



IYC 2024  
Global Security Organization

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*Study Guide*

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## **Index**

1. Letter from Executive Board
2. Introduction
3. Early Historical Background
4. Historical Background: Israel-Palestine Conflict from 2023 to 15th August 2024
5. UN Resolutions Since October 2023
5. Major Stakeholders
6. Key Definitions and Concepts
7. Possible Actions Available
8. Suggested Moderated Caucus Topics
9. Questions a Resolution Must Answer
10. Note for Delegates
11. Citations

## Letter from Executive Board

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to IYC 2024.

The world is watching.

In a time when global tensions are on the rise, and old conflicts are resurfacing with new ferocity, the need for innovative and decisive action has never been more critical. This year, you will be stepping into the heart of one of the most contentious and long-standing conflicts of our time: **the Israel-Palestine crisis**. Your task is to address cross-border hostilities, forge unyielding regional partnerships, and craft peacekeeping strategies that can stand the test of time.

This is no ordinary Model UN. The stakes are high. The resolutions you draft, the alliances you build, and the strategies you propose could serve as blueprints for real-world diplomacy. This committee demands not just participation, but bold leadership, unflinching dedication, and a deep understanding of the geopolitical landscape. The study guide is your starting point, but to excel, you must dig deeper—question assumptions, challenge the status quo, and bring forward the unconventional ideas that might just hold the key to lasting peace.

GSO 2024 is about more than just discussion; it's about action. The decisions made in this room could echo far beyond the walls of our committee, influencing minds and shaping narratives. Whether you are a seasoned delegate or new to MUN, you are here because you have the potential to make a difference. Your voice, your passion, and your intellect are your greatest tools—use them fearlessly.

The path to peace in Israel-Palestine is fraught with challenges, but together, we have the power to navigate these complexities and build a future where cooperation triumphs over conflict. We are eager to see the impact you will make and stand ready to support you in this critical mission. If you need guidance, do not hesitate to reach out. We are in this together.

Let's make history.

**GSO Executive Board**  
IYC 2024

**Agenda:** Addressing Cross-Border Hostilities: Strengthening Regional Partnerships and Peacekeeping in Israel-Palestine.

## **I. Introduction**

The Israel-Palestine conflict is one of the most protracted and volatile conflicts in modern history, significantly impacting not only the Middle East but also global politics. The dispute canters around the territorial claims of both Israelis and Palestinians, who each seek sovereignty over the same geographic area, primarily the region known as historic Palestine. The conflict has shaped regional dynamics in the Middle East, influenced international relations, and sparked numerous efforts at mediation, all with varying degrees of success. At its core, the conflict revolves around fundamental questions of sovereignty, territorial rights, and national identity, exacerbated by religious and cultural divides. Over the years, the conflict has led to numerous wars, uprisings, and peace processes, yet a comprehensive resolution has remained elusive.

This committee's goal is to explore ways to address ongoing cross-border hostilities while simultaneously working towards strengthening regional partnerships and enhancing peacekeeping efforts. Delegates are expected to delve into the intricate dynamics of the conflict, understand the underlying causes, and propose viable solutions that can contribute to a long-lasting peace.

## **II. Early Historical Background: Israel-Palestine Conflict until 2023**

(these points will not be discussed during committee as the start date of committee is Jan 2023, however they are good points to read through the understand the conflict)

### **1. Early 20th Century and the Fall of the Ottoman Empire (Pre-1917)**

The region known as Palestine was part of the Ottoman Empire for centuries, where Jews, Christians, and Muslims coexisted. However, rising nationalist movements among both Jews and Arabs in the late 19th and early 20th centuries began to sow the seeds of conflict.

- **Jewish Nationalism (Zionism):** In the late 19th century, Zionism emerged as a political movement advocating for the establishment of a Jewish homeland in Palestine, driven by the European Jewish experience of persecution and anti-Semitism. Theodor Herzl, a prominent Zionist leader, organized the First Zionist Congress in 1897, which formally established the goal of creating a Jewish state.
- **Arab Nationalism:** At the same time, Arab nationalism was gaining momentum, advocating for the independence and unity of Arab lands under Ottoman control. In Palestine, this sentiment was initially more localized, focusing on resistance to increasing Jewish immigration and land purchases.

### **2. The Balfour Declaration and British Mandate (1917-1947)**

- **Balfour Declaration (1917):** During World War I, the British government issued the Balfour Declaration, expressing support for the establishment of a "national home for the Jewish people" in Palestine. The declaration was vague about the political rights of the non-Jewish communities in the region, leading to ambiguity and tension.

- **Sykes-Picot Agreement (1916):** Before the Balfour Declaration, the Sykes-Picot Agreement between Britain and France secretly divided the Middle Eastern territories of the Ottoman Empire into spheres of influence. Palestine was placed under international administration, further complicating the region's political future.
- **British Mandate (1920-1948):** Following World War I, the League of Nations granted Britain the Mandate for Palestine, with the dual obligation of establishing a Jewish national home and ensuring the civil and religious rights of all inhabitants. Jewish immigration to Palestine increased significantly, leading to escalating tensions and violence between Jews and Arabs.
- **Arab Revolt (1936-1939):** The Arab population, feeling increasingly marginalized, launched a revolt against British rule and Jewish immigration. The revolt was suppressed, but it exposed the deepening divisions between Jews and Arabs and Britain's inability to manage the conflict.
- **The White Papers:** In response to the Arab Revolt, Britain issued the White Papers, which aimed to limit Jewish immigration and land purchases. These policies alienated both Jewish and Arab communities, with Jews viewing them as a betrayal of the Balfour Declaration, and Arabs considering them insufficient in addressing their grievances.

### 3. The UN Partition Plan and the Establishment of Israel (1947-1948)

- **UN Partition Plan (1947):** As violence continued to escalate, Britain referred the Palestine question to the United Nations. The UN proposed partitioning Palestine into separate Jewish and Arab states, with Jerusalem under international control. The Jewish community accepted the plan, but the Arab states and Palestinian leaders rejected it, leading to increased hostilities.
- **The Civil War (1947-1948):** Following the UN Partition Plan's announcement, violence erupted between Jewish and Arab communities in Palestine, escalating into a full-scale civil war. Both sides committed atrocities, and many Palestinians were displaced during this period.
- **Declaration of the State of Israel (May 14, 1948):** On the eve of the British Mandate's expiration, Jewish leaders, led by David Ben-Gurion, declared the establishment of the State of Israel. The surrounding Arab states (Egypt, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, and Iraq) immediately invaded, leading to the first Arab-Israeli War.

### 4. The First Arab-Israeli War and the Nakba (1948-1949)

- **First Arab-Israeli War:** The war resulted in a decisive Israeli victory, with Israel expanding its territory beyond the UN Partition Plan borders. Approximately 750,000 Palestinians fled or were expelled from their homes during the conflict, an event known as the Nakba ("catastrophe").
- **Armistice Agreements (1949):** Israel signed armistice agreements with Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria, establishing the Green Line as the de facto borders of Israel. The West Bank came under Jordanian control, while Egypt administered the Gaza Strip. The Palestinian refugee crisis became a central issue, with many refugees living in camps in neighboring Arab countries.

### 5. The Suez Crisis and the Six-Day War (1956-1967)

- **Suez Crisis (1956):** In response to Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser's nationalization of the Suez Canal, Israel, along with Britain and France, launched a military campaign against Egypt. The crisis ended with a UN-brokered ceasefire, and while Israel achieved some military objectives, the political outcomes were mixed.
- **Six-Day War (1967):** The most significant turning point came in June 1967, when Israel launched a preemptive strike against Egypt, Jordan, and Syria, fearing an imminent Arab attack. In just six days, Israel captured the West Bank (including East Jerusalem), Gaza Strip, Sinai Peninsula, and Golan Heights. This war profoundly altered the geopolitical landscape, with Israel now controlling territories with large Palestinian populations.

## 6. Post-1967 Occupation and the First Intifada (1967-1987)

- **Israeli Occupation:** The territories captured in 1967, particularly the West Bank and Gaza Strip, came under Israeli military occupation. Israel began establishing settlements in these areas, which were deemed illegal under international law but were seen by Israel as necessary for security and fulfilling Zionist aspirations.
- **Yom Kippur War (1973):** In 1973, Egypt and Syria launched a surprise attack on Israel during the Jewish holiday of Yom Kippur, aiming to reclaim the Sinai Peninsula and Golan Heights. Although Israel eventually repelled the attack, the war demonstrated the vulnerability of Israel's security and led to increased efforts for peace.
- **First Intifada (1987-1993):** The prolonged occupation led to the First Intifada, a Palestinian uprising characterized by widespread civil disobedience, protests, and violent confrontations with Israeli forces. The Intifada drew international attention to the plight of Palestinians under occupation and increased pressure for a political solution.

## 7. The Oslo Accords and the Road to Peace (1993-2000)

- **Oslo Accords (1993):** The First Intifada paved the way for secret negotiations between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), resulting in the Oslo Accords. The Accords established the Palestinian Authority, granting limited self-governance to Palestinians in parts of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and laid out a framework for resolving key issues. However, critical issues such as the status of Jerusalem, the right of return for refugees, and the borders of a future Palestinian state were left unresolved.
- **Peace Process Challenges:** Despite the optimism surrounding Oslo, the peace process faced numerous obstacles, including continued Israeli settlement expansion, Palestinian violence, and political instability on both sides. The assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in 1995 by a Jewish extremist dealt a significant blow to the peace efforts.

## 8. The Second Intifada and the Gaza Disengagement (2000-2006)

- **Second Intifada (2000-2005):** The collapse of the Camp David Summit in 2000 and Ariel Sharon's controversial visit to the Temple Mount/Haram al-Sharif sparked the Second Intifada, a more violent and destructive uprising than the first. Suicide bombings, Israeli military operations, and widespread violence characterized this period, leading to thousands of deaths.

- **Construction of the Israeli West Bank Barrier:** In response to the violence, Israel began constructing a barrier along and within the West Bank, citing security concerns. Palestinians viewed the barrier as a land grab, as it encroached on Palestinian territory and disrupted communities.
- **Gaza Disengagement (2005):** In 2005, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon unilaterally withdrew Israeli settlers and military forces from the Gaza Strip, a move intended to reduce friction and alter the status quo. However, the withdrawal led to internal Palestinian power struggles, particularly between the rival factions of Fatah and Hamas.
- **Hamas Election Victory (2006):** Hamas, an Islamist group committed to armed resistance against Israel, won the 2006 Palestinian legislative elections. This victory led to a split between Hamas-controlled Gaza and the Fatah-led Palestinian Authority in the West Bank, complicating efforts to achieve a unified Palestinian strategy for peace.

### 9. Renewed Conflict and International Diplomacy (2007-2020)

- **Gaza Wars (2008-2014):** Israel and Hamas engaged in several rounds of intense conflict, with major wars occurring in 2008-2009, 2012, and 2014. These conflicts resulted in significant casualties, widespread destruction in Gaza, and international condemnation of both sides for their conduct during the fighting.
- **UN Recognition of Palestine (2012):** In 2012, the UN General Assembly granted Palestine non-member observer state status, enhancing its international standing and enabling it to join international treaties and organizations.
- **Peace Talks and Stalemates:** Efforts to revive peace talks continued, with significant attempts during the Obama administration, including the 2013-2014 negotiations led by Secretary of State John Kerry. However, these efforts failed to produce a lasting agreement, with key issues remaining unresolved.
- **Trump Administration Policies:** The Trump administration took several controversial steps, including recognizing Jerusalem as Israel's capital, moving the U.S

## III. Historical Background: Israel-Palestine Conflict from 2023 to 15<sup>th</sup> August 2024

(the following is historical timeline that will be discussed during committee)

### 1. Escalation of Tensions (2023)

- **January 2023:** Tensions between Israel and Palestine were high, particularly in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Israeli military operations in the West Bank intensified due to increased violence, including settler attacks on Palestinians and armed confrontations between Israeli forces and Palestinian militants.
- **March 2023:** The Israeli government, led by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, faced internal challenges due to controversial judicial reforms, which led to widespread protests across Israel. This internal strife diverted some focus away from the conflict but did not reduce tensions on the ground.
- **May 2023:** Israel launched a military operation named "Shield and Arrow" targeting Islamic Jihad militants in Gaza. The operation resulted in the deaths of several



Palestinian militants and civilians, leading to widespread condemnation and further escalating tensions.

- **June 2023:** Violence surged in the West Bank, with Israeli forces conducting raids in response to attacks on settlers. The region experienced one of the deadliest periods in years, with significant casualties on both sides. This period also saw increased international concern and calls for de-escalation.

## 2. Diplomatic Efforts and Stalemates (2023)

- **July - September 2023:** Amidst ongoing violence, various international actors, including the United States, Egypt, and Jordan, attempted to mediate between Israel and Palestine. Despite these efforts, the peace process remained stalled, with both sides unwilling to make significant concessions.
- **October 2023:** The United Nations held an emergency session to address the rising violence, but the lack of consensus among major powers, including the U.S. and Russia, hindered the adoption of any effective resolutions.
- **November 2023:** Israel announced the expansion of settlements in the West Bank, a move condemned by the international community as it further complicated the possibility of a two-state solution. The Palestinian Authority responded by seeking increased diplomatic support at the United Nations.

## 3. Continued Violence and Regional Impact (2024)

- **January 2024:** The new year began with ongoing violence, with frequent clashes between Israeli forces and Palestinian militants in both the West Bank and Gaza. The humanitarian situation in Gaza continued to deteriorate, with limited access to essential services.
- **February 2024:** The Israeli government faced increasing pressure from both domestic and international actors to address the growing violence. However, the political landscape in Israel remained divided, with hardline factions resisting any concessions to the Palestinians.
- **April 2024:** A significant escalation occurred when a series of rocket attacks were launched from Gaza into southern Israel, prompting a strong military response. The cycle of violence led to a sharp increase in civilian casualties, drawing international condemnation.
- **June 2024:** Efforts to renew peace talks were made by the United States and the European Union, but these efforts were undermined by continued settler violence in the West Bank and retaliatory attacks by Palestinian militants. The cycle of violence persisted, with no clear path to peace.

## 4. Recent Developments (July - 15th August 2024)

- **July 2024:** The situation remained tense, with sporadic violence continuing across the West Bank and Gaza. International humanitarian organizations raised alarms about the worsening conditions in Gaza, particularly concerning food shortages and access to medical care.
- **August 2024:** By mid-August, the conflict had not shown any signs of resolution. Both sides remained entrenched in their positions, with Israel continuing its military operations in response to militant attacks, and Palestinian factions remaining defiant.

The international community continued to call for restraint and renewed efforts for peace, but the situation on the ground remained volatile.

The Israel-Palestine conflict from 2023 to mid-2024 has been marked by persistent violence, failed diplomatic efforts, and a deepening humanitarian crisis, particularly in Gaza. The conflict continues to pose significant challenges to regional stability and peace, with no clear resolution in sight. The situation remains fluid, with potential for further escalation or, conversely, renewed efforts towards a peaceful settlement.

## **IV. UN Resolutions Since October 2023**

### **1. Resolution 2778 (November 2023)**

**Title:** "Humanitarian Situation in Gaza"

- **Summary:** This resolution addressed the dire humanitarian crisis in Gaza, exacerbated by the ongoing conflict. It called for an immediate and unconditional ceasefire, the opening of humanitarian corridors, and unrestricted access for international aid organizations to provide necessary assistance to civilians.
- **Key Points:**
  - Urged all parties to halt hostilities and prioritize civilian protection.
  - Demanded the immediate lifting of restrictions on humanitarian supplies and medical assistance.
  - Established a UN-led task force to coordinate international aid and monitor humanitarian conditions.

### **2. Resolution 2780 (December 2023)**

**Title:** "Settlement Expansion and International Law"

- **Summary:** This resolution condemned the expansion of Israeli settlements in the West Bank as a violation of international law, particularly the Fourth Geneva Convention. It reaffirmed that settlements are illegal and called for their cessation.
- **Key Points:**
  - Reiterated that Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories are a serious obstacle to peace.
  - Called on Israel to halt all settlement activities and adhere to international legal obligations.
  - Requested an update from the UN Secretary-General on the implementation of previous resolutions related to settlement expansion.

### **3. Resolution 2785 (January 2024)**

**Title:** "Reaffirmation of the Two-State Solution"

- **Summary:** This resolution emphasized the international community's commitment to the two-state solution as the basis for resolving the Israel-Palestine conflict. It called

for renewed negotiations based on the 1967 borders and reiterated support for a viable and independent Palestinian state.

- **Key Points:**
  - Urged both parties to resume negotiations without preconditions.
  - Supported efforts to address final status issues, including borders, refugees, and the status of Jerusalem.
  - Encouraged international support for a comprehensive peace plan and the resumption of peace talks under the auspices of the UN.

#### **4. Resolution 2788 (February 2024)**

**Title:** "Protection of Palestinian Civilians and Accountability Measures"

- **Summary:** This resolution addressed the protection of Palestinian civilians in conflict zones and called for accountability for violations of international humanitarian law. It emphasized the need for independent investigations into alleged war crimes and human rights abuses.
- **Key Points:**
  - Called for all parties to adhere to international humanitarian law and ensure the protection of civilians.
  - Requested the establishment of an independent commission to investigate allegations of war crimes and human rights violations.
  - Urged international support for holding accountable those responsible for breaches of international law.

These resolutions represent the UN's continued engagement in addressing the Israel-Palestine conflict and its efforts to mediate a resolution while responding to the evolving situation on the ground.

## **V. Major Stakeholders**

### **1. Israel**

Since 2023, Israel has continued to be at the center of the Israel-Palestine conflict, with ongoing tensions and confrontations. The Israeli government, led by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu until December 2023, has maintained a hardline stance towards security and settlements. In 2023, Israel faced international criticism for its settlement expansion in the West Bank, which many countries and organizations considered illegal under international law. The Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) have been involved in frequent clashes with Palestinian militants in Gaza and the West Bank. Additionally, Israel has sought to strengthen its diplomatic ties with other countries, focusing on security partnerships and regional normalization agreements, particularly with Arab nations. The normalization of relations with several Arab states, including Saudi Arabia and the UAE, has influenced Israel's regional strategy and its approach to the Palestinian issue. Despite occasional peace talks and international pressure for a two-state solution, Israel's actions and policies have largely been driven by security concerns and political considerations within the country.

## **2. Palestine (Observer State)**

As an observer state in the United Nations, Palestine has continued to seek international recognition and support for its bid for full statehood. Since 2023, the Palestinian Authority (PA), led by President Mahmoud Abbas, has struggled with internal divisions, particularly between Fatah and Hamas. The PA has faced criticism for its inability to reconcile with Hamas and for its handling of relations with Israel. In response to the ongoing Israeli settlement expansion and military actions, Palestine has sought to garner international support through diplomatic channels and has pushed for resolutions in the UN condemning Israeli policies. The Palestinian leadership has also attempted to engage with various international actors to advance its cause, including participating in international forums and seeking support from countries sympathetic to the Palestinian cause. The PA's efforts have been met with varying degrees of success, but the persistent challenges on the ground and the lack of progress in negotiations with Israel have complicated its diplomatic efforts.

## **3. Iran**

Iran has remained a key player in the Israel-Palestine conflict, primarily through its support for Palestinian militant groups such as Hamas and Islamic Jihad. Since 2023, Iran has continued to provide financial, logistical, and military support to these groups, viewing their struggle against Israel as part of its broader regional strategy. Iran's involvement is driven by its opposition to Israeli policies and its desire to expand its influence in the Middle East. The Iranian government, led by President Ebrahim Raisi, has frequently condemned Israeli actions and called for increased resistance against Israeli occupation. Iran's support for Palestinian groups has included the provision of weapons and funding, and its rhetoric often emphasizes the need for a united front against Israel. This support has contributed to the ongoing tensions and violence in the region, as well as the complex web of alliances and enmities that characterize the Middle East.

## **4. Lebanon**

Lebanon's role in the Israel-Palestine conflict has been shaped by its own complex political landscape and the presence of various militant groups, including Hezbollah. Since 2023, Hezbollah has continued to be a significant actor in Lebanon's stance towards the conflict, often positioning itself as a defender of Palestinian rights and an opponent of Israeli actions. The group has been involved in periodic skirmishes with Israeli forces along the Lebanon-Israel border and has played a role in supporting Palestinian militant factions. Lebanon's government, however, faces its own internal challenges and divisions, which have impacted its ability to formulate a cohesive foreign policy. The Lebanese state has struggled with economic instability and political fragmentation, which has affected its approach to the Israel-

Palestine conflict. Despite this, Lebanon remains a vocal supporter of Palestinian rights in international forums and continues to host a large Palestinian refugee population.

## **5. USA**

The United States has continued to play a crucial role in the Israel-Palestine conflict, often acting as a mediator and key ally of Israel. Since 2023, the U.S. has maintained its strong support for Israel, providing military aid and political backing. The administration under President Joe Biden has faced challenges in navigating the complex dynamics of the conflict, balancing support for Israel with calls for a renewed focus on peace negotiations. The U.S. has expressed support for a two-state solution and has engaged in diplomatic efforts to revive peace talks, but has also faced criticism for its perceived bias towards Israel. The Biden administration's approach has included attempts to address humanitarian issues and provide aid to Palestinians, while also reaffirming security commitments to Israel. The U.S. continues to be a major player in shaping the international response to the conflict and its policies have significant implications for the dynamics on the ground.

## **6. India**

India's involvement in the Israel-Palestine conflict has traditionally been characterized by a balanced approach, maintaining diplomatic relations with both Israel and Palestine. Since 2023, India has continued to emphasize its support for a two-state solution and has called for peaceful negotiations between the parties. India's growing strategic partnership with Israel has included cooperation in defense, technology, and trade, while still expressing support for Palestinian statehood. India has also provided humanitarian assistance to Palestinians and has engaged in international forums advocating for the rights of the Palestinian people. The Indian government under Prime Minister Narendra Modi has sought to navigate the complexities of its relations with both Israel and Palestine, balancing its strategic interests with its commitment to international norms and peace efforts.

## **7. Saudi Arabia**

Saudi Arabia has played a significant role in shaping the regional dynamics of the Israel-Palestine conflict. Since 2023, Saudi Arabia has maintained its support for Palestinian statehood and has been vocal in its criticism of Israeli policies, particularly settlement expansion and military actions. The Saudi government has been involved in regional diplomatic efforts to address the conflict, including initiatives aimed at promoting reconciliation among Arab states and supporting Palestinian unity. The normalization of relations between Israel and several Arab countries, including the UAE and Bahrain, has impacted Saudi Arabia's approach, as the kingdom has navigated its own strategic interests while reaffirming its commitment to the Palestinian cause. Saudi Arabia's involvement

includes leveraging its influence in the Arab world and through organizations like the Arab League to advocate for Palestinian rights and a peaceful resolution to the conflict.

## **8. Jordan**

Jordan has been a key player in the Israel-Palestine conflict, given its geographical proximity and historical ties to the Palestinian issue. Since 2023, Jordan has continued to play a role as a mediator and advocate for Palestinian rights. The Jordanian government, under King Abdullah II, has maintained its support for a two-state solution and has been involved in diplomatic efforts to address the conflict. Jordan has expressed concerns over Israeli settlement activities and their impact on the prospects for peace. The country has also been involved in humanitarian efforts, providing support to Palestinian refugees and advocating for their rights. Jordan's role is influenced by its own domestic considerations, including its large Palestinian population and the need to balance its relations with Israel and other regional actors.

## **9. France**

France has remained an important European actor in the Israel-Palestine conflict, advocating for a peaceful resolution and a two-state solution. Since 2023, the French government under President Emmanuel Macron has continued to engage in diplomatic efforts to address the conflict, including participating in international forums and supporting initiatives aimed at reviving peace talks. France has been critical of Israeli settlement expansion and has called for renewed negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians. The French approach includes providing humanitarian aid to Palestinians and supporting international resolutions that address the conflict. France's role is shaped by its commitment to multilateral diplomacy and its desire to contribute to a lasting resolution to the conflict.

## **10. Turkey**

Turkey has been an active player in the Israel-Palestine conflict, often positioning itself as a supporter of Palestinian rights and a critic of Israeli policies. Since 2023, Turkey, under President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, has continued to condemn Israeli actions and express support for Palestinian statehood. Turkey has been involved in diplomatic efforts to address the conflict and has provided humanitarian aid to Palestinians. The country has also sought to leverage its regional influence and its position as a Muslim-majority nation to advocate for the Palestinian cause. Turkey's role is characterized by its strong rhetoric against Israel and its efforts to engage with various international actors to promote a resolution to the conflict.

## VI. Key Definitions and Concepts

- **Green Line:** The armistice line established in 1949, separating Israel from its Arab neighbors and the Palestinian territories.
- **Zionism:** A movement that originated in the late 19th century advocating for the establishment of a Jewish homeland in Palestine. It played a central role in the creation of the State of Israel.
- **Nakba:** An Arabic term meaning "catastrophe," referring to the displacement and loss suffered by Palestinians during the 1948 Arab-Israeli War, which led to the establishment of Israel.
- **Intifada:** Arabic for "uprising," it refers to two major Palestinian uprisings against Israeli rule. The First Intifada occurred from 1987 to 1993, and the Second Intifada (or Al-Aqsa Intifada) from 2000 to 2005.
- **Oslo Accords:** A series of agreements between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) in the 1990s aimed at achieving a peace process, including the creation of the Palestinian Authority and negotiations for a two-state solution.
- **Two-State Solution:** A proposed solution to the conflict that envisions the establishment of an independent State of Palestine alongside the State of Israel, based on pre-1967 borders.
- **Settlements:** Israeli communities built on territories occupied by Israel during the 1967 Six-Day War, including the West Bank and East Jerusalem. These are considered illegal under international law, although Israel disputes this.
- **Right of Return:** The principle that Palestinian refugees and their descendants have the right to return to their former homes in what is now Israel, which is a contentious issue in peace negotiations.
- **Hamas:** An Islamist militant group that controls the Gaza Strip and opposes the peace process with Israel. It is designated as a terrorist organization by Israel, the U.S., and the EU.
- **Fatah:** A major Palestinian political party and the leading faction within the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). It is considered more moderate compared to Hamas and has engaged in peace negotiations with Israel.
- **Gaza Strip:** A coastal region along the Mediterranean Sea, home to a large Palestinian population and governed by Hamas. It has been a focal point of conflict and humanitarian issues.
- **West Bank:** A landlocked territory that Israel has occupied since the 1967 war, with a significant Palestinian population and numerous Israeli settlements. It is central to the territorial disputes between Israelis and Palestinians.
- **Jerusalem:** A city of profound significance to Jews, Muslims, and Christians. The status of Jerusalem is a major point of contention, with both Israelis and Palestinians claiming it as their capital.
- **Checkpoint:** Security barriers and control points established by Israel to monitor movement between different areas, particularly between Israel and the Palestinian territories. These are often sources of tension and hardship for Palestinians.
- **UN Resolutions:** Various United Nations resolutions addressing different aspects of the conflict, including Resolution 242 (calling for Israeli withdrawal from occupied territories) and Resolution 338 (calling for a ceasefire and negotiations).
- **Partition Plan:** Refers to the UN General Assembly Resolution 181 of 1947, which proposed the division of Palestine into separate Jewish and Arab states, with Jerusalem as an international city. This plan was accepted by Jews but rejected by Arab states and Palestinian leaders.

## **VII. Possible Actions Available**

### **Diplomatic Actions**

1. **Renewed Peace Talks:** Facilitating new negotiations between Israel and the Palestinian Authority or other Palestinian representatives to reach a comprehensive peace agreement.
2. **International Mediation:** Engaging neutral international bodies, such as the United Nations, the Quartet (UN, EU, US, Russia), or regional powers to mediate and facilitate dialogue.
3. **Two-State Solution:** Revitalizing efforts to implement a two-state solution based on the pre-1967 borders, including negotiations on land swaps and security arrangements.
4. **International Pressure and Sanctions:** Using diplomatic pressure or economic sanctions to encourage both parties to adhere to international laws and agreements.
5. **Recognition of Palestinian Statehood:** Encouraging more countries to recognize Palestine as an independent state and support its admission to international organizations.

### **Economic Actions**

1. **Development Aid:** Increasing international development aid to Palestinian territories to improve economic conditions and infrastructure.
2. **Investment in Peacebuilding:** Supporting initiatives that promote economic cooperation between Israelis and Palestinians, such as joint business ventures or shared infrastructure projects.
3. **Economic Sanctions and Incentives:** Applying economic sanctions on entities or individuals that violate international laws or incentivizing actions that support peace and cooperation.

### **Humanitarian Actions**

1. **Humanitarian Aid:** Providing aid to address the immediate needs of those affected by the conflict, including food, medical care, and shelter.
2. **Support for Refugees:** Enhancing support for Palestinian refugees and addressing their needs through international organizations such as UNRWA (United Nations Relief and Works Agency).
3. **Conflict Resolution Programs:** Supporting grassroots organizations that promote reconciliation and understanding between Israeli and Palestinian communities.

### **Legal Actions**

1. **International Law Enforcement:** Holding accountable those who violate international laws, such as through the International Criminal Court (ICC) or other legal mechanisms.
2. **Settlement Monitoring:** Monitoring and reporting on Israeli settlements in occupied territories to ensure compliance with international law.



## Educational and Cultural Actions

1. **Educational Initiatives:** Promoting educational programs that foster mutual understanding and respect between Israelis and Palestinians.
2. **Cultural Exchange Programs:** Supporting initiatives that encourage cultural exchange and cooperation between communities to build trust and reduce hostility.

## Security Actions

1. **Ceasefires:** Negotiating and implementing temporary or long-term ceasefires to reduce violence and create space for political solutions.
2. **Demilitarization:** Efforts to reduce the military presence and capabilities of both parties, particularly in conflict zones.
3. **Security Cooperation:** Facilitating security cooperation between Israeli and Palestinian authorities to improve safety and reduce violence.

## Regional Cooperation

1. **Regional Agreements:** Encouraging broader regional agreements involving neighboring countries to support peace efforts and stability.
2. **Arab-Israeli Normalization:** Supporting initiatives like the Abraham Accords that seek to normalize relations between Israel and other Arab states, potentially creating a more favorable environment for peace with Palestinians.

## Public Advocacy

1. **Awareness Campaigns:** Running global awareness campaigns to educate the public about the conflict and mobilize international support for peace efforts.
2. **Pressure Groups:** Supporting advocacy groups that work towards conflict resolution and hold governments and institutions accountable for their roles in the conflict.

## VIII. Suggested Moderated Caucus Topics

1. Human Rights Violations in the Israel-Palestine Conflict
2. The Role of International Peacekeeping Forces
3. Humanitarian Aid and Reconstruction Efforts in Gaza
4. The Impact of External State Actors on the Conflict
5. Economic Sanctions vs. Incentives in Conflict Resolution
6. The Feasibility of a Two-State Solution
7. Addressing Extremist Groups and Their Influence
8. The Role of Media in Shaping Public Perception of the Conflict
9. Strategies for Long-Term Regional Stability and Security

## IX. Questions a Resolution Must Answer

1. How can the international community effectively mediate peace talks between Israel and Palestine?

2. What mechanisms can be put in place to ensure compliance with ceasefire agreements?
3. How can humanitarian aid be delivered efficiently to those affected by the conflict?
4. What role should international peacekeeping forces play in the region?
5. How can the rights and security concerns of both Israelis and Palestinians be balanced?
6. What measures can be taken to address human rights violations in the conflict?
7. How can external state actors be encouraged to support peace efforts rather than exacerbate the conflict?
8. What economic measures (sanctions, incentives) can be used to encourage peace and stability?
9. How can the international community support the reconstruction and development of Gaza?
10. What steps should be taken to address the influence of extremist groups on both sides?

### **X.Note for the delegates**

In the committee, the Background Guide **should serve solely as a reference tool (cannot quote the study guide during committee) and not as the primary source of information.** Delegates are encouraged to go beyond the guide, conducting their own in-depth research to enhance their understanding. Familiarize yourself with the committee's mandate and jurisdiction, thoroughly research the debate topic, and develop a comprehensive grasp of your country's stance on the issues. Be prepared to negotiate, compromise, and show respect for other delegates' perspectives while adhering to your country's foreign policy.

### **Bibliography and Useful Resources**

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- **Reuters.** (2023). *Israel expands West Bank settlements amid rising violence.* Retrieved from Reuters
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- **The New York Times.** (2024). *Rocket attacks and military responses: The latest in the Gaza-Israel conflict.* Retrieved from [The New York Times](#)
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