

# Decolonize Depoliticize Climate Change

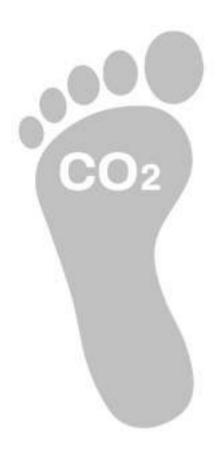
Settler Colonialism: A Primary Driver of the Climate Crisis in Palestine







### In Palestine... Same location... Different story...



An Israeli emits
6.13 tons
of CO2 annually



A Palestinian emits

0.6 tons

of CO2 annually

Yet, Palestinians experience the worst repercussions of climate change.

Source: Ritchie, H., Roser, M., & Rosado, P. (2020). CO<sub>2</sub> and Greenhouse Gas Emissions: Israel CO<sub>2</sub> Country Profile. Published online at OurWorldInData.org



### For Palestinians, climate change is both a <u>natural and</u> political phenomenon.



Already vulnerable to fluctuating rainfall and rising temperatures, Palestinians live under a brutal colonial system that destroys their climate resilience.



#### Israel's displacement of Palestinians <u>resulted in abnormal population density</u>.

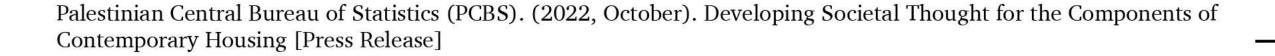


Population density in Gaza (left) and Palestinian lands occupied by Israel in 1948 (right)

**5936** persons/km² in the Gaza Strip

410 persons/km² in the Israeli colonial entity

Making Palestinians among the world's most vulnerable to climate risks, due to stress on scarce natural resources and infrastructure.





## Israel usurps over 85% of Palestinian water and land and destroys wildlife habitats to accommodate illegal settlers.

Settlers enjoy subsidised water-intensive farming and leisure activities (e.g. pools) while 180 Palestinian communities are not connected to water services.

Israelis use 700L/day for domestic use

420,000 people in the West Bank receive less than 50 L/day

Israel utilizes stolen water to make 'the desert bloom', depleting the Jordan River and Dead Sea, and harming dependent ecosystems.

Sources: Agha, Z. (2019). Climate Change, the Occupation, and a Vulnerable Palestine.

Lazarou, E. (2016). Water in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict. European Parliamentary Research Service.

Human Rights Council. (2021). The allocation of water resources in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. Report of the OHCHR - Forty-eighth Session.

Mason, M., Mimi, Z., & Zeitoun, M. (2009). Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the Occupied Palestinian Territory. UNDP.



#### In <u>Gaza</u>, climate vulnerability is augmented <u>under sanctions</u> and systemic bombings

Israel restricts clean water from entering Gaza, while 97% of drinking water isn't potable due to Israel's bombing of water infrastructure and sanctions that ban building material for its rehabilitation.



The lack of water treatment plants forces sewage to be discharged into the Mediterranean Sea.

Infrastructure is incapable of supporting heavy rainfall and Israel regularly opens the floodgates, flooding Palestinian property.



### The <u>settler state enforces</u> many <u>policies that accelerate</u> <u>climate change</u>

Israel's permit system restricts the construction of wells, dams, pipelines, and water harvesting systems in the West Bank.

Additionally, **Israel blocks Palestinian access to clean energy supplies and solar panels** deepening dependence on fossil fuels.



## Israel hampers climate change mitigation and adaptation by

#### uprooting more than 3 million climate-resilient trees since 2000

that could have absorbed up to 150 million pounds of carbon dioxide annually.



When trees are cut down, captured carbon is released, contributing to global warming, soil erosion, and desertification.



#### They uproot one, we plant ten.

In 2001, the Million Tree Campaign (MTC) was launched to respond to the systemic attack on Palestine's environment. The campaign planted over 2.6 million trees supporting 30,000 farmers, and led numerous sustainability projects including the construction of water collection wells.

Go to www.apnature.org/en/mtc to plant trees in Palestine and enhance climate resistance.

#### 1 Tree = 7 USD

Join the movement and spread the word. Let us together plant trees, dignity,

