

ANSWERING THE CALL TO BE **APARTHEID-FREE**

SIGN THE PLEDGE AT: [APARTHEID-FREE.ORG](https://www.apartheid-free.org)



WHAT IS AN APARTHEID-FREE COMMUNITY?

More than 500 faith-based communities, solidarity organizations, and businesses have taken the following pledge and declared themselves “apartheid-free” as part of the Apartheid-Free Communities initiative. We hope your community will follow this example of principled moral action. Declaring your community “Apartheid-Free” is both a declaration of values and a commitment to action.

APARTHEID-FREE PLEDGE TEXT

- 1 We affirm our commitment to freedom, justice, and equality for the Palestinian people and all people; and
- 2 We oppose all forms of racism, bigotry, discrimination, and oppression; and
- 3 We declare ourselves an apartheid-free community, and to that end,
- 4 We pledge to join others in working to end all support to Israel’s apartheid regime, settler colonialism, and military occupation.

WHAT IS APARTHEID?

Apartheid is defined in international law as a crime against humanity that involves “inhuman acts committed for the purpose of establishing and maintaining domination by one racial group of persons over any other racial group of persons and systematically oppressing them.” The apartheid framing—one of many frames through which to view violence against Palestinians—illuminates the ways in which the movement for Palestinian freedom, justice, and equality is a civil rights and racial justice struggle. The global understanding of apartheid comes from the official legal policies of discrimination in South Africa, but apartheid can exist anywhere, for example Jim Crow apartheid. Learn more about Israel’s apartheid policies in the in-depth reporting put out by leading human rights organizations Al-Haq, B’Tselem, Amnesty International, and Human Rights Watch.

WHAT DOES APARTHEID LOOK LIKE?

MOVEMENT RESTRICTIONS

Israel has instituted a complex system of ID cards, checkpoints, blockades, and permits that restrict where Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza can travel. Permits are often denied or delayed, even for those seeking medical care.

VOTING RIGHTS RESTRICTIONS

Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip cannot vote in Israeli elections that determine the policies they must then live under. Israel reserves many citizenship rights only for Jews or those who have served in the Israeli military.

HOME DEMOLITIONS

Israel uses policies including the Absentee Property Law and a building permit system to take over Palestinian-owned land and property, often for Jewish-only illegal settlements or military training zones.

