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United Nations  
Security Council  
2025-2026  
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2025-2026

  
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## United Nations Security Council Arria-formula meeting on the West Bank, including East Jerusalem

**Date:** Friday 8 May 2026

**Time:** 10:00-13:00 EST

**Venue:** UN Conference Room 4

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### Overview

The international community has demonstrated its firm resolve to support the Middle East Peace Process and achieve a future in which Israelis and Palestinians can live side by side in peace and security. In November 2025, the United Nations Security Council sought to turn a page on two years of conflict in Gaza when it adopted Resolution 2803. This endorsed the ceasefire and the Comprehensive Peace Plan building on the diplomatic efforts of the United States, Egypt, Qatar and Türkiye. A few months prior, under the leadership of France and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the General Assembly endorsed the New York Declaration, which enjoys the support of over 150 States and sets out an action-oriented roadmap to achieve a two-State solution.

Yet prospects for achieving this vision are being gravely and steadily eroded by the deteriorating situation in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. Settler violence and the expansion of illegal Israeli settlements have been rising at unprecedented levels. The Government of Israel has continued to pursue policies which expand its control in the West Bank and enable illegal settlement expansion and forced displacement with devastating consequences for ordinary Palestinians. These actions run counter to the Comprehensive plan and jeopardise prospects for achieving just and lasting peace.

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### Objectives

The Permanent Missions of Denmark, France, Greece, Latvia and the United Kingdom are organising this Arria meeting to provide an opportunity for Council members to hear powerful testimonies on the acute challenges affecting Palestinians living in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. It will consider ways to strengthen the protection of civilians in line with international humanitarian and human rights law, ensure accountability for perpetrators of violence and how to halt further displacement of Palestinians and settlement expansion. In addition to measures to tackle the deteriorating economic and humanitarian situation, particularly the economic crisis facing the Palestinian Authority.

The Arria-formula meeting presents an opportunity to reflect on how UN Member States can support implementation of relevant Security Council resolutions including resolution 2334 (2016), which underlined the Council's firm opposition to annexation of any part of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and to any forcible displacement of the Palestinian people.

### Background

The situation in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, has continued to deteriorate at an alarming pace. According to OCHA, during the first quarter of 2026, 33 Palestinians were tragically killed and 790 injured by Israeli forces or settlers, and over 540 Israeli settler attacks resulted in casualties or property

damage. Concrete steps by the Israeli Government are required to prevent such attacks and deliver accountability for the perpetrators.

Displacement trends also remain deeply concerning. OCHA reports that in 2026 more than 2,500 Palestinians have been displaced as a result of demolitions, settler attacks and evictions. At the same time, settlement expansion is rising with the Israeli Government rapidly progressing plans for the E1 settlement project, which threatens the very viability of the two-State solution.

The humanitarian and economic situation in the West Bank also continues to worsen. Severe restrictions on movement and access, together with Israeli Government fiscal measures - including the withholding of Palestinian tax revenues - have created acute financial uncertainty for the Palestinian Authority, weakening its capacity to deliver basic services and exacerbating humanitarian needs among the civilian population. UNRWA also continues to face considerable obstacles to its work and measures which are undermining the agency's ability to provide essential services and humanitarian assistance to Palestinians.

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### Guiding questions

1. How can the international community strengthen the protection of Palestinian civilians in the West Bank in light of rising settler attacks, and ensure that there are credible investigations and accountability for all incidents?
2. What practical measures can be taken to prevent demolitions and evictions, and reduce the risk of further displacement of Palestinian civilians?
3. What urgent steps are required to address the deepening financial and economic crisis facing the Palestinian Authority in the West Bank?
4. How can the Security Council ensure implementation of its resolutions, including resolution 2334 (2016)? How can Member States take concrete action to preserve the viability of the two-State solution, building on the commitments set out in the New York Declaration of 12 September 2025?

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**Briefers** TBC

### Participation

UN Security Council members are invited to participate, alongside other UN Member States and Observer States. Given time constraints, please kindly note that priority will be given to Member States from the region. We also strongly encourage delegations to consider joining group statements, which will also be given priority. Delegations can inscribe to speak by end of day Wednesday 6 May by sending an email to [UKMisNewYorkSecurityCouncil@fcdo.gov.uk](mailto:UKMisNewYorkSecurityCouncil@fcdo.gov.uk).

Participants are requested to limit interventions to three (3) minutes maximum, please note that microphones will be cut after 5 minutes. Subject to availability, interpretation will be provided in the six UN official languages.

For those Member States and Observer States who are unable to deliver statements in the room, we welcome the submission of written statements for compilation and circulation following the conclusion of the meeting.