

Conventions & Violations

The Palestinian Authority (PA) signed 15 international human rights and humanitarian law conventions in April 2014. Jerusalem Institute of Justice cites eight examples of ongoing violations:



1. United Nations Convention against Torture

“ *Each State Party shall take effective legislative, administrative, judicial or other measures to prevent acts of torture in any territory under its jurisdiction* ”

The PA tortured some 96% of its detainees during 2007-2013. Torture methods included mock executions, beatings, and suspension in painful positions for long time periods.

At least six deaths were recorded.

Hamas has barred human rights organizations from visiting its detainees in the Internal Security detention center at Al-Ansar.

Over 500 cases of torture have occurred in the West Bank and Gaza in 2013 – an 80% increase from 2012.



3. UN Convention on the rights of the child and its optional protocol on the involvement of children in armed conflict

“ *States Parties shall respect and ensure the rights set forth in the present Convention to each child within their jurisdiction* ”

Hamas caused, by direct decision with predictable outcomes, the deaths of 160 child laborers conscripted to construct tunnels into Israel.

Thousands of children in Gaza are sent annually to war training camps.

Children as young as 11 are coerced to smuggle explosives into Israel.

53% of West Bank children have suffered violence at the hands of adults; 93% of these have been recorded as domestic violence cases.

50% of West Bank schoolchildren endure abuse (physical and verbal) during their educational years; 70% of West Bank teachers carry sticks or hoses.



2. United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women

“ *States Parties shall accord to women equality with men before the law* ”

Within the territory controlled by the PA, a woman's testimony is worth half of a man's.

Rapists who agree to marry their victims are relieved from criminal prosecution.

Only males are allowed to file incest charges on behalf of minors.

To make a complaint about sexual abuse by a relative, a woman must be escorted to the police station by a male relative.

50% of females married in the West Bank and Gaza fall under the age of 18.

'Honor killing' defendants are usually given light sentences (3 years or less). Life sentences are almost never considered.



4. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

“ *All peoples have the right of self-determination. By virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development* ”

ICHR, a monitoring group established by the PA, documented some 685 arbitrary arrests in the West Bank during 2013 and more than 470 in Gaza.

After the 2014 Gaza war, Hamas publicly executed 17 Palestinian critics of its policy by shooting them in the head.

Hamas routinely kills suspected Israeli sympathizers without evidence or open trial.

The penalty for converting from Islam to another religion is death.

Political restrictions exist and, often, entirely prevent peaceful demonstrations, press conferences, seminars, and meetings of individuals and civic groups.

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5. United Nations Convention against Corruption

“ To promote integrity, accountability and proper management of public affairs and public property ”

PA President Abbas is believed, reliably, to have accumulated a personal net worth in excess of \$100 million during his years in leadership.

Abbas has asserted control over the PA's finances, filled its board with his allies, and rejected attempts to audit its operations.

Hamas counts within its members some 1,700 millionaires. Hamas has invested in massive real estate projects in Saudi Arabia, Syria and Dubai.

Hamas leader Mashaal recently smuggled \$12 million from Syria to Turkey under cover of the Syrian civil war. His personally controlled companies in Qatar are registered to his wife and daughter. Mashaal's personal net worth has been estimated at \$2.6 billion.

When PA leader Arafat died, accountants found that he had stashed over \$1.3 billion in accounts kept by banks world-wide.



7. The International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

“ Racial discrimination shall mean any distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference based on race, colour, descent, or national or ethnic origin ”

In the PA, film, television, newspapers and educational curricula routinely describe Jews as a racial group that drinks the blood of their victims in secret and must at least be driven from Israel, if not wholly exterminated.

Consistent with this ideology, Palestinians who sell their homes or properties to Jews face the death penalty.



8. The Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations

“ The premises of the (diplomatic) mission must not be used in any manner incompatible with the functions of the mission ”

Explosives, assault rifles, and handguns were found in the Palestinian embassy in Prague in 2013.

This incident shows a gross violation of this convention, while past and present behavior suggests other PA diplomatic missions probably stockpile weapons.



6. The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

“ State parties shall prohibit all discrimination on the basis of disability ”

The PA denies mentally disabled people the right to vote.

HAMAS
TERRORIZES
the **PEOPLE** of **GAZA**



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