

ANNUAL REPORT 2021

**The Jerusalem Legal Aid
& Human Rights Center**





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Contents

Opening Message	04
Who We Are	07
Main Achievements	08
Area C	11
East Jerusalem	15
Outreach	17
Advocacy	17
Challenges Ahead	18
Financial Review	23

Message from the Chairman & Director

Planning, demolition and direct terror by settlers are among the tools being utilized in implementing forced displacement, with the year 2021 witnessing a serious escalation in settlers’ attacks. An astounding, 410 violent attacks by Israeli settlers against Palestinians in the West Bank were documented in the first 10 months of 2021 alone (108 against individuals and 302 involving property). Such is up from 358 recorded attacks in 2020 and 335 recorded attacks in 2019, as per a UN report. According to the Israeli human rights organization Yesh Din, 91 percent of settler violence investigations between 2005 and 2019 were closed by the Israeli authorities without indictment indicating the complicity of authorities. Indeed, the Israeli police and army have violated their duty as an occupying power responsible for the protection of civilians under their occupation.

Responsible to a greater degree is the Israeli government at the political level, for backing security services and settlers. For instance, it was a political decision that changed shooting instructions as to allow for live fire to be used against Palestinian stone-throwers; while no settler has ever been convicted of stone-throwing let alone for their use of live ammunition. Instead, the Israeli government is rewarding aggressors by legalizing their facilities and whitewashing their crimes of assault on Palestinian lands.

The outpost of Avyatar (situated on Sabih Hill on lands belonging to villagers from Beita and Qabalan in the Nablus Governorate), despite being built illegal even as per Israeli laws was not dismantled. Instead, the Israeli military forcefully suppressed demonstrations, killing 10 people in 2021, of which 3 were children.

This coercive environment is being met with recent efforts to further accelerate demolition procedures against Palestinian homes and facilities. According to the Colonization & Wall Resistance Commission, 931 demolition orders were issued by the Israeli Civil Administration against Palestinian facilities in 2021, a significant increase compared to OCHA published figures for 2020 (797 demolition orders) and for 2019 (643 demolition orders). It should be noted that an order can involve multiple facilities for the same family or built on the same plot of land.

The Israeli government, from Bennett, its president and through its various right-wing parties (within the administrations’ coalition or outside it), do not conceal their intention to actively undermine the viability and contiguity of a Palestinian state. Working against a two-state solution does not by any means equate to endorsing a one-state solution, but rather what’s being desired is the institutionalization of an apartheid system as facilitated by a dual-legal system that encourages settler terrorism and neglects to provide the slightest protection for Palestinian civilians as protected persons according to IHL.

The following report will serve to summarize, in part, the efforts of the Jerusalem Legal Aid and Human Rights Center (JLAC) in confronting this system in the defense of Palestinians’ right to life and property. Such is done so with ultimately ending the occupation and exercising the right to self-determination in mind, as enshrined in the tens of international resolutions and documents that address the Palestinian cause, the most important of which is General Assembly Resolution No. 181 of 1947, known as the Partition Plan).

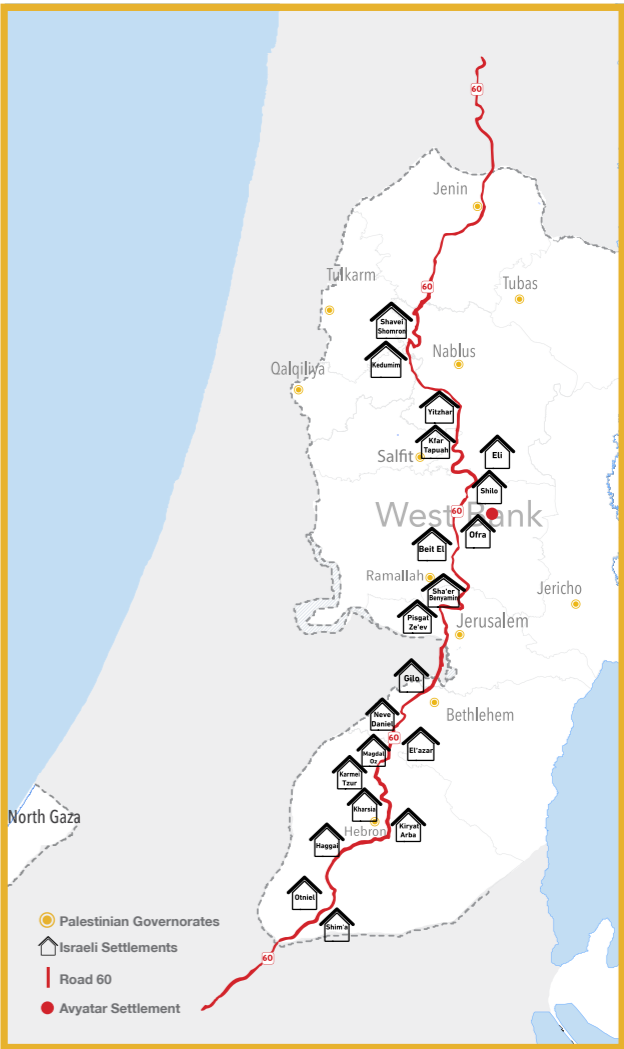
Amin Inabi/ Chairman of the Board of Directors
Issam Aruri/ General Director

Map of Settler Violence Along Road 60

The featured map illustrates one of the tactics employed by the Israeli occupation in effectuating control through settlement roads, in this case Road 60, which extends vertically like a spine bisecting the West Bank along the middle. On either side of the road, 19 settlements are built, along with random outposts and agricultural settlements.

According to the Israeli newspaper Haaretz’s July 21, 2021 publication, 16 out of these 19 settlements voted during the last Knesset elections, by majority, in favor of the religious Zionism movement led by Smotrich and Ben Gvir; a party professing to adhere to the ethnic cleansing of Palestinians by force, as was done during the Nakba of 1948.

Although these 19 settlements solely comprised 12.5 percent of the settlements in Area C, 63 percent of attacks against Palestinians emanated from these vicinities.





Dual Registration



Four Offices



32 Staffers



300+ Volunteers

Who We Are

The Jerusalem Legal Aid and Human Rights Center (JLAC), has been tirelessly working to secure Palestinians' human rights, since its establishment by the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) in 1974 and later institutionalization as a Palestinian NGO in 1997. While the specific violations addressed shifted over the years to accommodate the most pressing concerns at the time, more recently JLAC has been focused on safeguarding vulnerable communities in their homes and lands and securing their public freedoms. Accordingly, JLAC provides pro-bono legal aid, outreach and advocacy efforts in holding the various violating Duty Bearers (i.e. the Israeli government, its military, and the Palestinian Authority- PA) to account.

To this affect, JLAC challenges violations of house demolition and social and economic rights in East Jerusalem. Push factors as land confiscation, house demolition, forceful displacement of Bedouins, settler violence, and confiscations of equipment/goods are addressed in Area C. And pertaining to the PA, JLAC addresses good governance and the separation of powers in coalition and legally challenges violations of public freedoms (i.e. arbitrary dismissal based on political affiliation, political arrest, etc.).

JLAC's dual registration (both Israeli and Palestinian) affords it a unique geographic coverage, as rendered through JLAC's three branch offices (in Jerusalem, Ramallah and Nablus), a satellite office in Salfit, mobile clinic efforts, and field work. Moreover, JLAC employs a working team comprised of 32 highly skilled professionals in their field (i.e. 11 lawyers holding Israeli and/or Palestinian bar, 6 paralegals qualified in delivering legal consultation, 3 filed researchers/workers, and 2 trainers, among other support staff).

JLAC also leans on its 300+ volunteer-base in gathering needed documentation and facilitating the Center's ability to take on hundreds of new cases each annum and follow-up thousands of more cases on-going from previous years.

Vision

A free and independent Palestinian society founded on the principles of justice, in which human dignity is protected.

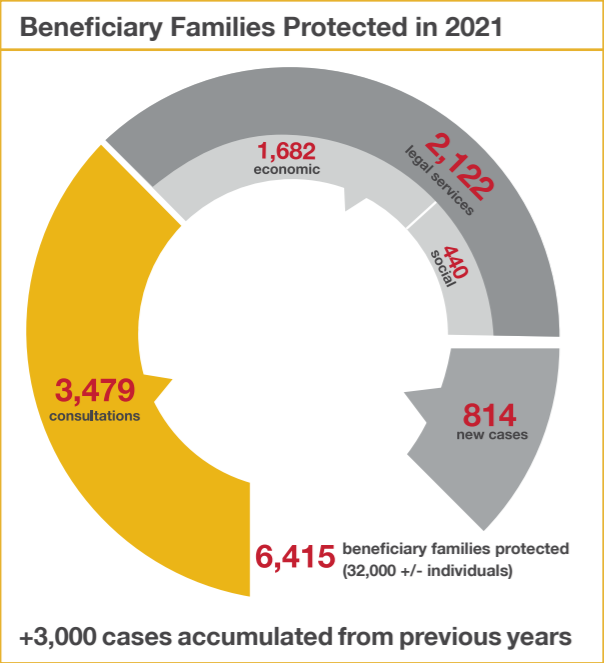
Mission

As a Palestinian human rights organization, JLAC works to protect vulnerable groups exposed to recurring violations of human rights (whether by the Israeli occupation or under the Palestinian Authority) through: available legal mechanisms, fostering a culture of human rights, promoting legal knowledge, and using advocacy tools towards activating accountability mechanisms and urging the prosecution of perpetrators, at both national and international levels.

Areas of Intervention

- House Demolition
- Forced Displacement of Bedouins and Herders
- Land Confiscation
- Confiscation of Humanitarian Goods and Equipment
- Settler Violence
- Freedom of Movement
- Social & Economic Rights
- Public Freedoms (under the PA)
- Public Interest Cases

Main Achievements



In 2021, JLAC was able to hold at bay a portion of Israel’s expansionist aims (along with addressing a number of violations by the PA) through the undertaking of 814 new individual cases (250 in Jerusalem, 564 in the remainder of the West Bank), 3,479 consultations (1,800 in Area C, 1,409 in Jerusalem, 270 under the PA), and 2,122 legal services (440 involving social and 1,682 involving economic rights of Jerusalemites); collectively protecting 6,415 beneficiary families (or 32,000 +/- individuals) in their homes and lands.

Such is in addition to the 3,052 beneficiary families provided with continuous protection through the follow-up of individual cases accumulated from previous years; an ever growing burden JLAC shoulders as a means of buying time for beneficiary families.

JLAC also took on 8 new (and followed up 15 accumulated) public interest cases in addressing the root from which various human rights violations may otherwise emanate. These cases address a range of issues; from the demolition

of Al Oja School servicing Bedouin communities in the Jordan Valley (in safeguarding the students’ right to education) to the closure of a public road connecting Qalqiliya and Nablus (in ensuring the freedom of movement of surrounding communities) to challenging the construction of a settler road for the outpost of Evyatar (running through lands of Beita village, Nablus).

An additional 734 beneficiaries were equipped with the needed legal knowledge to ascertaining their rights or the rights of their communities in combating encountered human rights violations. Such involved the delivery of 47 awareness sessions (13 in Jerusalem and 34 in Area C) outreaching 618 people and 6 training courses (1 in Jerusalem and 5 in Area C) outreaching 116 people. JLAC also undertook much in way of international advocacy, involving; oral/written statements, advocacy tours, panel discussions, and debriefs /field visits for visiting delegations. Such is in addition to the work achieved in coalitions and networks and through JLAC-led advocacy campaigns.

Much invest was also made in developing JLAC’s internal policies, procedures and systems (with 13 different types of documents produced), as well as in affording the working team with needed opportunities for continuing education. JLAC was likewise able to maintain its exiting funding base and accrue the additional support of two new partners (one State and one INGO), the later allowing the Center to expand its East Jerusalem programming.





Area C

Israel's expansionist aims are being fulfilled in the West Bank at the expense of the viability of a Palestinian State, and individual's ability to live in their homes and lands, particularly in Area C. For each settlement, each bypass road, wall, and fencing designed to connect settlements with each other and Israel, serve to further annex, bisect, demolish, isolate, and disenfranchise Palestinian communities. Currently standing at a population of 670,977 settlers across 132 settlements and 140 outposts in Area C and 13 settlement blocks in East Jerusalem; a further 4,010 tenders were announced towards settlement construction in 2021, as per Peace Now.

Settlements and their continued expansion and associated infrastructure (including the Annexation Wall) are prohibited by international humanitarian law (as detailed in the Fourth Geneva Convention and confirmed by various international bodies, including the International Court of Justice, Security Council, General Assembly and Human Rights Council) and perpetuate a host of other human rights violations. In 2021 alone, 903 structures were demolished (220 of which were donor-funded structures), displacing 1,203 people. This figure up from 854 structures demolished and 1,001 people displaced in 2020.

Towards contributing to the mitigation of such "push factors", JLAC took on 442 new cases in Area C in 2021; 400 involving demolition/displacement (216 house demolition, 154 agricultural facility demolition, 30 forced displacement of Bedouins) and 42 involving confiscation (18 land or 24 equipment/supplies), as well as followed up 2,658 such cases on-going from years prior. Much of the Center's outreach and advocacy work dually address this coercive environment, through either equipping local communities with the needed legal knowledge in combating violations, or by vocalizing to the international community the need to end such practices.

The Importance of Community Synergy:

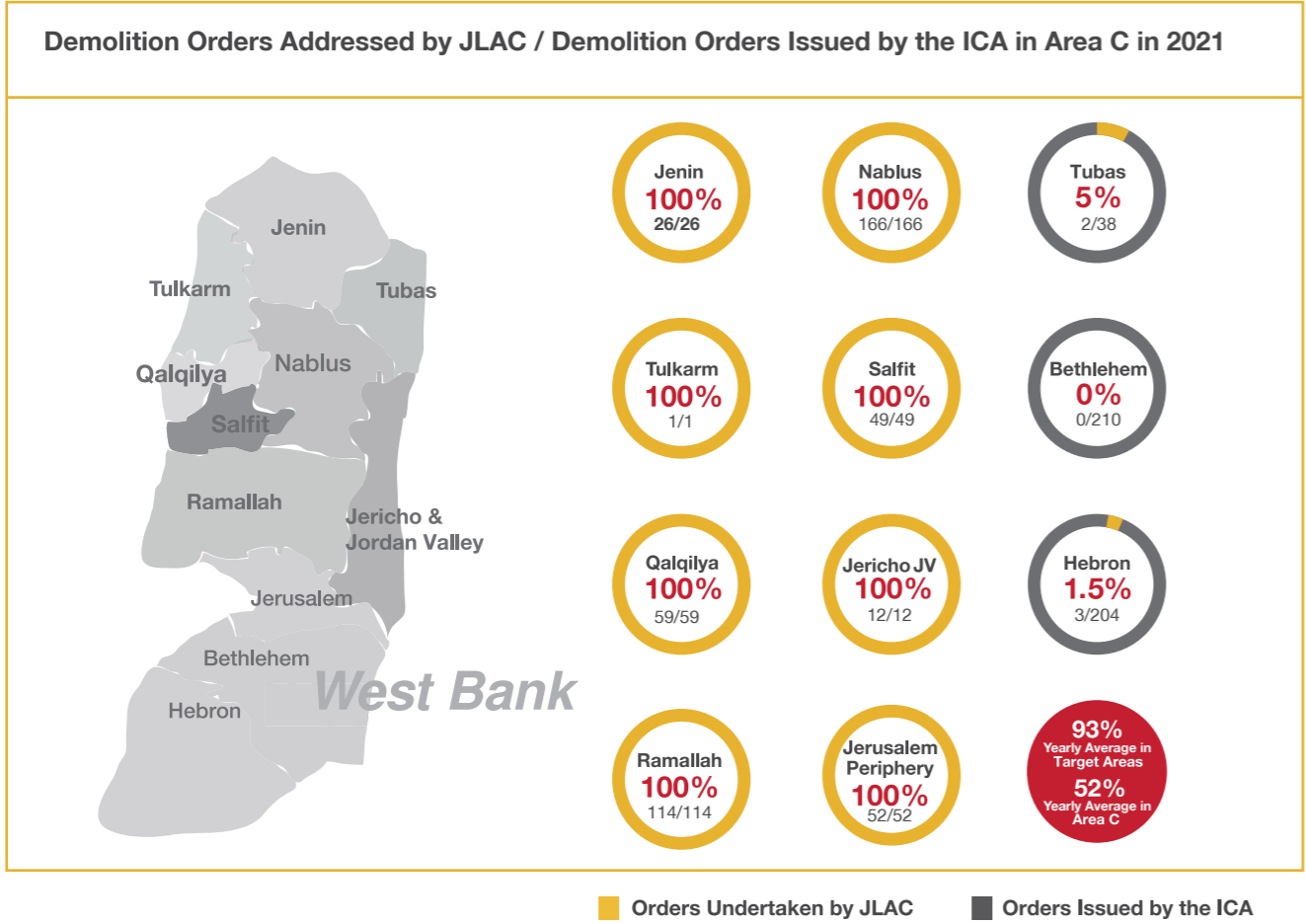
April 6, 2021: Just before the stroke of midnight, the Jerusalem Legal Aid and Human Rights Center (JLAC) filed a last-minute petition against the Israeli Civil Administration's (ICA's) decision, issued a few hours earlier, to demolish nine structures in the village of Qarawat Bani Hassan near Salfit. The structures included 2 houses inhabited by 16 individuals, 3 agricultural barracks serving 17 villagers, 3 agricultural wells serving 23 villagers, and the fence of the local football stadium.

In its petition before the District Court in Jerusalem, JLAC stressed that the ICA was not authorized to issue the demolition orders (as per Regulation 46 regarding submission of building permits, adopted April 2021) since the structures had already been fully constructed.

In addition to the multitude of human rights violations which the demolitions would constitute, doing so would also amount to retroactive application, which is unlawful under Israeli administrative law as well. JLAC also contested the interpretation of Regulation 46, according to which the demolition orders were issued, arguing that it doesn't apply to the structures in question.

Any delay in filing the petition would have meant the demolition of the structures, as the ICA was braced to carry it out immediately. In its decision, the District Court granted the villagers an injunction freezing the demolition of the structures pending a final decision on the petition. The decision also required the villagers to deliver a deposit of 20,000 NIS (\$6,000) to the Court, which will be handed over to the Israeli authorities if the petition is eventually rejected.

JLAC has consistently stood as the largest legal aid provider operating in the field of protection, with 52% (481/931) of all demolition orders in the entirety of the West Bank (excluding East Jerusalem) being undertaken by the Center in 2021, with all other actors (i.e. peer NGOs, INGO, state authorities, private-sector lawyers, or in some instances no one) taking on the remainder. This figure goes up to 93% (481/517) when you factor out Hebron and Bethlehem governorates, as its been agreed they will be covered by another peer organization. In the majority of the remaining governorates, JLAC took on 100% of the issued demolition orders (i.e. Jenin, Tulkarm, Qalqiliya, Ramallah, Nablus, Salfit, Jericho, and the Jerusalem periphery).





East Jerusalem

East Jerusalem faces similar push factors as Area C, in terms of demolition/displacement issues, as well as more indirect push factors specific to Jerusalemites involving the violation of social-economic rights (i.e. child registration, family reunification, burdensome taxation, health insurance, etc.), collectively intended to create a coercive environment in ethnically cleansing the City of Palestinians. These tactics form part of Israel's announced plan to sway demographics in the City to its favor (i.e. 2020 Master Plan). In 2021, JLAC served to undertake 250 new cases (14 house demolition, 194 social, and 42 economic rights), followed-up 136 accumulated cases, provided 2,122 legal services (440 social and 1,682 economic) and 1,409 legal consultations, and outreached 273 people (74% women) through 13 awareness sessions and 1 intensive course.

JLAC Succeeds in Reinstating Jerusalemite's ID:

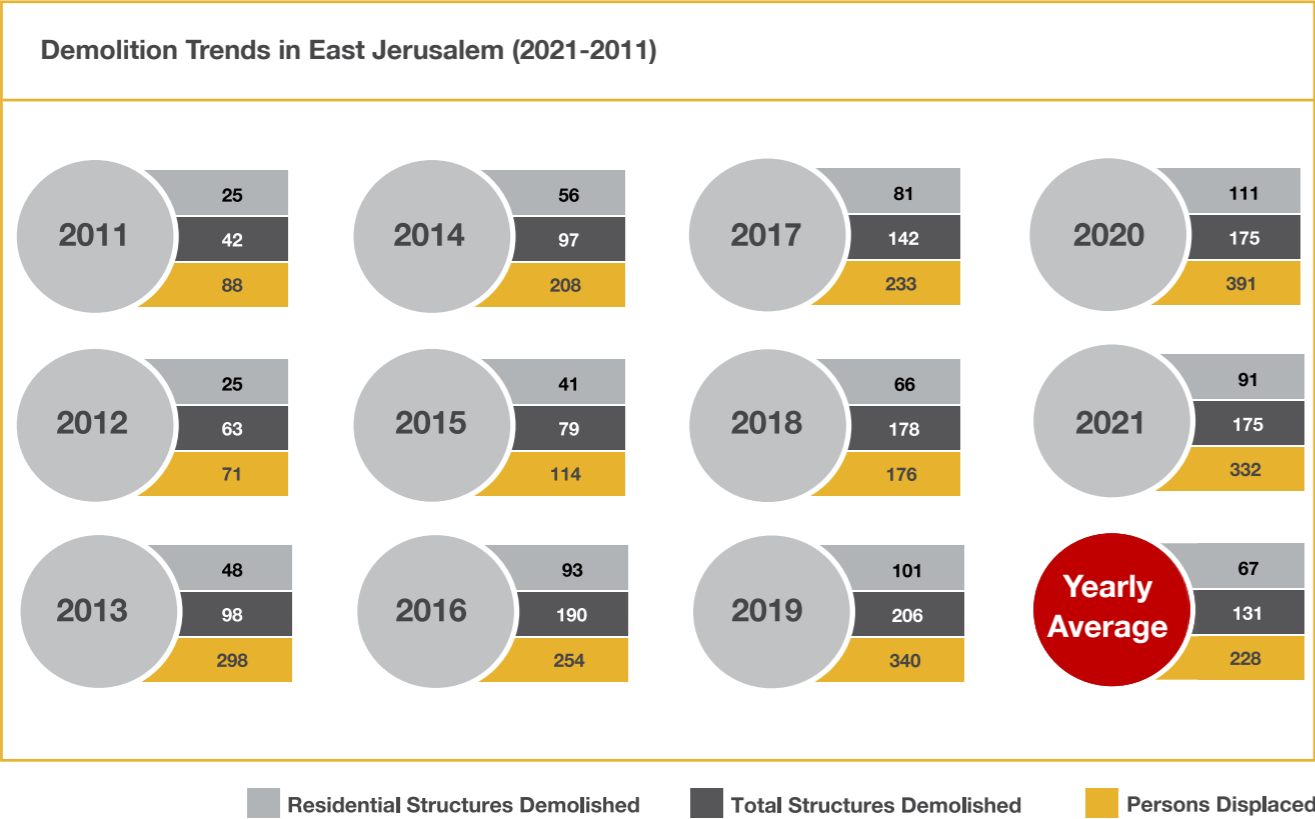
Among the many Jerusalemites which JLAC aided in securing in their homes and lands in 2021 was a woman (initials SJ) whose ID was confiscated due to her short presence outside of the country and having obtained a foreign nationality. Such ordinarily means forfeiting all civil, social and economic rights as a Jerusalemite. However, after returning to the country and being faced with the loss of her ID, SJ approached JLAC for assistance with retrieving her ID from the Israeli Ministry of Interior. JLAC's lawyers studied her case and all the issues pertaining to the confiscation. A series of correspondences were then directed to the Ministry, with threats made to take the matter to court in the event that the ID was not reinstated to SJ. The later prompted the Ministry to respond to JLAC, informing us of their intention to reinstate SJ's ID and associated rights.

Other tactics being employed towards displacing Jerusalemites include discriminatory legislation, as the recent Land Settlement Law (approved in 2018) which underhandedly aims to disenfranchise Jerusalemites of their land through forcing them to register their land in the Tabo (the Israeli Land Registration Department), while creating stumbling blocks therein to hamper registration. Land that cannot be registered or is deemed "disputed" fall to the management of the General Custodian of the Israeli Ministry of Finance, who in turn hands over the lands to settlements for use.

This means of appropriation was utilized in the case of the Um Haron neighborhood in Shaikh Jarrah and in the recent 473 unit-plan for a new settlement (Givat Shaked) to be situated on the lands of Beit Safafa. New settlement plans were also announced this year on the lands of Abu Ghneim near the settlement of Har Homa (for 2,540 new units) and on the land of the old Qalandia airport (for 11,000 units). JLAC is challenging the Land Settlement Law through advocacy work (in coordination between other Palestinian organizations and institutions) as to repeal the plan and mitigate current exploitation.

JLAC is still engaged in cases concerning the East Jerusalem City Center Plan (restricting Palestinian ability to construct and rehabilitate structures between the Wadi Joz and Salah Aldin St. in the commercial hub of East Jerusalem). In May, the Israeli Court rejected a petition against the legality of the plan itself. Two months later JLAC filed an objection on behalf of Palestinian schools and cultural centers affected by the plan in collaboration with the Arab Center for Alternative Planning. The objection was filled to the regional planning committee, review of which is still pending.

Israeli authorities demolished 175 Palestinian structures in East Jerusalem, of which 91 were residential structures, displacing 332 Palestinians in the process. These figures are similar to those of the year prior, which also witnessed 175 structures being demolished, of which 111 were residential structures, displacing 391 people, as per OCHA figures. This trend of increased residential demolitions saw a continued soar in the number of so-called “self-demolition”, with 83 self-demolitions documented in 2021 and 93 in 2020. This can be attributed to the hefty cost imposed by the municipality on Palestinians either through fines or through demolition fees. Since its enactment four years ago, the amendment to the Planning and Construction Law has added to the difficulties faced by JLAC and other actors in protecting Palestinian homes threatened with demolition orders, especially since the courts are increasingly reluctant to grant time extensions.



Outreach

JLAC’s ability to take on such vast quantities of new cases (in the hundreds) and maintain accumulated active cases (in the thousands) each annum is contingent upon having a foundation of legal awareness at the community level. For when local entities (municipalities/local councils in the case of Area C and CBOs in the case of East Jerusalem) are updated on the legal procedures available involving particular human rights violations, they serve as better resources for their communities and for JLAC.

Similarly, communities engaging in JLAC’s awareness raising sessions are more responsive (seek out legal aid) and better organized (have needed documentation gathered) when faced with threat to their human rights. Such is attributed to the relevance of JLAC’s outreach, in which we are often asked by the communities to come in and lead a training on specific matters of concern, drawing in crowds of beneficiaries (e.g. with demolition orders in-hand) allowing JLAC to provide legal consultation and take on new cases in bulk. Training opportunities are also continually made available to JLAC’s volunteer-base (comprised of former beneficiaries and community leaders) towards enhancing their capacity in emerging matters of concern. The trainings equip participants with knowledge of specific legal channels available and how to guide their communities through them. JLAC also offers extensive training programs for law students and new graduates towards supplementing their education and widening the pool of lawyers able to address human rights violations.

In 2021, JLAC served to outreach 734 beneficiaries through 47 awareness sessions (13 in Jerusalem 34 in Area C) outreaching 618 people and 6 training courses (1 in Jerusalem and 5 in Area C) outreaching 116 people.

Advocacy

While legal aid and awareness remain the nucleus of JLAC’s mandate and work, advocacy has increasing been needed in overcoming the discriminatory legal system. Such takes the form of both national advocacy campaigns and international advocacy interventions. Among JLAC’s most prominent campaigns involves the retrieval of withheld war/conflict victims’ remains, wherein JLAC built public opinion, community mobilization, and governmental buy-in, and provided the needed legal aid to lay to rest 290 persons thus far (121 from cemeteries and 169 from morgues).

Pertaining to international advocacy in 2021, JLAC presented an oral statement before the UN Security Council, participated in 12 UN or international panel discussions, organized and held an advocacy tour in Belgium and Denmark, held 10 debrief and field visits for visiting delegations, and developed 21 legal analyses, statements and factsheets, 12 podcasts and videos and 5 webinars, and related strategies.

Much advocacy work is also annually undertaken in coalition and through membership in networks. Such include the Palestinian NGO Network (PNGO), Palestinian Human Rights Organizations’ Council (PHROC), the Coalition for Jerusalem, the Civil Coalition to Monitor Legislations, Civil Coalition for Judiciary Reform & Protection, the Public Freedoms Committee, the Palestinian Coalition against Torture, the Palestinian Coalition against the Death Penalty, the Palestinian NGOs Code of Conduct Coalition, the Civil Team in Support of the Transparency of the Public Budget, and the National Coalition for Monitoring Elections (which is comprised of a number of civil society institutions and the Palestinian Independent Commission for Human Rights- PCHR) as well as the OCHA-led Legal Task Force and Protection Cluster, and Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network (EMHRN).

Challenges and a Look to the Year Ahead

We leave the year 2021, which was full of international, regional and local changes, with the continuing fluctuation of the pandemic, which seems we will have to live with for a long time to come. Great confusion in international politics persisted, as caused by the US move of the American embassy to Jerusalem, in so doing legitimizing the annexation of East Jerusalem and the Golan Heights. Israeli elections resulted in the removal of Netanyahu from the government he served in various capacities across 16 years, and ushered in a new government that does not differ in terms of Palestinian rights, as it clings to the practices of its predecessor.

Palestinians, however, began the year with optimism after setting a date for general elections in May; which saw the formation of 36 nominee lists, an indicator of the nation's enthusiasm for political participation. Regretfully, elections were cancelled by the Palestinian Authority just one day before the election campaigns were scheduled to commence; stating the cancelation was due to the Israeli government's refusal to allow elections to be held in Jerusalem. This Israeli change to the rules of the game, is another consequence of the American recognition of the annexation of Jerusalem.

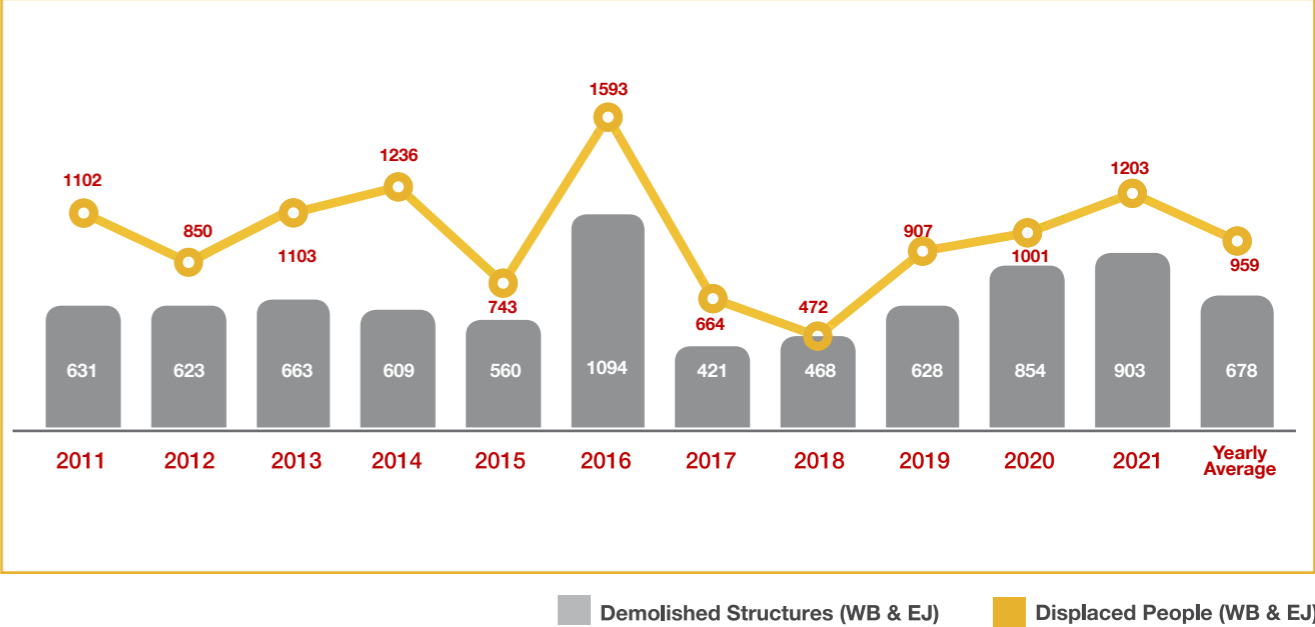
Then Jerusalem, as it historically has, proved itself to be the nexus of the Palestinian struggle for self-determination, with the crisis in Sheikh Jarrah erupting, mobilizing Palestinians across various geographies, and attracting unprecedented international solidarity denouncing the racist nature of the occupation's actions and classifying its brutality as apartheid. Social media and new means of communication played a major role in spreading the Palestinian narrative.

Hamas interjected by firing rockets at Jerusalem, in a move which some analysts described as being part of an internal power struggle over the means of resistance and ways to achieve national goals. Israel responded with a wide aggression against Gaza, which resulted in the death of 261 Palestinians (of which 41 were women and 67 were children) and injury of 2,211 more in the span of 11 days, as per OCHA. Vital infrastructure, residential and commercial facilities were also devastated, with 2,200 housing units destroyed and roughly 50,000 more partially damaged according to the Ministry of Labor and Housing in Gaza. The aggression stopped with mounting international pressure on Israel to respect the current situation in Jerusalem, and with the understanding that a negotiation process will commence (through mediators) to retrieve imprisoned (or bodies of dead) Israeli soldiers.

The cancellation of elections, the Israeli aggression, and surging popularity of Hamas, led to a state of internal Palestinian tension furthered by efforts to suppress freedom of opinion and political participation. Such reached a boiling point with the killing of activist and candidate for the legislative elections, Nizar Banat, by PA forces and brutal suppression of demonstrations (widely targeting women) that ensued.

Occupation authorities returned to their expansionist policies; demolishing Palestinian homes while legitimizing Israeli outposts (as that of Evyatar on the top of Sabih Hill situated on the land of the villages of Beita and Qabalan in the Nablus Governorate), negotiating residents of Sheikh Jarrah out of their homes, and encouraging settler terror which reached record highs (with a 120% increase in the number of armed Israeli civilians living in and out of settlements). Moreover, 2021 witnessed the highest number of house demolition in Area C and Jerusalem in the last 5 years, and continued in the trend of increased residential demolitions in Jerusalem (See "Demolition Trends in Jerusalem 2011-2021" on page 16).

Demolished Structures Vs. Displaced People in WB & EJ (2011- 2011)





On the political level, it has become clear that the US administration has neither the will nor the resolution to pressure Israel to cease its illegal practices, especially after its humiliating withdrawal from Afghanistan. The current Israeli government, while possessing a hybrid of vehicles, is lacking in political vision, as evident in its inability to agree on the dismantling of an illegal settlement (Evyatar) that was established by arrogance and in contradiction to even its own laws. Israel is now discussing an economic peace, summed up as “bread for security” both in the occupied West Bank and in the besieged Gaza Strip, to the benefit of the two authorities and the ruling elites.

The year ended with an Israeli decision to ban six Palestinian NGOs and consider them terrorist entities, as well as a decline in certain consistent funders due to Israeli measures, constituting an additional challenge. On an internal Palestinian level, presidential and legislative elections are no longer on the table, and local elections have been called in two stages. It’s also clear Hamas will not allow local elections in the Gaza Strip; such constitutes a blatant attack on rule of law, akin to hijacking power by armed force.

The year 2021 also witnessed a flood of legislation (as issued by presidential decrees) which reached forty-one decisions by law. This figure included decrees controversial in nature, possessing inherent conflicts of interests, and issued without adequate consultation with relevant parties to be affected by the enactment of the new legislation.

Faced with such multifaceted and interrelated challenges, in which the external environment impacts the internal, the following challenges are anticipated to have the most bearings on JLAC’s programs and interventions:

- Obstructed “political horizon” and loss of hope for an imminent improvement in the situation, while faced with a rise in unemployment rates (particularly among youth graduates) and an absence of any meaningful political process beyond “economic peace”.
- Continued political division and elimination of political participation (a root for many human rights violations) along with the lack of political will to do so.
- Escalated forced displacement policies in Jerusalem and Area C.
- Change to shooting instructions of Israeli forces allowing for more extra-judicial killings.
- Settler crimes and their influence on road systems’ planning and movement therein, as per settler priorities/needs (i.e. apartheid).
- Threatened internal civil peace, as reflected in outbreak of quarrels, misuse of weapons, violence within universities, and inheritance and governance related conflicts.
- Weakened judiciary, accumulation of cases, and delayed deliberation; fuelling conflicts, quarrels, attacks, and murders, and
- Increased restrictions on civil work, resulting internal disputes/ conflicts, and decline of funds due to Israeli pressures.



Moving forward in 2022, as it's the final year for its current five-year strategic plan (2018-2022), on the agenda for JLAC is the external evaluation of its programs, structure and systems during the second quarter of the year towards the development of a new five-year strategic plan (2023-2027) and annual work plan for 2023 in the third quarter. Meanwhile, work will continue towards soundly completing the current strategic plan, accommodating any unforeseen needs. The Center will continue to confront the policies and practices of forced displacement, whether direct or those seeking to create a coercive environment.

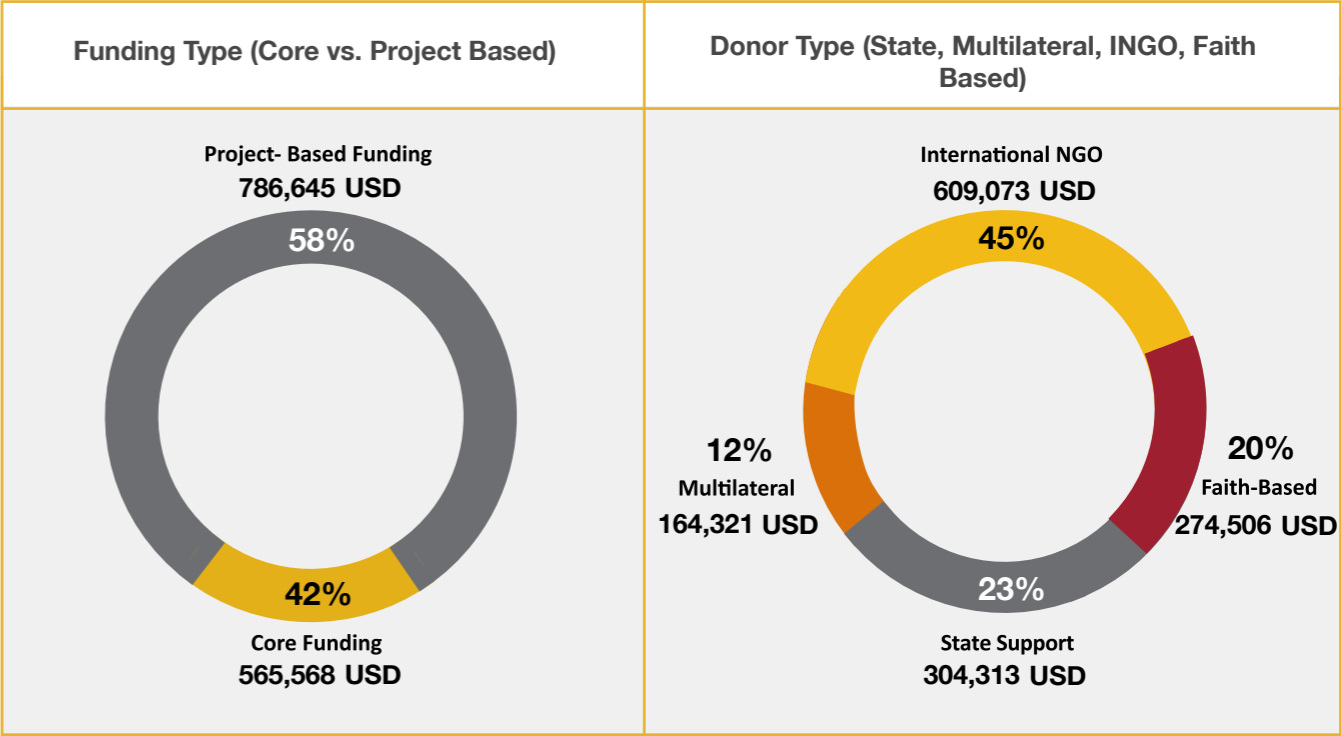
Social, economic, political and civil rights, including those guaranteeing political participation and human dignity, will also continue to be addressed, including the review of legislation from these vantage points towards promoting civil peace and rule of law and respecting citizens' most basic of rights. We will continue to work to protect the independence and strength of civil society, protect civil space in the face of efforts to narrow it, and strengthen our own internal structure as to respond to any challenges which may arise.

Towards this end, JLAC will work to ensure active participation, strengthening of staff capacities, modernization of systems, activation of volunteers, reinforcement of alliances, and expansion of the available base of popular participation.

Financial Review

A trend beginning with the 2020 covid-19 containment shutdowns, JLAC has since invested much time towards the development of internal procedures. Such has included the development of; a Code of Conduct Complaints Mechanism, Board of Directors Manual, Volunteers' Manual, Board Committees and associated Terms of Reference, Legal Aid Manual, M&E Manual, Risk Mitigation Policy, Sustainability Policy, Programs & Planning Policy, Gender & Child Protection Policy, Environmental Policy, and a Fundraising Framework. Also in 2021, the Board of Directors and General Assembly met as regularly scheduled and were engaged in other functions of the working team; including the annual planning workshop, advocacy debriefs/field visits for visiting delegations, discussions of the draft fundraising framework, etc. Staffers also continued to exercise the privilege of perusing opportunities for continuing education, with 10 training programs partaken in.

In regards to its financial standing, JLAC was able to maintain its exiting funding base and accrue the additional support of two new partners (one State and one INGO), the later allowing the Center to expand its East Jerusalem programming. In additional to financial support, certain agencies provided coaching which contributed to the digitization of JLAC's forms and considering new forms of fundraising.





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