the privacy rights of the applicants when they visit them at their homes. The NII specifically investigates couples with mixed residency, i.e. while both Palestinians, one holds a Jerusalem ID, and the other holds a West Bank ID. Therefore, the Ministry of Interior very often requests from applicants for family unifications to open a file at the NII. As soon as the file is opened, the Ministry receives the investigation results from the NII. If the NII investigators find proof that the applicants reside outside the municipality boundaries of Jerusalem (which means in the West Bank), it will not just reject the family unification application, but also use the investigation results as a base to revoke the residency of the requester.⁵²</p> <p>On 2 June 2019, the Israeli State Comptroller, Judge (ret.) Joseph Chaim Shapira, published a special report on the city of Jerusalem; the chapter "The State's Handling of the Civil Status of the Residents of East Jerusalem" describes the deficient conduct of the Ministry of Interior and the National Insurance Institute towards East Jerusalem Palestinians, which "harms, often in a very severe manner, [their] possibility... to fully realize their rights as permanent residents, and as people whose families lived in the country years before the State of Israel was established", and which forces them to "turn to judicial instances to fulfill their rights to civil status and other rights deriving from that status".⁵³</p>


EDUCATION		
<p>MINISTRY OF EDUCATION</p>	 <p>מדינת ישראל משרד החינוך STATE OF ISRAEL MINISTRY OF EDUCATION</p>	<p>Branch of government charged with overseeing public education institutions in Israel, including legislation and planning education services, and licensing professionals in the field of education and teaching.</p>
<p>What they do</p>	<p>The Ministry of Education is responsible for educational institutions, including kindergartens, schools, higher education and non-formal education.</p>	

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<p>Who has to deal with them</p>	<p>Palestinian schools have to respond to the directions of the Jerusalem Municipality, and also depend on it for budgets since the PA does not have jurisdiction in East Jerusalem.</p> <p>The Israeli curriculum has become a condition for East Jerusalem schools to obtain funding from the Ministry of Education. In 2017, the former right-wing Knesset member Naftali Bennett, approved a plan to provide financial support only to schools that teach Israeli curriculum in occupied East Jerusalem.</p>
<p>How Palestinians are affected/discriminated</p>	<p>Israel's Compulsory Education Law (1949) requires all children aged 5-16 to attend school, entitling them to free public education regardless of the legal status of their parents. However, the public system still accounts for less of half the Palestinian students, while the rest is enrolled in private or semi-private recognized but unofficial schools. In 2018-2019, there were 110,293 Palestinian pupils in East Jerusalem. Only 41.3% (45,527) of them attended the official Arab education system (run by the state/municipality and fully funded), 43.9% (48,368) attended the recognized but unofficial Arab education (private education, licensed by the Ministry of Education and partially funded) and 18.2% (16,398) of the pupils attended private Arab education.⁵⁴</p> <p>In 2019, Israel's State Comptroller published a report on education in East Jerusalem, providing data and exposing a grave situation with over 3,000 classrooms missing, high dropout rates and a large number of children that "disappear" from the education system's supervision.⁵⁵</p> <p>The state comptroller indicated that about 10,800 children between ages 6-18 dropped out of the official schools. The dropout rate from high schools in 2015-2018 was 26.5% which is very high not only in comparison to the national average (5.4%) but also compared with the Arab society in Israel not including Jerusalem (7.5%).⁵⁶</p> <p>Israel's five-year plan for East Jerusalem (Plan 3790) allocates about US\$500 million for education, mainly investing in informal education, Hebrew and technology studies, and in advancing the "Israelization" of East Jerusalem's educational system, pressuring schools to teach the Israeli curricula – thus aiming to control the narrative and identities of the Palestinian young generation in the city.⁵⁷</p>
<p>JERUSALEM EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION (MANHI)</p>	<div data-bbox="352 1177 486 1338" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>MANHI is a joint body of central Government along with the Municipality and its funds come from both central government and municipal coffers.</p>
<p>What they do</p>	<p>In charge of education in Jerusalem, including thousands of kindergartens and schools.</p>
<p>Who has to deal with them</p>	<p>About a third of the Palestinian schoolchildren in East Jerusalem attend municipal schools.</p>
<p>How Palestinians are affected/discriminated</p>	<p>The discrimination in East Jerusalem education system is twofold: 1) the Arab education system in Jerusalem suffers from severe shortage in classrooms, buildings, infrastructure and funding; 2) the Israeli education system pressures Palestinian schools to teach the Israeli curriculum instead of the Palestinian one, in violation of international law and past agreements.⁵⁸</p> <p>The Municipality is also responsible for the insufficient number of classrooms available in East Jerusalem, since its Public Building Department does not approve plans for construction in East Jerusalem neighborhoods. For example, in 2017, "the Jerusalem Municipality requested to allocate just 16% of its budget for classroom construction to East Jerusalem, despite the percentage of Palestinian students in Jerusalem being equal to 36% of the total number of students in the city."⁵⁹</p> <p>Since 2011, East Jerusalem schools are forced to order textbooks approved by the Jerusalem Municipality. The Israelization of the school curriculum is a direct violation of Palestinian right to self-determination.</p> <p>Since Israeli universities do not recognize the <i>Tawjihi</i>, the Palestinian school exam, Palestinian families are incentivized to send their children to schools that offer the Israeli exam (<i>Bagrut</i>) so that the students may be able to access quality higher education.</p>

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COUNCIL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION (CHE)		<p>Independent body formed in 1958 as the authority in charge of the development of higher education.</p> <p>The CHE receives funding from the government through the Ministry of Education.</p>
What they do	<p>Accredit institutions, approve degrees and program changes and license foreign institutions.</p> <p>Responsible for the maintenance, expansion and development of public universities.</p>	
Who has to deal with them	<p>Schools, students, academics and university graduates.</p>	
How Palestinians are affected/discriminated	<p>As the Israeli Minister of Education is an ex-officio member and chair of the CHE, political interference in higher education matters is obvious.</p> <p>Palestinians in East Jerusalem have significantly less access to higher education than Jews. They have to cross checkpoints to reach Palestinian universities in the West Bank, but cannot be admitted directly to Israeli universities because they hold a Palestinian and not an Israeli matriculation. In many cases, young Palestinians Jerusalemites do not have a sufficient level of Hebrew.</p> <p>Not recognizing degrees in education for example from Palestinian universities makes it harder for local Palestinian teachers to enter the system. The CHE has launched in recent years several project to reduce gaps.</p>	

TOURISM & HERITAGE-PROMOTION		
MINISTRY OF TOURISM (MOT)		<p>Government body, whose primary aim is to increase economic activity in the tourism field (i.e., increasing tourism).</p>
What they do	<p>Planning, development and marketing policies in the tourism industry.</p>	
Who has to deal with them	<p>East Jerusalem is a touristic area, containing the Old City and its major pilgrimage and historic sites. Many East Jerusalemites earn their livelihood from tourism - in hotels, tour agencies, and restaurants, or as tour guides, drivers and merchants.</p>	
How Palestinians are affected/discriminated	<p>The touristic narrative in Israel is regulated. It is strictly dictated by the MoT to represent the Zionist narrative of the country. Against this background, there have been even several attempts to prevent East Jerusalem residents from working as licensed tour guides through legislation.⁶⁰</p> <p>Since 2010, the Ministry has begun reviewing vendor licenses, and have not been issuing new ones since. The only way for a Palestinians to become a shop vendor is to inherit the shop and license through family ties. As a result, income generate from souvenir shops, which is a vital flow of cash for the Palestinian economy, have continuously declined over the last decade.⁶¹</p> <p>The MoT works closely with the settler organization Elad, and promotes the Cable Car project to the Old City.</p> <p>While almost no permits were granted by Israel for the construction of new Palestinian hotels in East Jerusalem,⁶² the MoT, among other Israeli official bodies, has been incentivizing the expansion of Israeli hotels – including construction of three huge hotel blocs in Sheikh Jarrah.</p>	

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TOURISM DEPARTMENT (Jerusalem Municipality)		Body in charge of infrastructure for tourism on the local level.
What they do	Managing and developing matters related to tourism and touristic sites in the city.	
Who has to deal with them	Jerusalemites who work in the tourism field by large.	
How Palestinians are affected/discriminated	<p>Tourism is a manifest tool to promote an ideological narrative and to manage and control space. Israel's tourism policy is harness on both the national and municipal levels to disposes Palestinians from their identity and assets.⁶³ The Jerusalem Municipality imposes high municipal taxes for hotels and other tourism-related businesses in East Jerusalem, keeping operational costs at a much higher level than is affordable for the average Palestinian.⁶⁴</p> <p>Municipal officials have designated the areas where the majority of the hotels, souvenir shops and tourist restaurants are located as grade 'A' areas, which means that the highest rates of taxes are collected from those outlets.⁶⁵</p>	
COMPANY FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE JEWISH QUARTER		The Company for the Reconstruction and Development of the Jewish Quarter in the Old City of Jerusalem is a governmental company owned by the Ministry of Housing and the Jerusalem Municipality which was established to restore and develop the Jewish Quarter as a national, religious, historic, and cultural site.
What they do	The company is responsible for developing and managing public archaeological sites in the Old City's Jewish Quarter.	
Who has to deal with them	Minimal influence on Palestinian daily life in Jerusalem.	
How Palestinians are affected/discriminated	In 1978 the Israeli High Court justified denying East Jerusalem Palestinians the right to live in the Jewish quarter of the Old City. The famous ruling denied the right of Mohammed Sa'ad Burkan, a Palestinian who was born and lived in the area that later became "Jewish Quarter" before 1947 and who wanted to return to his home after 1967. While the court denied Burkan's right do so, Jewish settlers use the pretext of pre-1948 ownerships to takeover many Palestinian homes in the neighboring Muslim and Christian quarters of the Old City. ⁶⁶	
WESTERN WALL HERITAGE FOUNDATION		Governmental foundation under the auspices of the Prime Minister's Office headed by the Western Wall Rabbi.
What they do	Developing and managing the conservation and maintenance work at the Western Wall and the Western Wall Plaza as well as managing the Western Wall tunnel excavations. It conducts tours of the Western Wall Tunnels for the general public, student groups and soldiers.	
Who has to deal with them	Palestinians under which homes/properties excavation take place (minimal interaction with residents).	
How Palestinians are affected/discriminated	<p>In charge of the unilateral opening of the tunnel in 1996, that caused riots and clashes all over the OPT.</p> <p>Excavates under the homes of Palestinians in the Muslim Quarter.</p>	

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"SECURITY"		
POLICE		<p>Jerusalem District Police is a regional district of the Israeli civilian police. Its duties include fighting crime, traffic control, maintaining public safety, and counter-terrorism. It operates under the jurisdiction of the Minister of Internal Security.</p> <p>The National Headquarters of the Israel Police are located in East Jerusalem. Since the Israeli army has no jurisdiction in Jerusalem, the Police is the main armed force of the Israeli occupation of East Jerusalem.</p>
What they do	<p>Beyond the regular duties of police work, the Jerusalem police is maintaining the occupation of the Palestinian population in East Jerusalem by force. It also demonstrates the Israeli claim for sovereignty over the holy sites, mainly Al-Aqsa Mosque and the Holy Sepulcher. The Jerusalem police also manages the checkpoint system around the city in cooperation with the army.</p>	
Who has to deal with them	<p>All Palestinian residents of East Jerusalem constantly face the Israeli police, due to over-policing of Palestinian areas and the police presence at the checkpoints around the city.</p> <p>Anyone the police forces hold responsible, accuse or convict of anti-Israeli acts (who will get arrested).</p> <p>Palestinian passers-by who may be subjected to arbitrary aggressive and intrusive body searches due to permission of the police to conduct such even on the suspicion of "terrorist" activity.</p>	
How Palestinians are affected/discriminated	<p>The Jerusalem Police, as the Israeli armed forces in Jerusalem, is the most manifest expression of occupation in East Jerusalem, which is undergoing a constant process of militarization. In order to maintain the occupation, the Jerusalem police is disproportionately large and involved in the lives of East Jerusalemite beyond the necessary scope of police work.</p> <p>Police brutality in East Jerusalem is high, leaving in recent years increasing numbers of severely injured Palestinian children, women and men.</p> <p>For several years now the Jerusalem police made the Issawiya neighborhood in East Jerusalem an example of police brutality and collective punishment.⁶⁷</p> <p>Since the First Intifada East Jerusalemites Palestinians do not serve in the Israeli police.</p> <p>The Border Police (MAGAV) is the military branch of the Israeli police. Known for their aggressive tactics, its special combat units are deployed in unquiet areas, where there are greater risks for violence, i.e., mainly in the in Palestinian areas of Jerusalem and surrounding villages.</p>	
SHIN BET		<p>(Hebrew: Shabak, acronym for Sherut ha-Bitachon ha-Klali; English: Israel Security Agency or General Security Services) Israeli counter-intelligence and internal security service founded as one of three secret services in Israel in 1948, along with the Military Intelligence (Aman) and Foreign Intelligence (later Mossad).</p>
What they do	<p>Conduct internal counter-intelligence focused on potential sabotage, terrorist activities, and security matters of a strongly political nature.</p>	
Who has to deal with them	<p>All Palestinians living in Jerusalem are under strict Israeli surveillance</p>	
How Palestinians are affected/discriminated	<p>Shin Bet is believed to be at the forefront of undercover operations against Palestinians and with regard to the recruitment of Palestinian informers.</p> <p>Israeli, Palestinian, and international human rights organizations have repeatedly charged Shin Bet with continuing its torture techniques despite a 1999 court ruling forbidding them.</p>	

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PRIVATE SECURITY	There guards are not police officers, they are ex-military citizens highly trained in anti-terror tactics and planted in the heart of Palestinian communities to protect a small group of hostile settlers.
What they do	About 3,000 settlers live in the heart of the Palestinian sphere of East Jerusalem. They maintain their own private militia of armed guards, as they are entitled to private security funded by the Ministry of Housing and Work in cooperation with the Police.
Who has to deal with them	Palestinians whose live next or close to settler enclaves.
How Palestinians are affected/discriminated	This armed private security force escorting and “protecting” settlers at times provokes and even attacks Palestinian residents.

ENDNOTES

- ¹ See, for example, Defense for Children International – Palestine, “Israel Targets Palestinian Children in East Jerusalem With Harsh Policies,” 28 November 2015, available at: https://nwtac.dci-palestine.org/israel_targets_palestinian_children_in_east_jerusalem_with_harsh_policies.
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**Kindly supported by the
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