



EXPLAINER: THE WEST BANK VIOLENCE PREVENTION ACT (H.R. 3045/S. 2667)

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Overview

Since October 7th, 2023, violence in the West Bank has surged to the [highest](#) recorded levels. Settler violence against Palestinian civilians is estimated to have increased by [30 percent](#) over the first few months of 2025 compared to the same period in 2024.

The West Bank Violence Prevention Act, [H.R. 3045/S. 2667](#), introduced in the [House](#) by Congressman Jerry Nadler (D-NY-12) and in the [Senate](#) by Senator Cory Booker (D-NJ), requires the President to impose sanctions on individuals and entities undermining security and stability in the West Bank.

Modeled after President Biden's Executive Order (EO) [14115](#), this legislation is designed to inhibit and punish the violent Israeli settlers and Palestinian terrorist groups for actions that undermine a critical US policy objective: peace and the viability of a two-state solution. On his first day in office, President Trump revoked EO 14115.

Sanctions Framework

- H.R. 3045 and S. 2667 require the President to impose US sanctions against any individual or entity found to be undermining security and stability in the West Bank.
- In practice, the sanctions that the Biden administration put in place significantly disrupted the support networks that enable extremist settler groups, denying individuals access to vital resources for attacks intended to harm and displace Palestinian civilians.
- Individuals and entities eligible for sanctions under H.R. 3045 and S. 2667 are those that engage in:
 - An act of violence or threat of violence targeting civilians
 - Efforts to place civilians in reasonable fear of violence with the purpose or effect of necessitating a change of residence to avoid such violence
 - Destruction, seizure or dispossession of property by private actors

Impact

- These sanctions spotlight perpetrators of violent activities that endanger Israeli security, threaten Palestinian lives, and destabilize the region.
- Those sanctioned pursuant to [H.R. 3045/S. 2667](#) would have their US assets frozen and any US transactions blocked. In practice, under President Biden's EO this froze the bank accounts and credit cards of settlers sanctioned and significantly impaired the operations of organizations that funnel money to violent settlers.

- Sanctioned individuals are ineligible to enter the United States, with exceptions for compliance with U.N. Headquarters Agreement or law enforcement needs, and national security considerations.

Background

For decades, extremists in the West Bank have used violence as a tool against civilians to further their political goals. This includes Palestinian terrorist groups such as Lions' Den, which were emboldened by Hamas' brutal October 7th attack on Israel. This also includes extremist settlers who use violence to intimidate and displace Palestinian civilians as a part of their project to seize land and establish facts on the ground to realize their vision for "Greater Israel." In multiple incidents in 2025, these violent attacks have killed unarmed civilians, including American citizens. The extremists in the settler movement and their financial backers are rarely held accountable by the Israeli government.

[In August 2025](#), an Israeli settler by the name of Yinon Levi—who had previously been sanctioned by the Biden administration—was recorded shooting and killing Palestinian activist Awdah Hathaleen, known for his work on the Oscar-winning documentary "No Other Land." Levi was held by police for less than 24 hours and is now free and facing no charges.

In 2024, the entities sanctioned by President Biden's EO included:

- **Hilltop Youth** - a violent group that engages in organized attacks. They have carried out a campaign of violence against Palestinian civilians, including using murder, arson, and assault as tools to drive Palestinians out of the West Bank. In the April 2024 attack on the Palestinian town of al-Mughayyir, Hilltop Youth set fire to homes, buildings, and vehicles, beat villagers, looted property, and left one Palestinian dead.
- **Tzav 9** - a far-right organization that has orchestrated demonstrations to prevent humanitarian aid from flowing from Jordan into Gaza via the West Bank by blocking roads, looting convoys, and setting delivery trucks on fire. Tzav 9 is closely backed by Israeli Minister of National Security, Itamar Ben-Gvir.
- **Amana** - a far-right organization that grants loans and provides other financial support to develop settlements and outposts in the West Bank. The communities funded by Amana are often staging grounds for extremist settlers plotting to commit violence against Palestinian civilians. Amana strategically funds outposts and settlements through financing, loans, and building infrastructure to divide Palestinian communities and create pathways for settlers to seize additional land, often using violence.
- **Lions' Den** - a Palestinian terrorist group that emerged in late 2022 in the northern West Bank that is tied to several terror attacks, including shooting at the Israeli settlement, Har Bracha and attempting to detonate pipe bombs in Tel Aviv.