

PRESS RELEASE

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Another grave breach of the International Law by the Israelis

The Israeli building of Jewish settlements which goes back to the early 70s, remains the major obstacle to any negotiated peaceful settlement to the Israeli Palestinian conflict.

All world leaders including President Obama consider these settlements; illegal and a violation of International Law. Israel until this date has built on Occupied Palestinian Territories over 132 illegal settlements and more than 100 outposts, housing five hundred thousand Jewish settlers.

The Rome Statute defines a war crime as the: “The transfer, directly or indirectly by the occupying power of parts of its own civilian population into the territory it occupies”.

Israel had so far ignored all calls to freeze its settlement activities to give negotiations a chance.

In another one of his tricks to elude the world, Netanyahu ordered in November last, a 10-month freeze on settlement activity. In fact this order never finds its way to implementation.

In a grave defiance to the International law and a challenge to the American Administration’s effort to get proximity peace talks underway, the Israeli authority today, approved the building of 1600 homes for Jewish settlers on Occupied Palestinian Territory, in East Jerusalem; the future capital of the State of Palestine.

Ambassador Hikmat Ajjuri said **“Israel never reconciles its declared intentions with its behaviour on the ground, Israel’s refusal to cease settlement activities proves that it is not serious about allowing the Palestinians to have their own state. Soon there will be no land left to negotiate about.”**

Dr. Ajjuri added: **“it is the right time for the International community to pressurize Israel to behave as a normal country and to comply with the International law.**

Ends.

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