

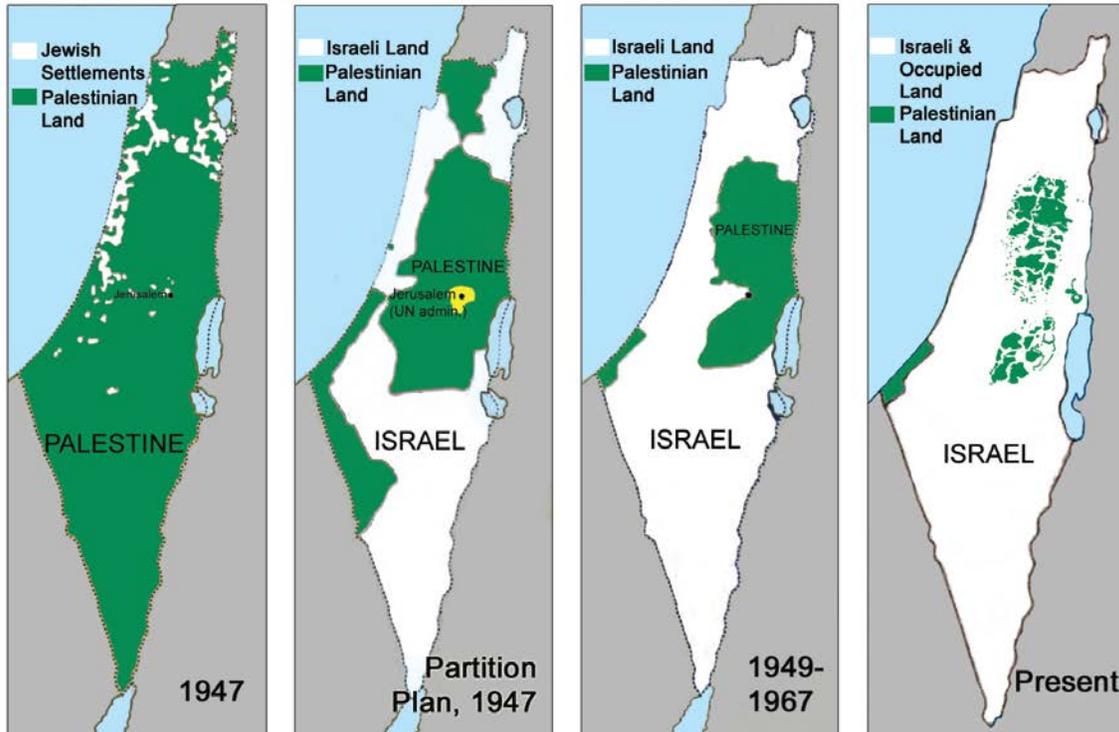
Summary of Presbyterian Church (USA) General Assembly Statements on Israel-Palestine

Below are summarized some of the key actions taking by the Presbyterian Church (USA) related to Israel/ Palestine.

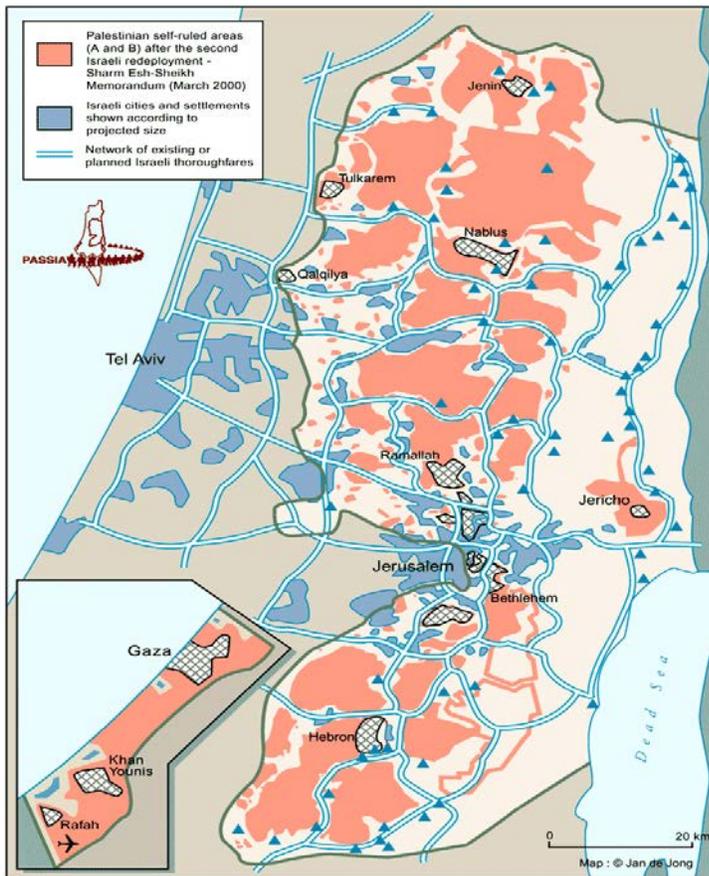
- (2010 MESR)The church affirms Israel’s right to exist as a sovereign nation within secure and internationally recognized borders in accordance with United Nations resolutions.
- (2010 MESR))The church recognizes the daunting and mounting obstacles to the viability of a “two-state solution,” and affirms with great urgency the historic Presbyterian stances with specific regard to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, calling for:
 - an immediate cessation of all violence, whether perpetrated by Israelis or Palestinians;
 - the end of the Israeli occupation of Palestinian territories and diversion of water resources;
 - an immediate freeze both on the establishment or expansion of Israeli settlements in the West Bank and on the Israeli acquisition of Palestinian land and buildings in East Jerusalem;
 - the relocation by Israel of the Separation Barrier to the 1967 border;
 - the withholding of U.S. government aid to the state of Israel as long as Israel persists in creating new West Bank settlements;
 - continuing corporate engagement through the Committee on Mission Responsibility Through Investment with companies profiting from the sale and use of their products for non-peaceful purposes and/or the violation of human rights;
 - a shared status for Jerusalem;
 - equal rights for Palestinian citizens of the state of Israel;
 - the cessation of systematic violation of human rights by any party, specifically, practices of administrative detention, collective punishment, the torture of prisoners and suspects, home demolitions and evictions, and the deportation of dissidents
 - the immediate resumption by Israel and Palestine of negotiations toward a two-state solution.
- (2010 Overture)The church calls for the allocation of U.S. military aid funds to be contingent on compliance with: (a) the US Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 which prohibits giving assistance to the government of any country which engages in a consistent pattern of human rights violations; (b) the U.S. Arms Export Control Act of 1976 which prohibits using U.S. weapons against civilians and civilian infrastructure, and (c) the U.S. foreign policy insofar as it pertains to recommendations for steps toward peace, in this instance, between Israelis and Palestinians. The church express its extreme disappointment with the U.S. government that while the State of Israel has been found not to comply with the above statutes, it continues to be the recipient of U.S. military aid.
- (2010 MESR)The church calls on the Israeli and Egyptian governments to limit their blockade of Gaza solely to military equipment/devices and to guarantee adequate levels of food, medicine, building supplies, and other humanitarian items, and to allow free commercial exchange in and out of Gaza, and calls on the U.S. government to end any support for the blockade that interferes with the adequacy of such items or such exchange.
- (2012)The church intends to pursue a positive and creative course of action with respect to the current Palestinian-Israeli conflict that will make a difference in the lives of those who are most vulnerable on all sides and that will preserve an effective witness to peace in the entire region. This includes engagement bringing Jews, Christians, and Muslims from the US into effective partnering; advocating for the development of educational programs that expose Americans of the three faiths to varied experiences of both Palestinians and Israelis; devising a plan of active investment in projects that support collaboration among the three faiths and help develop a viable infrastructure for a future Palestinian state, including greater denominational engagement with Christians in the West Bank around job creation and economic development. GAMC is instructed to create a process to raise funds to invest in the West Bank by 2014.

- (2012)The Presbyterian Church (USA) calls upon all nations to prohibit the import of products made by enterprises in Israeli settlements on Palestinian land. The church:
 - calls for the boycott of all Israeli products coming from the occupied Palestinian Territories, including AHAVA Dead Sea Laboratories Beauty Products, and all date products of Hadiklaim, The Israel Date Growers Co-Operative Ltd, often marked by the brand names: King Solomon Dates and Jordan River (not Israeli products form Israel)
 - Directs the Stated Clerk to communicate this action to all other PC (USA) councils and entities and invite and strongly encourage those groups and organizations to endorse this boycott until significant progress toward Palestinian rights and independence can be reported to the General Assembly or General Assembly Mission Council.

Palestinian Loss of Land 1947 to Present



Maps 1 and 2 below of the Occupied Palestinian Territories show the boundaries of the “two state solution,” Israeli settlements in the West Bank, the separation barrier, and other facts on the ground that are referenced in the PC (USA) statements on Israel-Palestine.



Palestinian Academic Society for the Study of International Affairs (PASSIA)

**Map 1:
Settlements and Bypass Roads**

- The blue triangles represent illegal Israeli settlement colonies
- The roads are Jewish only by-pass roads linking the settlement colonies with Israel that allow unrestricted settler movement but no access to Palestinians
- The roads have fences or walls that prohibit crossing them except at checkpoints. The roads thereby form a grid of physical barriers that prohibit Palestinian movement and confine Palestinians to 64 isolated enclaves



**Map 2
Settlements and the Separation Wall**

- The separation wall (blue line) is not on the internationally recognized Israel and Palestine boundary (the 1967 “green line”). Large swaths of Palestinian territory are on the “Israel side” of the Wall.
- The blue triangles represent illegal Israeli settlement colonies