

# The reasons for the next armed clash between Jews and Palestinians from April-May 2021 and the impossibility of a lasting solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict

Krasimir Rumenov Kamenov  
PhD student in national security  
Library Studies and Information Technologies University, Sofia, Bulgaria  
E-mail: krasimir\_05@abv.bg

**Abstract:** A study of the preconditions for the emergence of the latest conflict between Jews and Palestinians in the context of the internal political situation in the state of Israel and who has an interest in its ignition. The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is the longest-running conflict that has ever existed in humanity and the impossibility of a lasting and sustainable settlement of the dispute, which will contribute to the stability not only of the State of Israel but also of the Middle East.

**Keywords:** ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT, MIDDLE EAST, ARMED CONFLICT, SOLUTION, ISRAELI GOVERNMENT, FATAH, HAMAS

## 1. Introduction

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict has been the longest since British Foreign Secretary Arthur Balfour declared the Declaration on the Establishment of a Jewish State in Palestine, known as the Balfour Declaration, which is disapproved of among Arab countries and the local population in the Palestinian lands. The escalation of relations between Arabs and Jews culminated in the creation of the state of Israel and the destabilization of the Middle East with the Israeli army's wars with neighboring Arab states in 1948, the hostilities of the Six Day War in June 1967, the armed conflict of 1973, known as the Yom Kippur War. At the same time, the postponement of the decision on the question of the establishment of a Palestinian state grew into armed uprisings within the territorial boundaries of the Jewish state itself. Thus began the mass unrest of 1987 with the First Intifata and the Second Intifata, known as the 2000 al-Aqsa Intifata. There are many mass riots and demonstrations against Jewish policy towards the local Arab population, the last case being in the spring of 2021.

## 2. Preconditions for the emergence of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in the spring of 2021

In April 2021, mass protests began in East Jerusalem, sparked by a lawsuit in which Palestinian families were expected to be expelled from their homes. Mass demonstrations centered around the Damascus Gate, the East Jerusalem district of Sheikh Jara and the Holy Esplanade (Haram al-Sharif / Temple Mount) and the al-Aqsa Mosque, but Jewish police banned East Jerusalem residents from gathering at the Damascus Gate, do not allow the believers of the Islamic religion to enter the Old City, where the al-Aqsa Mosque is located, as the events coincide with the Muslim holiday of Ramadan Bayram, i.e. pilgrims are not allowed to celebrate their religious holiday. The actions of the police provoked mass nocturnal protests on April 13, which in turn provoked counter-protests by extreme Jewish nationalists who said Jerusalem was their capital. Several nights, they marched around the Damascus Gate, calling for the "death of the Arabs" accompanied by attacks on Palestinians.

On May 6, 2021, clashes between Jews and Palestinians continue, prompted by an Israeli Supreme Court ruling to evict Palestinians from their homes in the Sheikh Jara district of East Jerusalem, but protests spiral out of control when far-right Knesset member Itamar Ben-Gvirri creates parliamentary office "in Sheikh Jara to provoke the Palestinians. On the evening of May 7, a group of Palestinian Arabs threw stones at police at the Shechem Gate, which dragged them to the al-Aqsa Mosque, exacerbating the

conflict. On May 9, Israeli police stormed the al-Aqsa Mosque, a holy site for Muslims. In response, Hamas and Islamic Jihad fired rockets at Jewish settlements, and the Israeli government's reciprocal actions were military air strikes in the Gaza Strip, the collapse of a 13-storey residential tower in Gaza, which has an office used by Hamas political leadership, including and buildings used by the international press. Due to the increased tension, the Supreme Court postponed the court decision by one month. Things did not calm down after Jews attacked and desecrated the al-Aqsa Mosque, and Jewish security forces imposed a curfew, which was accompanied by repression of nationalists after May 10, who attacked Palestinians on May 12, but Israeli police and army monitored only for violators on the Palestinian side, which also shows the double standards and criteria of the Israeli government as to who the violators and terrorists are.

The reasons for this style of political behavior since the last Israeli-Palestinian conflict by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu are rooted in the understanding that the Jewish people are the only ones who can and have the right to live in the lands on which the state of Israel was established. On this basis and conception of the existence of the Jews, a Jewish law for the nation state was created in 2018, which states that the "right to national self-determination" in Israel is "unique to the Jewish people"; establishing Hebrew as the official language of Israel and lowering Arabic; and he established a "Jewish settlement as a national value" and promised that the state "would work to promote its establishment and development." At the institutional level, the law discriminates against Palestinians in all forms - ethnic and religious grounds, restricting the rights and freedoms of Palestinians, including political rights, with the actions of the political leadership in Tel Aviv to limit the opportunities for campaigning and arresting Hamas political representatives. of the West Bank in the elections scheduled for May 22, 2021 by the Palestinian Authority, which was eventually postponed by Mahmoud Abbas due to political and military tensions on the one hand and the growing position of Hamas in the West Bank on the other a country that is perceived as a defender of the interests of the Palestinians in the West Bank rather than Fatah, which is not active in the fighting to protect the Palestinians in East Jerusalem.

Under international pressure and again with the mediating role of Egypt and the participation of the United States, on May 21, 2021, Israel and Hamas sign a ceasefire agreement. This allows tens of thousands to return to their homes that were previously sheltered in UN schools during the rocket fire and repression by Israeli security forces. Following the cessation of hostilities, the United Nations sent humanitarian aid to Gaza with food, medicine, medical supplies and vaccines against Covid-19.

### 3. Why has the Israeli-Palestinian conflict persisted for decades?

For this we can qualify the unresolved Israeli-Palestinian conflict for decades as "eternal", and the last one is that of April and the rise in tensions in early May 2021, where there were military battles between the Israeli army and forces of Hamas. The reasons for this conflict have two dimensions: on the one hand, the dispute between Jews and Palestinians can be considered in domestic policy, in the context of a political situation where Likud leader and incumbent Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu cannot form a political cabinet, and the possibility of escalating tensions could unite the Jewish people through their representatives in the Xenata, especially radically set up to form a government based on the threat of a common enemy, the Palestinians.

In this line of thought, after the escalation of the situation in the first days of the next Israeli-Palestinian conflict, it seemed that Netanyahu had united a large part of the political parties and the possibility of reaching a compromise solution for the establishment of a political cabinet. But despite the unconditional support of US President Joe Biden, days later, State Department Chief Anthony Blinken voiced a position in defending and respecting Palestinian rights with the term "equal peace" between Israel and Palestine and compliance with international law - the creation of two states as the only means for a lasting solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, which was adopted by the US President, which led to the refusal of some political parties to work with the Likud leader, and this position created an opportunity to expand the range of parties negative about Benjamin Netanyahu's rule. In fact, the anti-Likud rhetoric and his personal leader were accompanied by the formation of a cabinet headed by Naftali Bennett for a period of two years, and the remaining two years will be headed by Jair Lapid with the support of the United Arab List party representing the Arab minority in Israel. the spirit of the signed coalition agreement. But what the policy of the new government will be towards the Palestinians remains to be seen, but given the public consciousness of the Jewish people, I am not very optimistic about finding a radical formula for solving the problem.

The second and much more significant dimension of the conflict between Jews and Palestinians is rooted in the inability of the Palestinian people to have their own independent state, and in this context the US administration sees the settlement of the dispute through the realization of the national idea. and independent management.

Hence the generally accepted view that the solution to the Israeli-Palestinian question goes through the creation of an independent state, with a territorial division between Israel and Palestine from before the Six-Day War of June 1967 and the cessation of settlement policy in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank. a way to solve another important problem - the refugee issue. But for that to happen, all West Bank settlers need to leave their homes, which is an additional stumbling block in finding a formula for resolving the Palestinian question. The issue of Jerusalem remains

controversial, and the only solution could be the division of the sacred land - for the Palestinians East Jerusalem, where there is a concentrated Palestinian population. In this sense, the demarcation of the borders of Palestine and Israel is a key factor in continuing the peace process.

### 4. Conclusion

It follows that the main barrier to Palestine and Israel is the impossibility to find common ground for compromise, because both sides in the dispute have their own understanding of the right to exist and live in the Palestinian lands since British colonialism, and especially Jerusalem, which is considered sacred not only to Christians, but also for the Jews and Muslims. With regard to non-holy lands, Jews and Muslims have embraced the theological conception of the Palestinian lands and the ethnicity of those living in those lands since ancient times, while the Arabs have lived in these lands much later. This sentence is perceived as a ground for denying the Palestinian national identity and the perception of the Arabs as an integral part of the Arab nation and a motive for not creating a new nation within the Israeli and Palestinian lands. In fact, establishing a lasting and long-term peace between two nations failed due to the Israeli government's refusal to allow a new independent state on the one hand. On the other hand, the unconditional political and diplomatic support of the United States over the last eight decades (since the establishment of the State of Israel) of Israeli governments has been accompanied by unsuccessful attempts to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and a peaceful solution to the longest conflict the public knows.

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