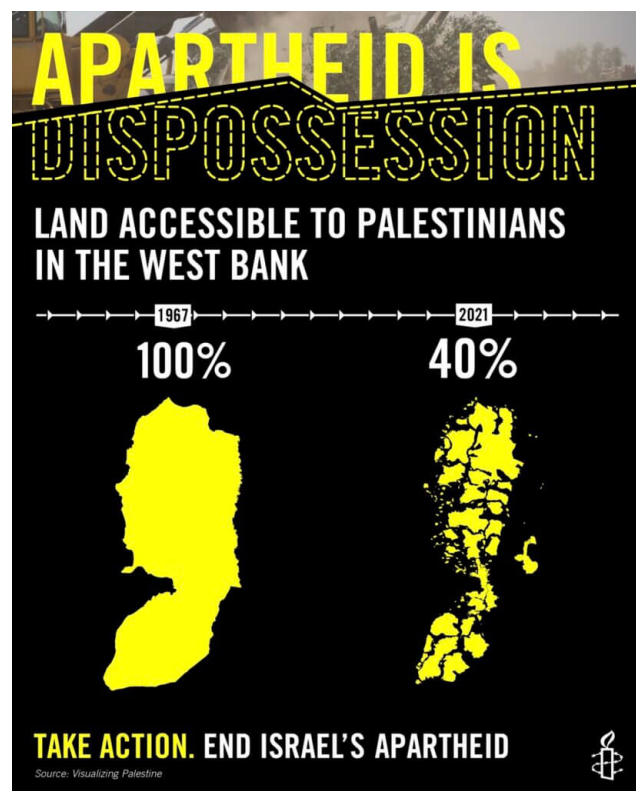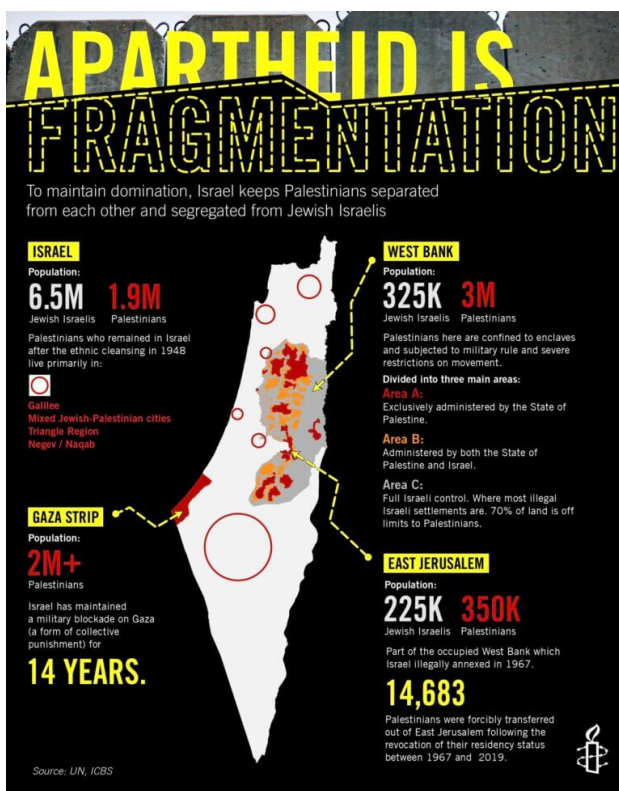**06.02.2022**

Amnesty International: Israel's Apartheid Against Palestinians - Cruel System of Domination and Crime Against Humanity

On the 1st February *Amnesty International* published a 280-page report indicting Israel in detail for the *crime against humanity* of *apartheid*. Framed by its analysis of the internationally-recognised legal definition of apartheid, *Israel's Apartheid Against Palestinians - Cruel System of Domination and Crime Against Humanity* is the third report of its kind in 12 months, following on from those by *B'Tselem* and *Human Rights Watch*.

While Palestinian organisations such as *Al-Haq and Addameer*, among others, have been employing the concept of apartheid for many years to analyse the oppression and dispossession of the Palestinian people, it is, nevertheless, significant that internationally-renowned human rights organisations like *Amnesty* are now, finally, recognising the systematic and deliberate nature of that oppression. According to *Haaretz*, there is a fear among Israeli officials that the United Nations may soon accept the narrative that Israel is an 'apartheid state'. The Israeli hasbara machine has been quick to respond and denounce *Amnesty*'s report as 'anti-semitic'. Meanwhile, human rights organisations in Israel have sprung to *Amnesty*'s defence.

Amnesty's report has naturally generated an extensive debate among Palestinian organisations and political analysts. Many have argued that this human rights / international law agenda complements but should not displace the analysis of Israel as an ongoing settler-colonial project with its roots in the late 19th century birth of political Zionism.

Soheir Asaad: *Why some Palestinians think Amnesty's report isn't enough*

Karen Haber: *If it looks like Apartheid and sounds like Apartheid, it's antisemitism*

Yara Hawairi: *Amnesty Is Right: Israel Is an Apartheid State*

Yumna Patel: *Amnesty International: Israel is imposing 'apartheid' on Palestinians*