



Military Court Watch

Monitoring the treatment of children in Israeli military detention

MONITORING THE TREATMENT OF CHILDREN HELD IN ISRAELI MILITARY DETENTION

ANNUAL REPORT

2022

Military Court Watch (MCW) is a registered non-profit organisation founded by a group of lawyers and other professionals from Israel, Palestine, Europe, North America and Australia with a belief in the rule of law. MCW is guided by the principle that all children detained by the Israeli military authorities are entitled to all the rights and protections guaranteed under international and other applicable law.

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1. Summary

- 1.1 This report considers developments relating to the arrest and detention of Palestinian children by Israeli military forces in the occupied West Bank in 2022 (Reporting Period). In addition to reviewing relevant legal and procedural changes in the system the report considers the findings from **100 testimonies** collected from children detained during 2022. The report also includes a comparative graph tracking 13 issues of concern since 2013 based on **1,087 testimonies** and a sample of testimonies collected during the Reporting Period.
- 1.2 The evidence included in this report indicates that the ill treatment of Palestinian children held in Israeli military detention continues to be widespread, systematic and institutionalised throughout the process. As in previous years, the hallmarks of the system include: night-time military arrest operations; physical violence including solitary confinement in violation of the UN Convention Against Torture; denial of basic legal rights; and the unlawful transfer of children from the occupied West Bank in violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention. As in the past, accountability, both domestic and international, is absent further eroding confidence in a genuine rules based order.

2. Background

- 2.1 This year marks 55 years since the imposition of Israeli military law in the occupied West Bank and the establishment of military courts in which Palestinian civilians, including children aged 12-17 years inclusive, are prosecuted. During the intervening 55-years, UN estimates, and data from the Israeli military authorities, suggest that well over 800,000 Palestinians have been detained by Israeli forces, including between 38,000-55,000 children (700-1,000 each year). These include short-term detentions, ranging from hours or days, where individuals are held at military bases across the occupied West Bank, as well as cases where individuals are indicted and convicted in military courts and subsequently serve custodial sentences ranging from a few months to life.¹
- 2.2 Since its inception reports of widespread torture and/or ill treatment and denial of basic legal rights within Israel's military detention system have been commonplace. For example:
 - (i) For well over a decade, the UN Secretary General's Annual Report on Children and Armed Conflict has reviewed the treatment of Palestinian children held in Israeli military detention and has found widespread abuse and the systematic denial of due process rights. In 2010, the Secretary General noted that: "the high number of instances of such treatment reported and documented suggests that ill treatment of children is common in the Israeli military justice system." The following year, the Secretary General noted that in all 116 cases documented by the UN that year there was evidence of cruel and degrading treatment. The Secretary General has noted that most Palestinian child detainees reported having experienced physical violence. The types of treatment reported by the Secretary General includes: excessive use of hand ties and blindfolds; beatings; solitary confinement; limited access to lawyers; administrative detention; forced confessions; and recruitment as informants. The Secretary General also noted the

systematic transfer of children out of the occupied West Bank to prisons in Israel in violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention. (See UNSG reports: [2011](#), [2012](#), [2013](#), [2014](#), [2015](#), [2016](#), [2017](#), [2018](#), [2019](#), [2020](#), [2021](#), [2022](#))

- (ii) In 2012, an independent delegation of lawyers funded by the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office (as it then was), including a former Attorney General of England, Wales and Northern Ireland and a judge of the Court of Appeal of England and Wales as well as the European Court of Human Rights, issued a [report](#) on the treatment of Palestinian children held in Israeli military detention (Lawyers' Report).² The report found undisputed evidence of six breaches of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and two breaches of the Fourth Geneva Convention, including the unlawful transfer of children out of occupied territory.³ The report also noted that "to hold children routinely and for substantial periods in solitary confinement would, if it occurred, be capable of amounting to torture in breach of UNCRC and other well-known international instruments." The report concluded, *inter alia*, "that much of the reluctance to treat Palestinian children in conformity with international norms stems from a belief, which was advanced to us by a military prosecutor, that every Palestinian child is a 'potential terrorist'. Such a stance seems to us to be the starting point of a spiral of injustice." The report made 40 recommendations - few of which have been substantially implemented.
- (iii) In 2013, UNICEF issued a [report](#) (UNICEF Report) following an extensive review of the treatment of Palestinian children held in Israeli military detention, including 400 affidavits, and concluded that: "the ill-treatment of children who come in contact with the military detention system appears to be widespread, systematic and institutionalized throughout the process, from the moment of arrest until the child's prosecution and eventual conviction and sentencing."⁴ The UNICEF Report also noted that "two of the three prisons run by the Israel Prison Service, where the majority of Palestinian children serve their sentences, are located inside Israel" in violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention. Following the release of the UNICEF Report, the UN agency published two updates ([October 2013](#) / [February 2015](#)) detailing progress made in implementing the report's recommendations.⁵ While noting some positive developments UNICEF concluded that: "The data demonstrates the need for further actions to improve the protection of children in military detention, as reports of alleged ill-treatment of children during arrest, transfer, interrogation and detention have not significantly decreased in 2013 and 2014." The UNICEF Report made 38 recommendations - few of which have been substantially implemented.
- (iv) For over a decade, the US State Department has been reporting on the treatment of Palestinian children in Israeli military detention in its Annual Country Reports on Human Rights. The US State Department has noted that: Israel has used military courts to prosecute Palestinian civilians from the occupied West Bank since 1967, with a 95 percent conviction rate; most children are arrested in night raids; most Palestinian children arrested in the occupied West Bank report various forms of physical abuse during arrest, transfer and interrogation; Israel continues to apply two legal systems in

the occupied West Bank depending on whether a person is Palestinian (military law) or an Israeli settler (civilian law); and most Palestinian child detainees continue to be unlawfully transferred and detained in prisons located outside the occupied West Bank. (See USSD reports: [2010](#), [2011](#), [2012](#), [2013](#), [2014](#), [2015](#), [2016](#), [2017](#), [2018](#), [2019](#), [2020](#), [2021](#), [2022](#))

- 2.3 In response to the Lawyers' Report and the UNICEF Report, Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs stated in 2013 that it "would study the conclusions and work to implement them through on-going cooperation with UNICEF."⁶ Israel's Military Advocate General (MAG) then designated the "Military Prosecutor for Judea and Samaria (West Bank) as the focal point for dialogue on this issue with UNICEF." While there were some developments, the *bona fides* of this engagement can perhaps best be assessed by the fact that the military prosecutor appointed to liaise with UNICEF was himself a resident of an illegal Israeli settlement in the occupied West Bank.⁷
- 2.4 Based on the evidence collected by MCW during the Reporting Period, this report considers developments in the system and whether these have materially improved the conditions for Palestinian child detainees held in Israeli military detention.

3. Detention figures

- 3.1 According to data provided by the Israel Prison Service (IPS), the monthly average number of children held in military detention in 2022 was 138, representing an 9 percent decline compared with the previous year. During the reporting period average child detention rates fell to their lowest levels since at least 2008. Since October 2020, the IPS has replaced publishing monthly data on Palestinians held in military detention with quarterly data.
- 3.2 Most of the children detained in 2022 were males. Less than 2 percent of children detained were females. Up to 7 children at any one time were held without charge or trial in [administrative detention](#), with the annual monthly average number of children held in administrative detention being 4.9. As in previous years most children in detention were 16-17 years old, with few children below 14 years being held in IPS facilities. The age breakdown of children in detention for the previous 10 years is as follows:

Age	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
12-13 years	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
14-15 years	16%	12%	19%	24%	20%	22%	17%	13%	17%	17%
16-17 years	84%	88%	81%	75%	79%	78%	83%	87%	82%	82%

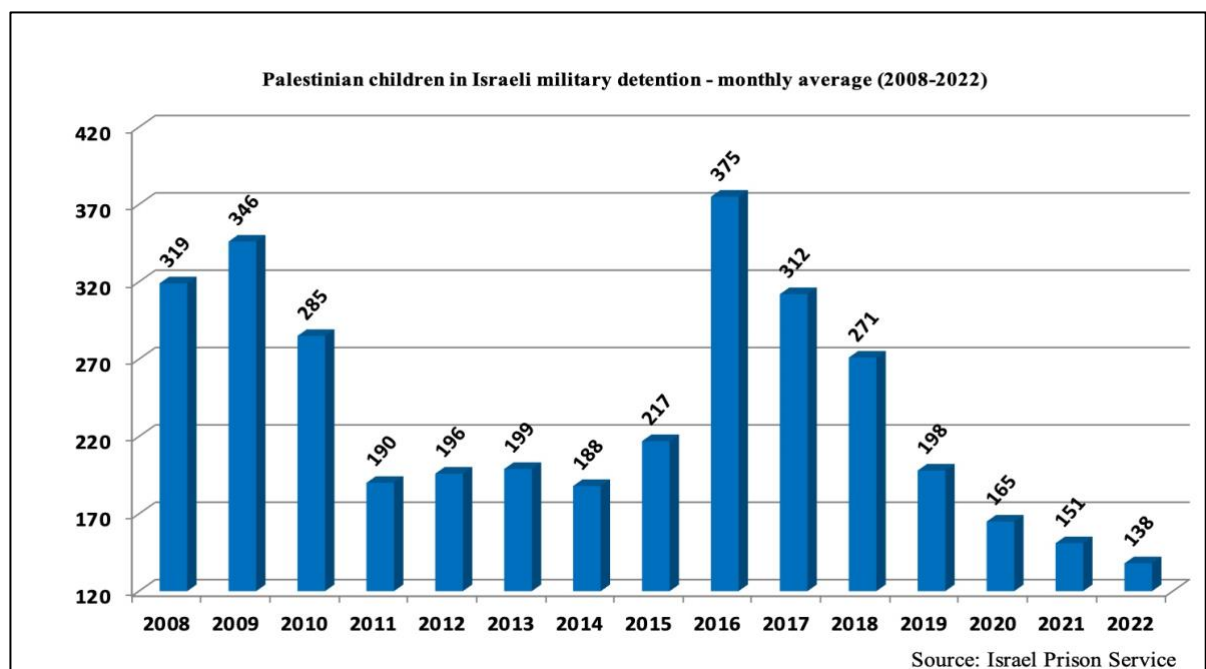
- 3.3 It is not possible to ascertain from the data published by the IPS the total number of children detained each year. Based on the data that is available, nearly 800 children were arrested each year between 2013 and 2021, of which nearly 500 were prosecuted in the military courts. A further 250 children were detained for periods of less than 6 hours, as provided for under military law.

Year	Short detention (IDF)	Arrested (charged)	Total	Source
2013 ⁸	349	655 (465)	1,004	Military prosecutor
2014 ⁹	83	861 (499)	944	Freedom of Information
2015 ¹⁰	382	871 (540)	1,253	Freedom of information
2016	290	n/a	n/a	Freedom of information
2017	349	n/a	n/a	Freedom of information
2018	238	(569)	n/a	Freedom of information
2019	223	(451)	n/a	Freedom of information
2020	188	(338)	n/a	Freedom of information
2021	172	n/a	n/a	Freedom of information
Annual Average	253	796 (477)	1,067	

3.4 The following table summarizes how the 100 cases documented by MCW in 2022 were dealt with by the military authorities and courts.

Issue		Average detention / sentence			Total
Released without charge		46 days			2%
Administrative detention		8 months			3%
Charged	Released on bail	44 days			10%
	Sentenced	6 months in prison	NIS 2,100	10 months suspended	85%
Total					100%

3.5 Official Israeli data relating to the monthly average number of Palestinian children detained by the military authorities and held in IPS prisons between 2008-2022 is presented in the following graph. Note that it is not possible to ascertain from this data the total number of children held in IPS facilities each year and it does not include short detentions of less than 6 hours, which accounted for approximately 24 percent of all detentions between 2013 and 2021. However, this data does provide an indication of general trends. For the most part, detention rates fluctuate depending on prevailing tensions.



4. Current evidence of issues of concern

- 4.1 The following narrative is based on 100 testimonies collected by MCW from Palestinian children detained by Israeli forces in the occupied West Bank in 2022 (Reporting Period) and follows the child through the system from arrest, transfer, interrogation and detention. These testimonies represent a sample of approximately 10-14 percent of the total number of children detained during the Reporting Period (700-1,000 children). Each issue is accompanied by a reference to the relevant recommendations made by UNICEF in 2013. A Comparative Graph (2013-2022) of 13 issues of concern is included in **Annexure A** and a sample of 12 testimonies collected during the Reporting Period is included in **Annexure B**.

A. Night arrests

4.2 UNICEF's Recommendation (2013):

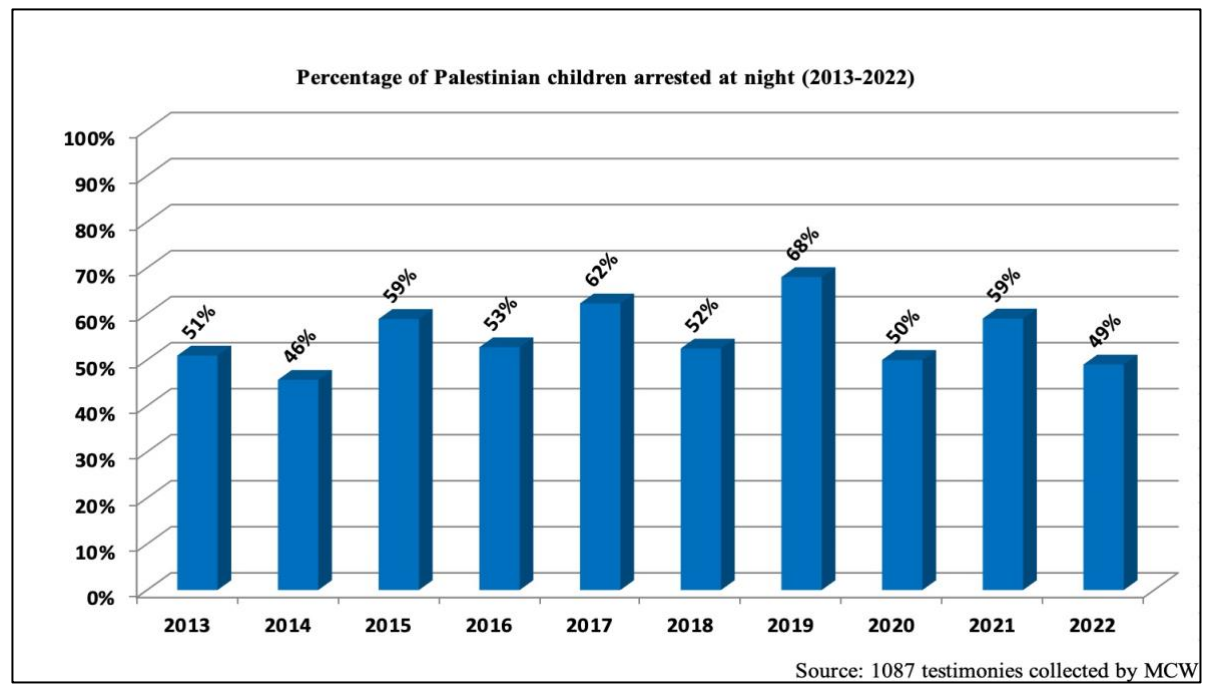
All arrests of children should be conducted during daylight, notwithstanding exceptional and grave situations.

- 4.3 Based on recent reporting by the UN and Israeli sources, the Israeli military conducts over 3,000 night operations in the occupied West Bank each year, or over eight operations every night.¹¹ Israel justifies this practice on operational grounds and on the basis that the territory is subject to a temporary military occupation and as such it has a duty to maintain public order and safety in the area under its control.¹² Israeli military law authorizes any officer to order a home invasion for the purposes of a search without a warrant or judicial review - although these measures are not applied to the Israeli settler population.¹³
- 4.4 During the Reporting Period, **49 percent** of Palestinian child detainees reported being arrested in military raids on their homes between the hours of 22:00 and 05:00 (343 - 490 children).¹⁴ These operations [intimidate](#) targeted communities and children [report](#) being "[shocked](#)" and/or "[terrified](#)" when confronted with soldiers in their homes or [bedrooms](#). This sense of fear only increases in cases where the front door is [broken in](#) or blown open using [explosives](#). In some cases [hydraulic jacks](#) are used to open [doors quietly](#) while families remain asleep. Sometimes houses are [searched](#) and property [damaged](#). Physical [confrontations](#) are not uncommon and in some cases [dogs](#) are deployed. In cases where children are not at home, family members have been held [hostage](#) until the child turns himself in. In other cases, children report being used as [human shields](#) by soldiers when being taken from their homes.

"I woke up at around 2:00 a.m. to the sound of Israeli soldiers banging aggressively at our front door. My father answered and about 25 soldiers entered our home, half of who were masked. The commander spoke to my father and asked him about me. My younger brother, who is 10 years old, was terrified when he saw masked soldiers in our home."

[NBUU](#) (17 years) - Qabatiya, occupied West Bank - 13 March 2022

Sample of evidence: [MSMQ](#), [SUMT](#), [FFMT](#), [UIAA](#), [SORG](#), [DEJL](#), [DAIO](#), [MIMQ](#), [MMML](#), [HAMQ](#), [MHMA](#), [KAAM](#), [NBUU](#), [SYMA](#), [FZIB](#), [URUR](#), [THMS](#), [MMAU](#), [KMMS](#), [AMSO](#), [UYAM](#), [HHMA](#), [DAWA](#), [MMMS](#), [JBJD](#), [JMMB](#), [KIND](#), [MHAD](#), [RMYT](#), [BAMI](#), [YMAA](#), [ALAT](#), [ZMHM](#), [DHHS](#), [BALA](#), [TMTS](#), [MIMA](#), [MMSI](#), [JMJD](#), [JOMH](#), [JHJK](#), [MIRH](#), [BSAL](#), [IMAR](#), [BAOA](#), [RAMO](#), [YAMS](#).



B. Summons in lieu of night arrests

4.5 UNICEF's recommendation (2013):

Copies of all relevant documentation, including arrest warrants and summons for questioning, should be provided to the child's legal guardian or close family member at the time of arrest or as soon as possible thereafter, and all documentation should be provided in Arabic.

4.6 A pilot study to issue written summonses in lieu of arresting children at night was [introduced](#) in 2014. The study's introduction followed a recommendation made in the Lawyers' Report after years of [widespread criticism](#) of the practice of arresting children in military [night-time](#) raids.¹⁵ The study reached its height in 2015, with summonses being issued in 10 percent of cases. By 2020, the study was largely defunct with summonses being issued in just one percent of cases.

4.7 From its inception, there were a number of problematic features regarding the study:

- (i) Most summonses were [delivered](#) in military raids on family homes in the middle of the night - largely defeating the purpose of using a summons.

- (ii) Many summonses included hand written notes in [Hebrew](#) - a language the recipients generally do not understand.
- (iii) In 2019 the authorities confirmed that [no records](#) were maintained relating to the study making any internal assessment impossible and casting doubt on its *bona fides*.

In some cases the authorities dispensed with the requirement that summonses be in writing and either [phoned](#) parents demanding that they bring their child to a settlement for interrogation the following day, or issued a verbal summons in cases where a house was raided and the child absent. In cases where verbal summonses are issued, they were frequently accompanied by threats. In other cases a [hostage](#) was taken to compel attendance.

4.8 On 1 August 2021, the military authorities announced that they had introduced [new procedures](#) for summoning children. While the procedures remain classified, the authorities have indicated that summonses will not be used if:

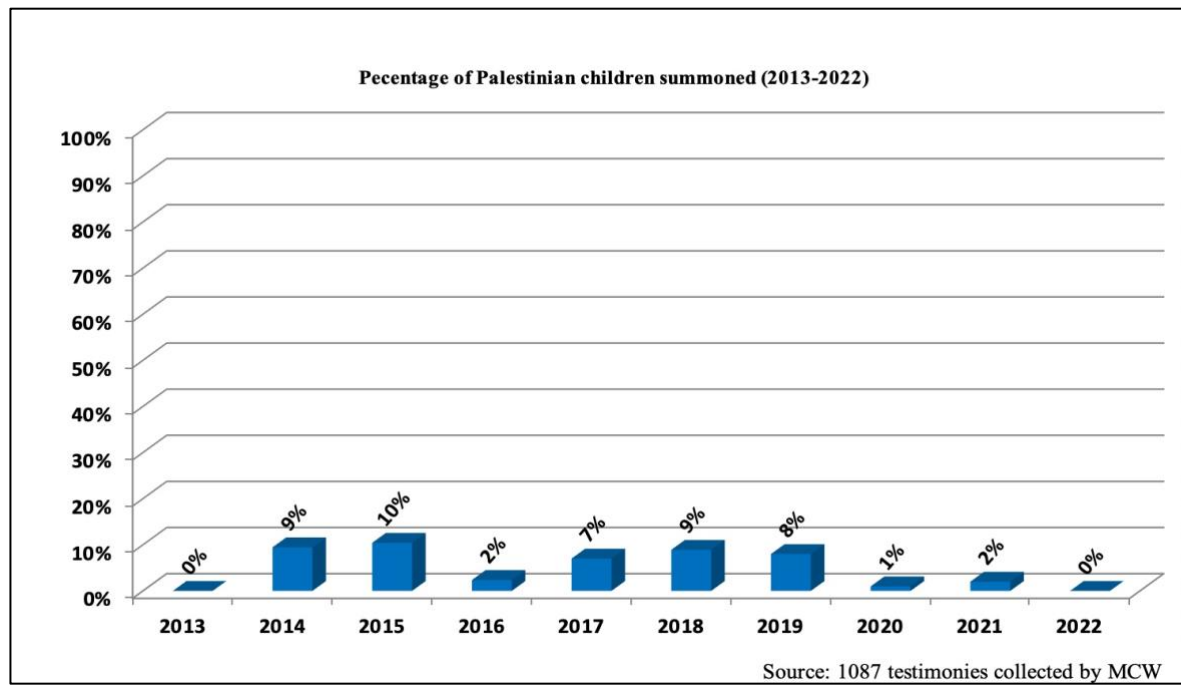
- (i) The child is wanted for interrogation by an agency other than the police; or
- (ii) The child is suspected of a "severe offence" (undefined) or has a record of committing "severe offences".

Between August 2021 and December 2022, MCW documented [one case](#) where a written summons was issued - the summons was served at 3:15 a.m. during a military raid on the child's home.

"About five months before my arrest an Israeli policeman phoned my mother at around 9:00 a.m. and told her my father had to bring me to an Israeli police station immediately. I went with my father and got there at around 10:00 a.m. At the gate a guard showed up and took me and my father inside. We waited a long time for the interrogator to show up but he never did and we were told to go home and come back the next day. The following day my father and I went to the police station and we were sent home again and told to come back the following day. The third time my father decided not to go. About five months later, my mother woke me up at around 2:00 a.m. and told me there were Israeli soldiers in our neighbourhood."

[YMAA](#) (12 years) - Beit Fajjar, occupied West Bank - 27 July 2022

Sample of evidence: [IAMO](#), [YMAA](#), [BSAL](#).



C. Written notification of arrest

4.9 UNICEF's recommendations (2013):

- (i) All children shall be informed of the reasons for their arrest at the time of arrest and in a language they understand.**
- (ii) The competent military authority shall, on its own initiative, notify the legal guardian or close family member of the child about the arrest, reasons for arrest and place of detention, as soon as possible after the arrest, and in Arabic.**
- (iii) All children and their legal guardian or close family member should be provided with a written statement in Arabic informing them of their full legal rights while in custody.**

4.10 In April 2013, the military authorities [informed](#) UNICEF that a standard form written in Arabic and Hebrew must be given to parents of children arrested at home in every case ([Arabic/English](#)). The pro-forma document includes a field for the insertion of information on: the time and place of arrest; details of the accusation; and the police station where the detainee will be taken (with phone number). The form provides no information about the child's legal rights while in custody. In some cases family members are also asked to sign documents stating that the child was not mistreated during arrest and no property was damaged.

4.11 During the Reporting Period, **35 percent** of parents of Palestinian children detained by the Israeli military from home in the occupied West Bank were provided with this document - in a majority of cases no information (written or verbal) was provided as to why the child was

being arrested or where he/she was being taken. In cases where this document was provided there were a number of problematic features:

- (i) In 82 percent of cases the document was filled out by the arresting officer in [Hebrew](#);
- (ii) In some cases parents were given a [copy](#) of the document; in other cases the officer in command requested a parent [sign](#) the document but [did not](#) leave a copy for the family.
- (iii) In no cases were parents or children informed, verbally or in writing, of their legal rights while in custody, at the time of their arrest; and
- (iv) In every case where a parent phoned the number of the interrogation centre included in the document, [no one answered](#) the phone. Further, many children are transferred to multiple interrogation centres, without additional notice being provided to parents.

"Then the soldiers gave my father a document with details about my arrest filled out in Hebrew. The document had a phone number my parents could call but when they called no one answered. The commander told my father to go to the police station in Etzion settlement in the morning to see me. My father went and waited from around 8:00 a.m. until around noon but he was not allowed in."

[BAMI](#) (12 years) - Beit Fajjar, occupied West Bank - 27 July 2022

Sample of evidence: [IKMT](#), [SORG](#), [MHMA](#), [KAAM](#), [FZIB](#), [THMS](#), [HHMA](#), [MJMY](#), [RMYT](#), [BAMI](#), [YMAA](#), [TMTS](#), [MIMA](#), [JMJB](#), [JOMH](#).

D. Hand ties

4.12 UNICEF's recommendations (2013):

- (i) **Children should only be restrained for the time that is strictly necessary. Use of restraining methods and instruments should respect the child's dignity and not cause unnecessary pain or suffering.**
- (ii) **The use of single plastic hand ties should be prohibited in all circumstances, and the prohibition must be effectively monitored and enforced.**
- (iii) **Except in extreme and unusual circumstances, children should never be restrained during interrogation, while detained in a cell or while attending court.**

4.13 In 2010, following a petition to Israel's Supreme Court, the military authorities amended the [standard operating procedures](#) for the use of plastic hand ties due to the high incidents of pain

and injury caused by the use of a single plastic ties behind the back. The new procedures require that:¹⁶

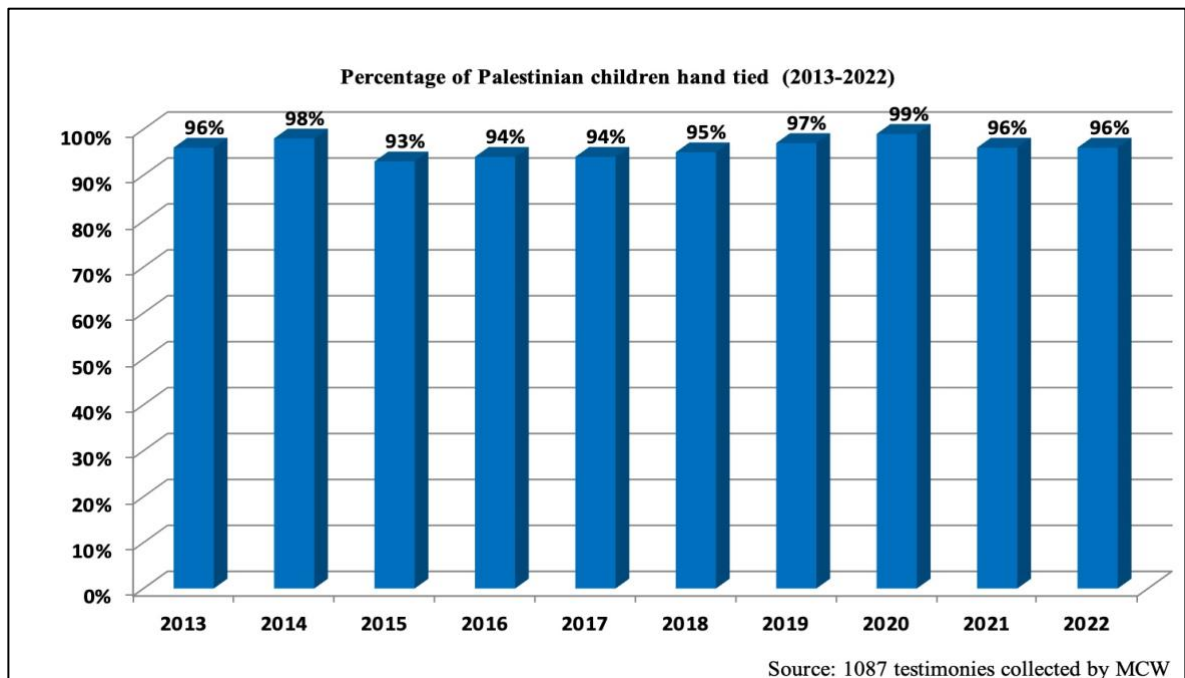
- (i) Hands should be tied from the front, unless security considerations require tying from behind;
- (ii) Three plastic ties should be used, one around each wrist, and one connecting the two;
- (iii) There should be the space of a finger between the ties and the wrist;
- (iv) The restraints should avoid causing suffering as much as possible; and
- (v) The officer in charge is responsible for ensuring compliance with these regulations.

- 4.14 During the Reporting Period, **96 percent** of Palestinian children detained by the Israeli military in the occupied West Bank continued to be restrained upon arrest. In 73 percent of these cases, the military's own standard operating procedures for the use of restraints were ignored.¹⁷ In most cases, single or multiple plastic ties behind the back continue to be used with children describing the ties as "[painful](#)", "[very tight and painful](#)" or causing "[severe pain](#)", and in one case - "[so tight that I felt my wrists were going to be cut off](#)". In some cases blood flow to the wrists is restricted causing [numbness](#), [swelling](#) and hands to [turn blue](#). There are also reports of ties cutting into the wrists resulting in [bleeding](#). Many children remain tied for [10 hours](#) or [more](#), remain [tied](#) and/or [shackled](#) during [interrogation](#), and appear in the military courts wearing leg shackles. In cases where children are taken to hospital they generally remain [shackled](#). Occasionally restraints are loosened, but most complaints are [ignored](#).

"I was on my way home at 6:30 p.m. when [Israeli] military jeeps entered our town. There were no clashes at the time and things were quiet. One of the jeeps pulled over next to me, a soldier stepped out, grabbed me and pushed me into the back of the jeep and threw me on the metal floor. A soldier blindfolded me and tied my hands behind my back with two plastic ties on top of each other. The ties were very tight and painful and cut into my wrists until I was bleeding."

[F.N.D.A.](#) (17 years) - Al Mughayyer, occupied West Bank - 16 December 2022

Sample of evidence: [AAIA](#), [FFMI](#), [YWAH](#), [MSMQ](#), [SUMT](#), [MTMN](#), [YFAH](#), [UIAA](#), [MMSY](#), [SORG](#), [DEJL](#), [MIMQ](#), [KAAM](#), [FAFI](#), [SYMA](#), [MMAU](#), [KMMS](#), [IAMO](#), [JMDZ](#), [SRHB](#), [HHMA](#), [MMMS](#), [NLNH](#), [JMMB](#), [JMHB](#), [KIND](#), [MHAD](#), [RMYT](#), [SMSY](#), [BAMI](#), [YMAA](#), [ALAT](#), [ZMHM](#), [AFAI](#), [BALA](#), [TMTS](#), [MIMA](#), [AFAZ](#), [FOAM](#), [MAAF](#), [JHJK](#), [MIRH](#), [IMAR](#), [DHHZ](#), [DADQ](#), [YAMS](#), [FNDA](#), [HALL](#).



E. Blindfolds

4.15 UNICEF's recommendation (2013):

The practice of blindfolding or hooding children should be prohibited in all circumstances.

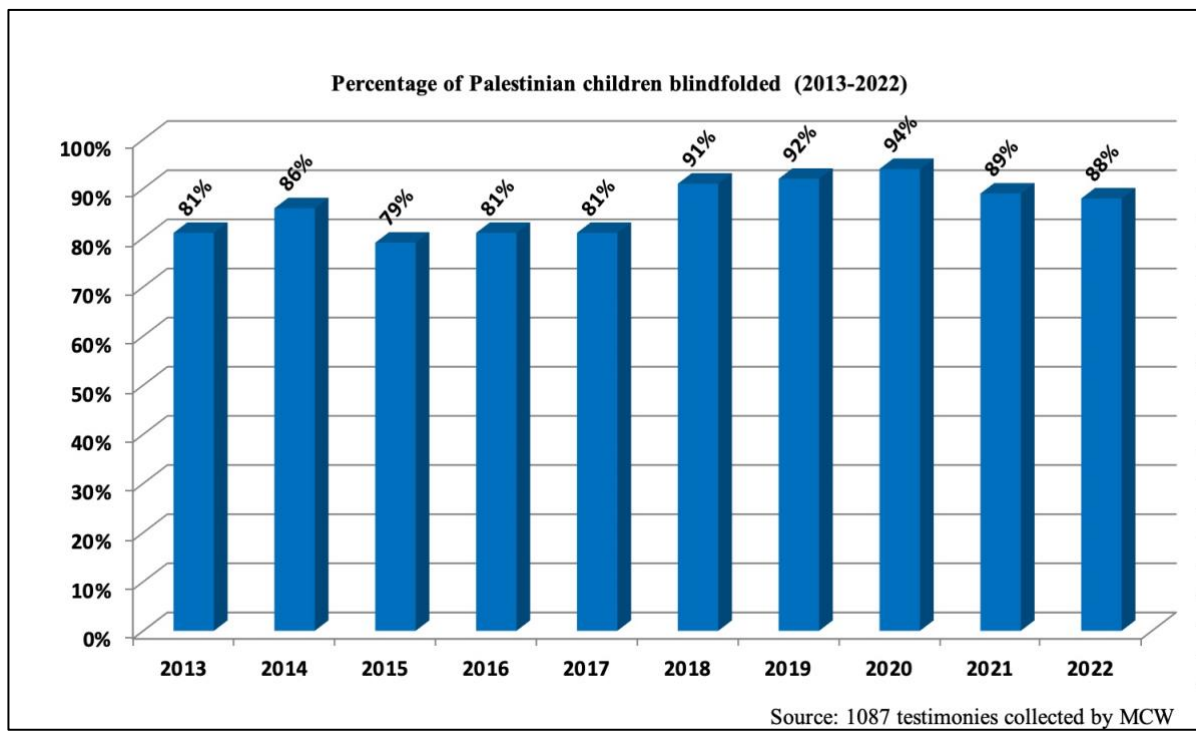
4.16 During the Reporting Period, **88 percent** of Palestinian children detained by the Israeli military in the occupied West Bank reported being blindfolded upon arrest. While there does not appear to be any legitimate security reason for blindfolding these children, the evidence does suggest that the practice effectively “softens them up” for interrogation, making it easier to obtain confessions. Most children are blindfolded soon after their arrest and remain blindfolded for [many hours](#) and in some cases remain blindfolded during [interrogation](#).

4.17 In August 2019, lawyers for the military authorities [informed](#) Israel’s Supreme Court “that military orders and regulations forbid blindfolding of detainees, and action to clarify the rules has been taken and will continue to be taken on a continuous basis.” This statement cannot be reconciled with the evidence.

“The tie was so tight that my hands swelled and I was in pain. The tie left marks on my wrists for a long time. I remained tied until the evening. [The soldier] then blindfolded me and pushed me into the back of a military jeep. He made me sit on the metal floor between the soldiers' legs. The dog was in the back with me and it sniffed me the whole time and I was terrified.”

[JMMB](#) (17 years) - Qalqiliya, occupied West Bank - 2 June 2022

Sample of evidence: [MSMQ](#), [SUMT](#), [UIAA](#), [MMSY](#), [FAFI](#), [URUR](#), [MMAU](#), [MMMS](#), [JBJD](#), [JMMB](#), [MHAD](#), [BAMI](#), [YMAA](#), [AFAI](#), [MIMA](#), [HSHA](#), [MAAF](#), [AIAS](#), [IMAR](#), [HALL](#).



F. Floor transfer

4.18 UNICEF's recommendation (2013):

At all times during transfer, children should be properly seated, not blindfolded and treated with dignity.

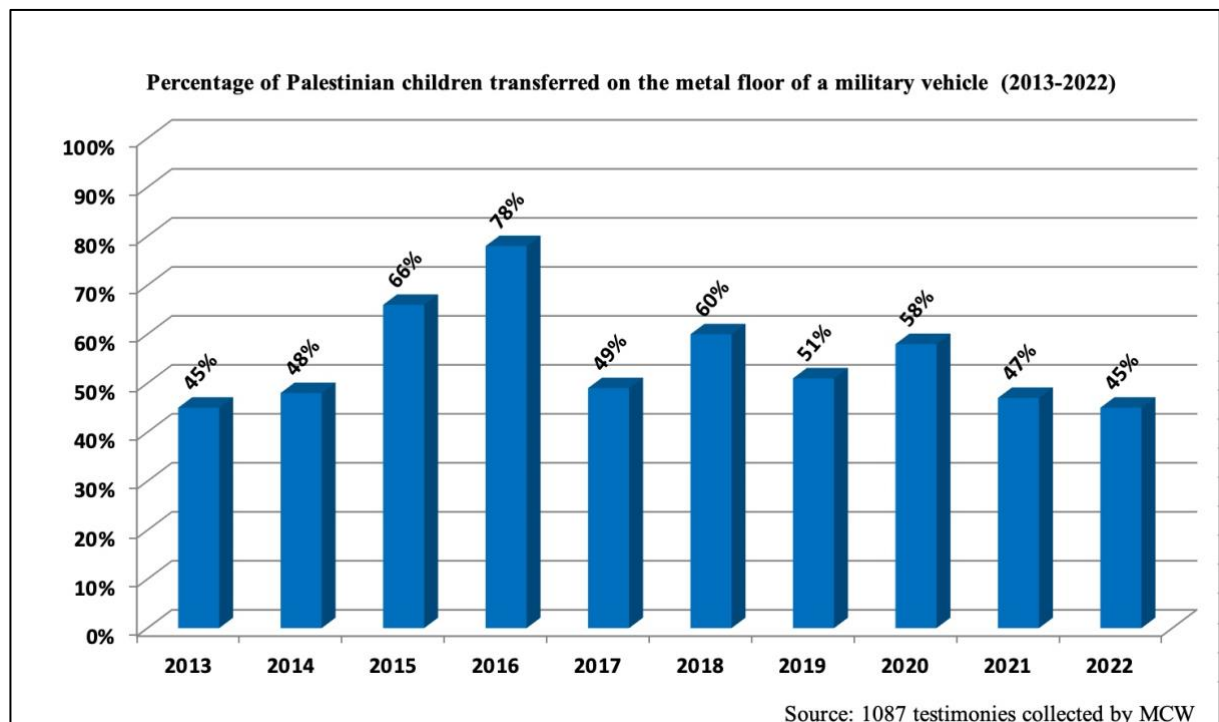
4.19 During the Reporting Period, **45 percent** of Palestinian children detained by the Israeli military in the occupied West Bank reported being transferred from the place of arrest to an interrogation centre on the metal floor of a military vehicle, generally while tied and blindfolded. The evidence indicates that children are sometimes placed on the floor because there are no available seats, while on other occasions it appears that [seats are available](#). Once on the floor children are sometimes [pushed](#), [kicked](#), [slapped](#), [struck with rifle butts](#), [thrown on top](#) of other detainees and [verbally abused](#).

4.20 In 2011, the delegation who published the Lawyers' Report raised the issue of Palestinian child detainees being transferred on the floor of Israeli military vehicles following their arrest in the occupied West Bank with officials from Israel's Ministry of Defence and COGAT.¹⁸ The delegation was informed by these officials that while this was not part of approved procedure, "soldiers are soldiers" - a comment that the delegation noted "caused us concern".¹⁹

"I was woken up by an Israeli soldier at around 2:00 a.m. I was shocked when I opened my eyes and saw a soldier staring at me ... A soldier tied my hands behind my back with two plastic ties on top of each other. The ties were tight and painful and left marks on my wrists ... Then [the soldiers] took me outside and led me away on foot to where a military jeep was waiting. They pushed me into the back of the jeep and made me sit on the metal floor. Inside the jeep a soldier blindfolded me. Then he slapped and kicked me as well as swearing at me. We drove to the nearby settlement of Dotan."

[ZMH](#) (16 years) - Qabatiya, occupied West Bank - 3 August 2022

Sample of evidence: [FFMI](#), [YWAH](#), [MSMQ](#), [SUMT](#), [UIAA](#), [MMSY](#), [SAMA](#), [FAFI](#), [FZIB](#), [THMS](#), [HDHD](#), [UYAM](#), [ORMA](#), [JMDZ](#), [SRHB](#), [HHMA](#), [DAWA](#), [JBID](#), [MHAD](#), [ZMH](#), [AFAI](#), [MIMA](#), [AIAS](#), [EENU](#), [BAOA](#), [DHHZ](#), [RAMO](#), [FNDA](#).



G. Verbal abuse

4.21 UNICEF's recommendation (2013):

In all actions concerning children the best interests of the child shall be the primary consideration.

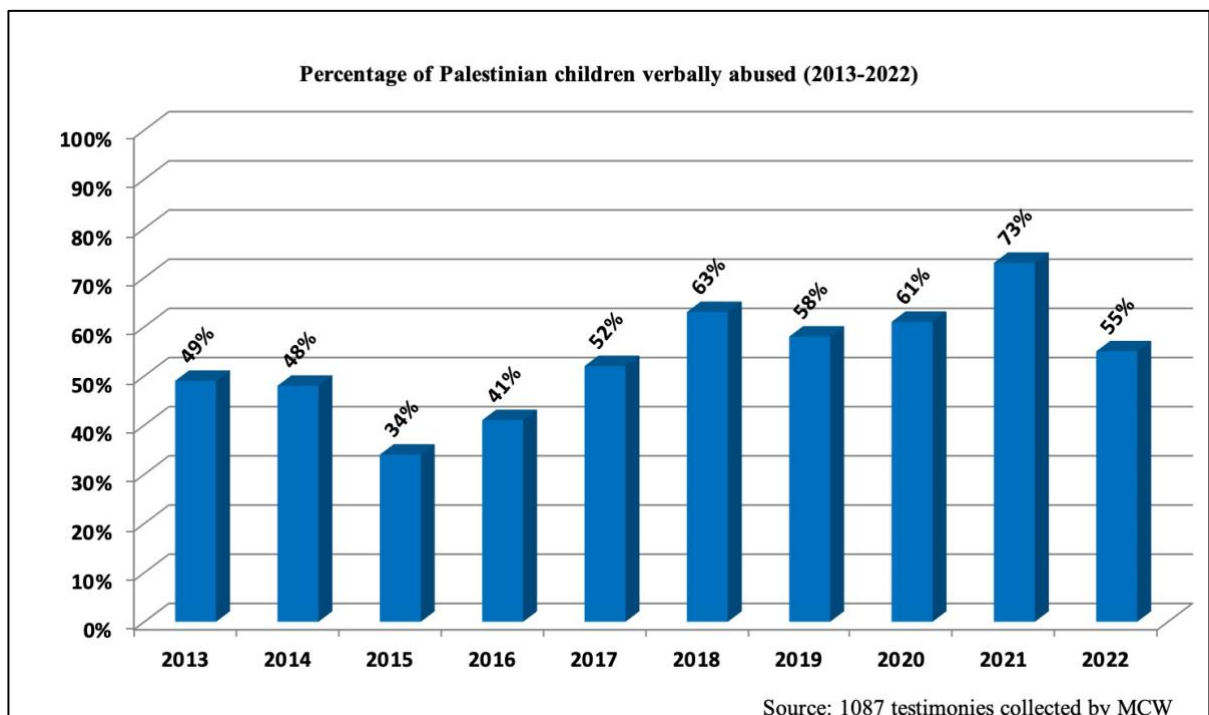
4.22 During the Reporting Period, **55 percent** of Palestinian children detained by the Israeli military in the occupied West Bank reported being verbally abused during [arrest](#), [transfer](#)

and/or [interrogation](#). The majority of this abuse either relates to the child's [mother](#) and/or [sister](#), or is directed towards the child's [religion](#).

"The interrogator accused me of the same accusations which I denied. The interrogator was aggressive and swore at me calling me 'a son of a whore'. Then he threatened to 'fuck me' if I did not treat him with respect. He repeated the threat twice."

[MKIZ](#) (17 years) - Deir Qiddis, occupied West Bank - 17 March 2022

Sample of evidence: [YWAH](#), [YFAH](#), [UIAA](#), [MMSY](#), [SAMA](#), [SORG](#), [MKIZ](#), [THMS](#), [JBJD](#), [SMSY](#), [DDLRL](#), [MIRH](#), [IMAR](#), [RAMO](#), [DADQ](#), [HALL](#).



H. Physical abuse

4.23 UNICEF'S Recommendations (2013):

- (i) In all actions concerning children, the best interests of the child shall be the primary consideration.
- (ii) Any complaint by a child, at any stage of his or her detention, regarding any form of violence and unlawful treatment, shall be promptly, diligently and independently investigated in accordance with international standards. All perpetrators shall be brought promptly to justice.

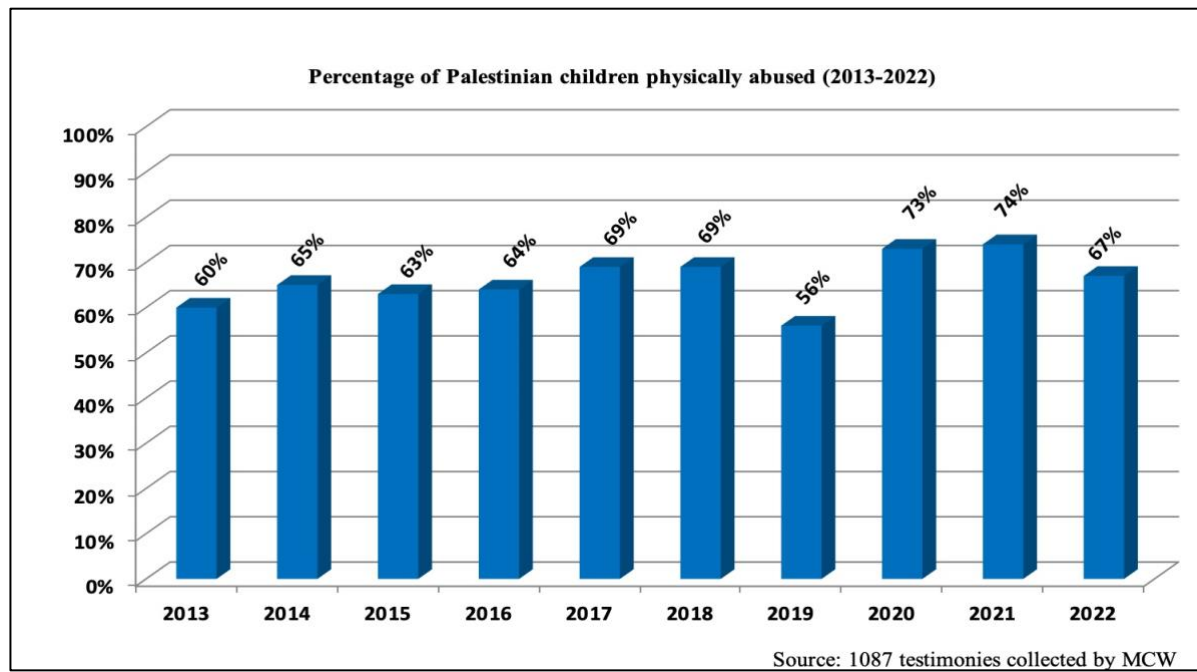
- (iii) **Child victims of ill-treatment should obtain redress and adequate reparation, including rehabilitation, compensation, satisfaction and guarantees of non-repetition.**
- (iv) **The Israeli authorities should consider establishing an independent investigation into reports of ill-treatment of children in the military detention system, in accordance with the 2002 recommendations made by the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights on Palestinian territories occupied since 1967.**

4.24 During the Reporting Period, **67 percent** of Palestinian children detained by the Israeli military in the occupied West Bank reported various forms of physical abuse during arrest, transfer and/or interrogation. The types of reported abuse include: [punching](#); [slapping](#); [position abuse](#); [shooting](#); [choking](#); [kicking](#); striking with objects, such as [guns](#) or [wooden batons](#); banging heads against objects, such as [vehicles](#), [concrete blocks](#) and [walls](#); and deliberately beaten on a [pre-existing injury](#). In some cases children required [medical attention](#) and/or [hospitalisation](#) after being assaulted. Most of the abuse occurs whilst the child is being [transferred](#) from the point of arrest to an interrogation centre, with some abuse also occurring at the point of [arrest](#) and/or in the [interrogation](#) room or in a [cell](#). In few cases do commanding officers intervene to stop the abuse. Sometimes children report being [physically assaulted](#) or [verbally abused](#) by Israeli settlers before or after being detained by soldiers.

"The ties were tight and painful. When I asked the soldier to loosen them he refused. I was also blindfolded before being led on foot for about half-an-hour towards some military jeeps. During this time soldiers swore at me calling me 'a son of a whore'. They also kicked and slapped me and pushed me to the ground. I was in pain and could not take a deep breath. I later found out that my ribs were fractured from the beating. Because I could no longer walk the soldiers lifted me up and threw me into the back of a military jeep where I sat on a metal box."

[MMAU](#) (17 years) - Kafr Qaddoum, occupied West Bank - 30 March 2022

Sample of evidence: [AAIA](#), [FFMI](#), [AMKS](#), [MSMQ](#), [SUMT](#), [FFMT](#), [MTMN](#), [YFAH](#), [SORG](#), [KAAM](#), [FAFI](#), [MKIZ](#), [THMS](#), [MMAU](#), [AMSO](#), [AANF](#), [IAMO](#), [IJIM](#), [ORMA](#), [AMHS](#), [MJMY](#), [IASU](#), [AMYS](#), [JMHB](#), [THMI](#), [RMYT](#), [ALAT](#), [ZMHM](#), [AFAI](#), [DHHS](#), [MIMA](#), [AFAZ](#), [FOAM](#), [HSHA](#), [JOMH](#), [DDLRL](#), [AIAS](#), [LBLA](#), [AEBJ](#), [BSAL](#), [IMAR](#), [DHHZ](#), [RAMO](#), [DADQ](#), [HALL](#), [JAHA](#).



I. Threats

4.25 UNICEF's recommendations (2013):

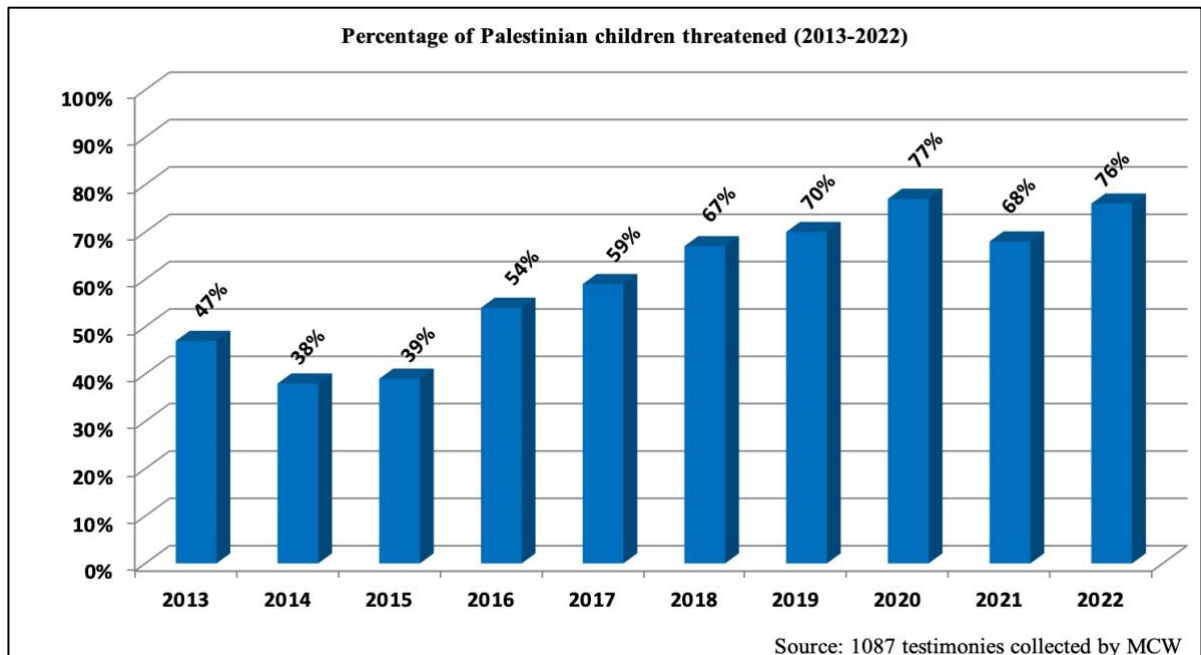
In all actions concerning children, the best interests of the child shall be the primary consideration.

- 4.26 During the Reporting Period, **76 percent** of Palestinian children detained by the Israeli military in the occupied West Bank reported being threatened during arrest, transfer and/or interrogation. Threats are most commonly used during interrogation to obtain a confession and are frequently mixed with [shouting](#) and [aggressive behavior](#). The types of threats reported during the Reporting Period include: [cancellation](#) of relatives' work permits; [home demolition](#); a threat to "[trash](#)" the child's home; a threat by soldiers to [strip a child](#) inside a jeep; [administrative detention](#); [arrest of parents](#) or a [brother](#); [long-term detention](#) or [life imprisonment](#); [death threats](#); [solitary confinement](#); a threat to impose [travel restrictions](#); threats of [physical violence](#); [cocking a rifle](#) near the child; [denial of food](#); a threat to [kill an uncle](#); and a threat to [beat a brother](#) who was also in custody. It should be recalled that these threats are generally made whilst the child is restrained, hungry and sleep deprived. In some cases, the threats actually materialize, such as the [cancellation](#) of relatives' work permits.

"At around 11:00 p.m. the Israeli military commander for our area phoned again and my father did not answer but my mother did. He told her he had been looking for me for the past 3 months and if I did not turn myself in he was going to shoot me in front of my mother. He told her he was going to shoot me in both legs and then arrest me while wounded if I failed to show up at his office by 10:00 a.m."

[NLNH](#) (17 years) - Balata refugee camp, occupied West Bank - 17 May 2022

Sample of evidence: [AAIA](#), [YWAH](#), [AMKS](#), [YFAH](#), [DAIO](#), [MIMQ](#), [MMLL](#), [HAMQ](#), [MHMA](#), [SYMA](#), [URUR](#), [KMMS](#), [AANF](#), [UYAM](#), [IAMO](#), [JMDZ](#), [HHMA](#), [DAWA](#), [NLNH](#), [JMMB](#), [MHAD](#), [KKKI](#), [DHHS](#), [AAAD](#), [HSHA](#), [MMSI](#), [JOMH](#), [LBLA](#), [AEBJ](#), [EENU](#), [BSAL](#), [DHHZ](#), [RAMO](#), [DADQ](#), [YAMS](#).



J. Excessive exposure to the elements and/or general neglect

4.27 UNICEF's recommendation (2013):

In all actions concerning children, the best interests of the child shall be the primary consideration.

- 4.28 The journey from the place of arrest to the interrogation room (usually located in a settlement in the occupied West Bank) is often indirect involving stops at [checkpoints](#), [army bases](#) and [smaller settlements](#) throughout the occupied West Bank. Accordingly, the journey to interrogation can take [many hours](#) or [days](#). During this time children frequently report being left tied and blindfolded in [shipping containers](#), or left outside sitting or kneeling on the [ground](#) or in [cages](#) for extended periods exposed to summer and winter [elements](#). In some cases [air-conditioners](#) appear to be unnecessarily turned on causing children discomfort prior to interrogation. Some children report being treated with dignity, but in most cases, children report physical violence, humiliation, denial of [food](#) and [water](#), and limited or no access to [toilets](#). In some cases there are reports of children or family members being used as [human shields](#) or [hostages](#). There also appears to be a deliberate policy of ensuring that many children are [sleep deprived](#) prior to interrogation. The result is that by the time children are interrogated, they are in a state of physical and mental [exhaustion](#).

"I was taken to another military base where I was left in a room. The soldiers turned the air conditioner on very cold and I froze. I was left there from around 1:00 p.m. until around 10:00 p.m. At one point Arabic music was played really loud and the soldiers made fun of me. I was not given any food or drink. At around 10:00 p.m. I was taken to the police station in Binyamin settlement. A soldier removed the ties and the blindfold and left me on a bench in an outdoor area. At around midnight I was taken for interrogation."

[SMSY](#) (15 years) - Deir Nidham, occupied West Bank - 15 July 2022

Sample of evidence: [AMKS](#), [YFAH](#), [MMSY](#), [SORG](#), [DEJL](#), [MIMQ](#), [NBUU](#), [KMMS](#), [HDHD](#), [SRHB](#), [IASU](#), [AMYS](#), [JMMB](#), [MHAD](#), [RMYT](#), [SMSY](#), [MIMA](#), [HSHA](#), [MAAF](#), [DDLRL](#), [AIAS](#), [LBLA](#), [QIAR](#), [ZYIQ](#), [BSAL](#), [RAMO](#), [YAMS](#), [UFIL](#), [FNDA](#), [HALL](#), [FFMI](#), [DAIO](#), [HAMQ](#).

K. Medical care and complaints

4.29 UNICEF's recommendation (2013):

- (i) Both prior to and after questioning, as well as upon transfer to another place of detention, the detained child should undergo a medical inspection by an independently qualified medical doctor. The medical inspection should abide by the highest standards of medical ethics, document objectively any complaints and findings, and assess the child's physical and psychological state. Any immediate medical needs should be attended to.**
- (ii) Subject to the consent of the child's legal guardian, all medical records should be made available to the child's lawyer.**
- (iii) Children deprived of their liberty shall have access to prompt and adequate medical care at all times.**
- (iv) Any complaint by a child, at any stage of his or her detention, regarding any form of violence and unlawful treatment, shall be promptly, diligently and independently investigated in accordance with international standards. All perpetrators shall be brought promptly to justice.**
- (v) Unless the allegations are manifestly unfounded, the personnel allegedly involved in the unlawful treatment of children should be suspended from duties involving contact with children, pending the outcome of an independent investigation and any subsequent legal or disciplinary proceedings.**

- 4.30 Israeli military [regulations](#) provide that following the arrest of a minor, he/she must be brought without delay to a medical examination. The physician will examine the detainee's medical fitness, and then the detainee has to be transferred without delay to an interrogation. It should also be noted that "unnecessary physical and verbal violence" is strictly forbidden.
- 4.31 Evidence collected during the Reporting Period indicates that children are generally given medical checks shortly after their arrest. However, there are a number of problematic features regarding these checks:
- (i) The medical checks generally occur in shipping containers or the [back of military vehicles](#) in settlements or military bases in the occupied West Bank. They tend to be cursory in nature and leave the impression that they are performed for internal bureaucratic reasons, rather than out of any genuine concern for the child's welfare. No consideration appears to be given to the child's psychological state.

"After about 20 minutes a soldier took me outside where he blindfolded me and tied my hands behind my back with two plastic ties: one on each wrist and the ties were connected together in the middle like a chain. The ties were tight and painful and left marks on my wrists for a month. Then I was taken to the back of a military jeep and the soldiers allowed me to sit on a seat. Inside the jeep a military paramedic gave me a quick medical examination. Then I was taken to Salem interrogation centre."

[NBUU](#) (17 years) - Qabitiya, occupied West Bank - 13 March 2022

- (ii) Many children remain tied, and in some cases, blindfolded during their medical check or [hospitalization](#).

"At around 11:00 p.m. I was taken to Hadassah hospital in Jerusalem where they took a CT scan of me. Then they took me to another hospital where a doctor gave me an anaesthetic and tried to remove the shrapnel from my face but he did not succeed. I was handcuffed and shackled in the hospital."

[FAFI](#) (17 years) - Abu Dis, occupied West Bank - 7 March 2022

- (iii) Complaints by children as to how they were treated by the arresting soldiers, or about an obvious injury or pre-existing medical condition, are frequently ignored

"One of the soldiers kicked me hard in my stomach which caused me a lot of pain. I fell to the ground and could barely stand up. Then I was taken to a small cell measuring about 1x1 meters. I was left there for about 5 hours. I was not given anything to eat or drink and I was not allowed to use the toilet. During this time a doctor examined me and did not say anything when I told him I was beaten up by the soldiers."

[IMAR](#) (16 years) - Ofra settlement, occupied West Bank - 4 November 2022

- (iv) In some cases children are provided with medical care for an injury or medical condition, while in other cases no care at all is provided.

"I was near the settlement of Ofra where there were clashes with Israeli soldiers ... I was shot with three bullets; one just above my knee and another near my hip. Another bullet hit me just under my right underarm. I fell the ground and I was bleeding heavily. I was left on the ground for about 20 minutes and no one did anything to help. Then the commander came and ordered an ambulance. He scolded the soldiers who shot me. The paramedics took off my clothes and then I passed out."

[NAHS](#) (16 years) - Ofra settlement, occupied West Bank - 5 November 2022

- 4.32 Evidence collected during the Reporting Period indicates that children frequently complain to the arresting soldiers about their physical condition, including pain caused by over-tightened restraints. Generally these complaints are ignored or the child is told to "shut up". Occasionally the painful ties will simply be [tightened more](#).

"At the door a soldier blindfolded me and tied my hands behind my back with two plastic ties on top of each other. The ties were tight and very painful. When I asked the soldier to loosen them he did the opposite and tightened them even more until my wrists bled."

[KIND](#) (17 years) - Beit Fajjar, occupied West Bank - 8 June 2022

L. Strip searches

4.33 UNICEF's recommendation (2013):

Strip searches should be carried out only under exceptional circumstances and used only as a last resort. When conducted, strip searches should be done with full respect for the

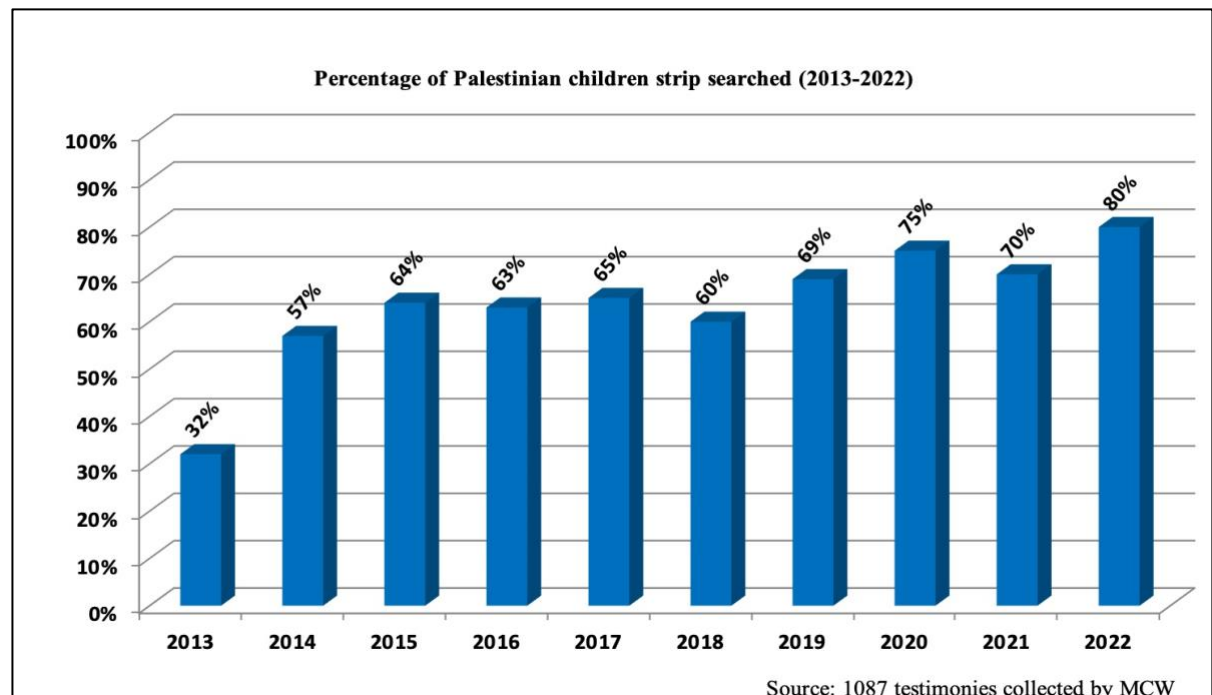
dignity of the child and be conducted by more than one person of the same gender as the child, in the presence of a parent, guardian, or other responsible adult, wherever possible. The strip search should be done in a private location and should not involve the removal of all garments at the same time.

- 4.34 During the Reporting Period, **80 percent** of Palestinian children detained by the Israeli military in the occupied West Bank reported being strip searched on arrival at an interrogation centre or prison. Some children report being told to [crouch up](#) and [down](#) naked while being searched. Unsurprisingly, children find this procedure [humiliating](#). Some children report being [physically assaulted](#) if they refuse to strip. In no case did the military or prison authorities conduct a search in accordance with UNICEF's recommendation.

"At around 11:00 a.m. I was taken to Salem interrogation centre where I was left outdoors in the sun for about two hours. Then I was strip searched. I was left naked for about 10 minutes and the person who searched me asked me to crouch up and down and I felt humiliated. Then I was taken in a troop carrier which drove me to Al Jalama interrogation centre, inside Israel."

[DAWA](#) (16 years) - Salem interrogation centre, occupied West Bank - 9 May 2022

Sample of evidence: [AAIA](#), [YWAH](#), [SRHB](#), [DAWA](#), [KKKI](#), [IMAR](#), [FNDA](#), [HALL](#).



M. Accompanied by a parent / guardian during interrogation

4.35 UNICEF's recommendation (2013):

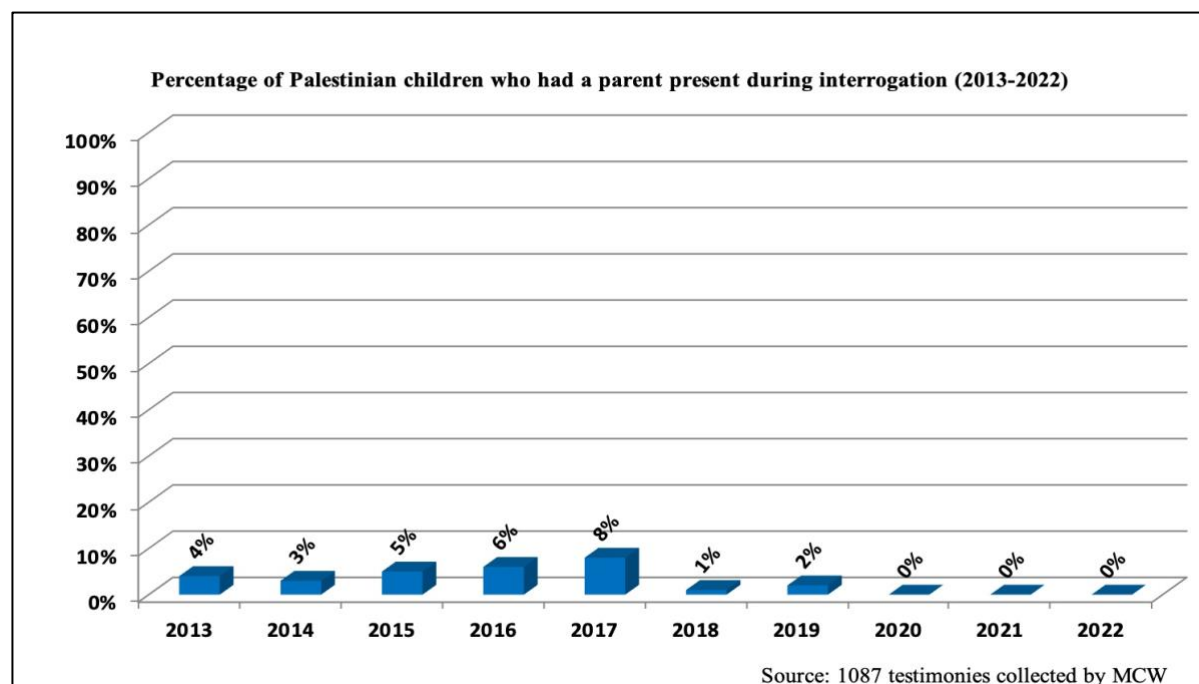
The questioning or interrogation of a child should always take place in the presence of a lawyer and a family member.

- 4.36 During the Reporting Period, **100 percent** of Palestinian children detained by the Israeli military in the occupied West Bank were interrogated in the absence of a parent or family member. While there is no legal right under Israeli military law for a parent to accompany a child during interrogation in security offences, the military authorities have acknowledged a [discretion](#) to permit parents to be present. In some cases [parents](#) took their children to an interrogation centre after being ordered to do so by an intelligence officer but were prevented from attending the interrogation even though they were present on site. No cases of accompaniment have been documented since 2019.

"The interrogator informed me of my right to silence and gave me a document written in Arabic with all my rights and obligations. Among other things the document said I had the right for a family member to attend the interrogation. When I asked the interrogator about this right he told me this was the case a long time ago and that the rules had changed."

[UYAM](#) (17 years) - Ofer interrogation centre, occupied West Bank - 13 April 2022

Sample of evidence: [IKMT](#), [HAMQ](#), [AMSG](#), [UYAM](#), [IAMO](#), [BSAL](#).



M. Audio-visual recording

4.37 UNICEF's recommendation (2013):

The questioning or interrogation of a child should always be audio-visually recorded for the purpose of independent oversight.

4.38 While some interrogations are audio-visually recorded, this is done solely for internal purposes. In no cases are audio-visual recordings of a child's interrogation provided to defence counsel prior to the first hearing - as recommended by the Lawyers' Report. In September 2014, the military orders were amended to provide for the audio-visual recording of police interrogations in the occupied West Bank in "non-security related offences".²⁰ MCW has not documented any cases in which any such tapes have been provided to defence counsel prior to the first hearing.

Sample of evidence: [AMSG](#).

N. Prompt access to a lawyer

4.39 UNICEF's recommendations (2013):

- (i) All children in detention shall have prompt and regular access to an independent lawyer of their choice.**
- (ii) The questioning or interrogation of a child should always take place in the presence of a lawyer and a family member, and should always be audio-visually recorded for the purpose of independent oversight.**
- (iii) No statement or confession made by a child deprived of his or her liberty, other than one made in the presence of a judge or the child's lawyer, should have probative value at any stage of the criminal proceedings, except as evidence against those who are accused of having obtained the confession by unlawful means. Cases involving children in military courts should not be determined solely on the basis of confessions from children.**

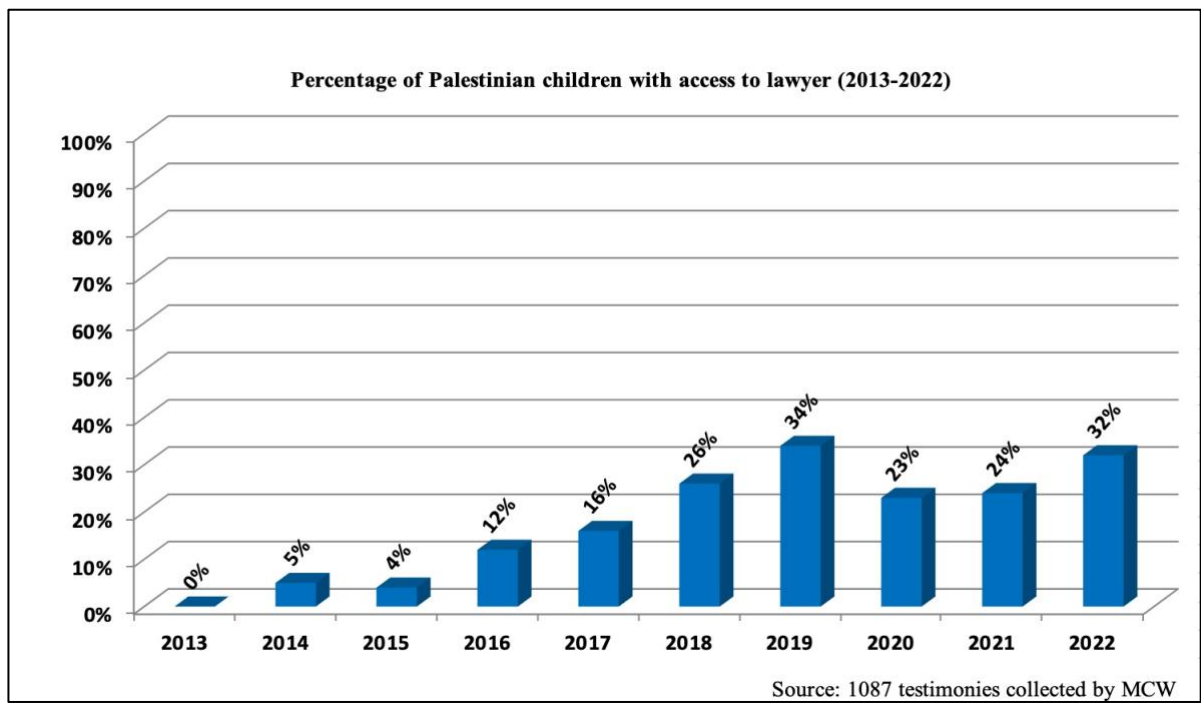
4.40 During the Reporting Period, **68 percent** of Palestinian children detained by the Israeli military in the occupied West Bank were interrogated without prior access to a lawyer. Under Israeli military law a detainee has the right to consult with a lawyer prior to interrogation. There are exceptions but generally these do not apply to children. Although Israel's Supreme Court has identified this to be a fundamental right, it is consistently denied to the overwhelming majority of Palestinian children.²¹ In cases where a child does consult with a lawyer prior to interrogation, this usually amounts to a [brief phone conversation](#) lasting several minutes or less, sometimes while the interrogator [listens](#) on speaker phone. Many children report only being informed of the right [half-way through](#) or at the [conclusion](#) of the

interrogation. In some cases children are [handed a document](#) in the interrogation room about their rights even as these rights are being [withheld](#). In some cases a child is informed of the right to consult with a lawyer but given no opportunity to do so. In no cases did a child physically meet with a lawyer prior to interrogation. Most children continue to consult with a lawyer for the [first time](#) in a military court.

"Before questioning me the interrogator phoned a lawyer and allowed me to speak to him. The lawyer told me to remain silent and not to confess. The interrogator was listening to the conversation and told me not to take the lawyer's advice because if I did I was going to end up in a small cell in solitary confinement and I wouldn't ever see the sun again."

[FFMI](#) (16 years) - Etzion interrogation centre - 20 January 2022

Sample of evidence: [FFMI](#), [MSMQ](#), [SUMT](#), [MMML](#), [HAMQ](#), [NBUU](#), [SYMA](#), [JMDZ](#), [MJMY](#), [SMSY](#), [MIMA](#), [JMJH](#), [JOMH](#), [MAAF](#), [DDLRL](#), [LBLA](#), [AEBJ](#), [NAHS](#), [NLNH](#), [ORMA](#), [IAMO](#).



O. Right to silence

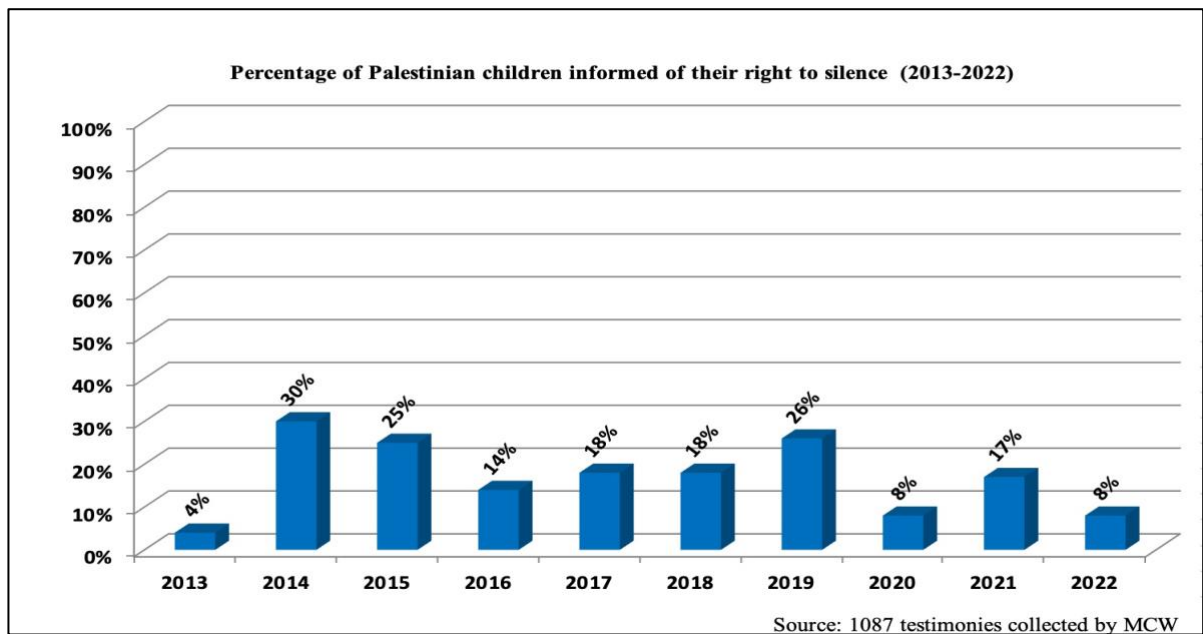
4.41 UNICEF recommendation (2013):

At the commencement of each interrogation session, the child should be formally notified of his or her rights in Arabic, and in particular, informed of the privilege against self-incrimination.

- 4.42 During the Reporting Period, **92 percent** of Palestinian children detained by the Israeli military in the occupied West Bank were interrogated without first being informed of their right to silence under Israeli military law. Most children are not informed of this right and/or are told they "[must answer all the questions](#)". In other cases children are informed of their right to silence but then [yelled at](#) if they refuse to answer questions, making the right all but illusory. Some children are [physically assaulted](#) if they remain silent. In other cases children are informed of the right but the statement is then immediately qualified with comments such as: "[if you remain silent things will turn against you in court](#)"; or "[if you do remain silent the court will interpret it as a confession](#)". In other cases children are only informed of the right [on one occasion](#) even though they are interrogated multiple times over the course of days or weeks. In some cases children are informed of their right to silence but appear not understand what it means. A copy of a document (Arabic) provided to children [during some interrogations](#) regarding their legal rights is included in **Annexure C**.

"The interrogator wore civilian clothes. He did not call a lawyer for me and told me I had to answer all his questions. He warned me if I refused to answer the questions and remained silent he was going to consider me guilty."

[YFAH](#) (16 years) - Huwwara interrogation centre, occupied West Bank - 11 February 2022



Sample of evidence: [MTMN](#), [YFAH](#), [MMSY](#), [DAIO](#), [FZIB](#), [ORMA](#), [AMYS](#), [JMHB](#), [THMI](#), [SMSY](#), [BAMI](#), [QIAR](#), [RAMO](#), [HALL](#).

P. Multiple interrogations and other features

4.43 UNICEF's recommendation (2013):

In all actions concerning children, the best interests of the child shall be the primary consideration.

- 4.44 Another interrogation technique disclosed by the evidence is the use of double interrogations. In general terms what happens is a child will first be interrogated by a man in civilian clothes. These interrogations tend to be coercive and the child will not be informed of his/her legal rights. The intention appears to be to conduct an unofficial interrogation with a view to obtaining a confession or at least to degrade the child's psychological ability to resist questioning. Once a confession has been obtained, or the child's will is degraded, the child will be taken to see another interrogator and told to repeat the confession, or to confess. The second interrogation is usually conducted by a [policeman](#) in uniform and recorded. The child will often be informed of his/her legal rights but is expected to confess or to repeat his/her earlier confession - failure to do so may result in being returned to the first interrogator. Only a record of the second interrogation is included in the military court file.
- 4.45 The process of arrest, transfer and interrogation is exhausting, with some children being interrogated in the middle of the [night](#). Children report being worn down and, in some cases, confessing simply in order to bring the [ordeal](#) to an end.

"On the seventh day I was taken into the informants' cell and I did not realise it at the time. I was with an older person who made me feel I could trust him. He took care of me and gave me the impression that he was on my side. He told me he was going to unite me with my relatives in prison. I trusted him and told him things I should not have told him. Then I was taken for another interrogation where I confessed because I had no choice."

[UIAA](#) (17 years) - Ofer interrogation centre, occupied West Bank - 14 February 2022

Sample of evidence: [AAIA](#), [UIAA](#), [AANE](#), [DAWA](#), [BAMI](#), [QIAR](#), [EENU](#).

Q. Recruitment of child informants / informants generally

4.46 UNICEF's recommendation (2013):

In all actions concerning children, the best interests of the child shall be the primary consideration.

4.47 Children are generally cautious about discussing attempts to recruit them as informants although some are forthcoming. It is difficult to estimate how widespread this issue is but estimates of [collaboration](#) rates provided to MCW by families in towns and villages across the occupied West Bank range from 20-60 percent. Whether these estimates are accurate or not, the fact that residents of these communities believe two, or possibly six out of 10 people in their community are collaborating, has a profound psychological impact on the residents. It should be noted that attempts to recruit children as informants potentially violates article 31 of the Fourth Geneva Convention and article 2 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Sample of evidence: [IKMT](#), [UIAA](#), [ORMA](#), [DAWA](#), [MJMY](#), [BIAH](#), [MIMA](#), [JHJK](#), [DHHZ](#), [FNDA](#).

"The interrogator did not inform me of my rights and did not ask me any questions about the incident. Instead, he asked me if I wanted to cooperate with them after my release. He told me he would help me and my life conditions would improve if I agreed to work with him."

[IKMT](#) (15 years) - Ofer prison, occupied West Bank - 10 January 2022

R. Documentation written in Hebrew

4.48 UNICEF's recommendations (2013):

- (i) All children shall be informed of the reasons for their arrest at the time of arrest and in a language they understand.
- (ii) The competent military authority shall, on its own initiative, notify the legal guardian or close family member of the child about the arrest, reasons for arrest and place of detention, as soon as possible after the arrest, and in Arabic.
- (iii) All children and their legal guardian or close family member should be provided with a written statement in Arabic informing them of their full legal rights while in custody.
- (iv) Copies of all relevant documentation, including arrest warrants and summons for questioning, should be provided to the child's legal guardian or close family member at the time of arrest or as soon as possible thereafter, and all documentation should be provided in Arabic.
- (v) At the commencement of each interrogation session, the child should be formally notified of his or her rights in Arabic.

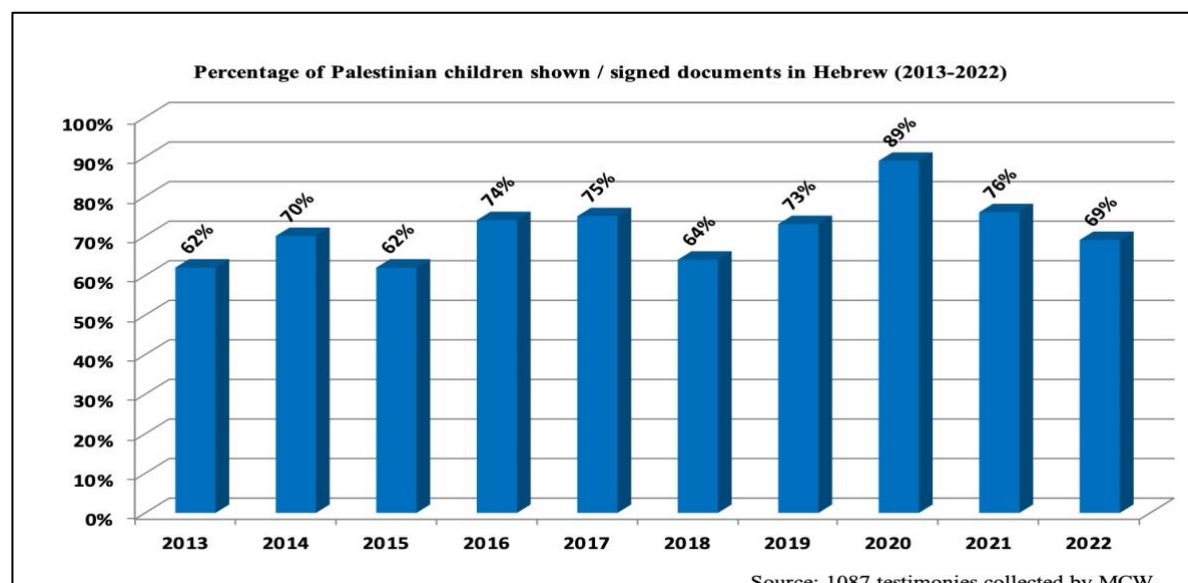
(vi) All confessions written in Hebrew and signed or adopted by a Palestinian child should be rejected as evidence in the military courts.

- 4.49 During the Reporting Period, **69 percent** of Palestinian children detained by the Israeli military in the occupied West Bank reported being shown, or made to sign, documentation written in Hebrew at some point during the investigation. These documents include: [summonses](#); [notification of arrest](#); and [statements](#), including [confessions](#), presented to the child at the conclusion of the interrogation. While interrogations are conducted in Arabic, a written record is made in Hebrew which is then generally shown to the child for signature. Some children [refuse to sign](#) while others sign acknowledging they [do not understand](#) the contents of the document and thought they [had to sign](#) or simply because they were [tired](#). Sometimes documentation is provided in [both Arabic and Hebrew](#). In some cases children ask for documents to be translated - the evidence indicates that these requests are met with both [positive](#) and [negative](#) responses. In some cases, children report interrogators verbally translating apparently innocuous Hebrew documents for them before signing, only to find out later that the document was a [confession](#). In other cases, children report signing documents in Hebrew that they do not understand "[because I could not care less](#)".

"After the interrogation I was taken to a small cell where I was left for about four hours. I slept for about an hour during this time because I was tired. Then a soldier woke me up and told me to sign a document written in Hebrew. When I asked him what it was he did not answer me. I signed because I was sleepy and tired and had no energy to resist. I later found out they made me sign a false confession."

[IMAR](#) (16 years) - Binyamin settlement, occupied West Bank - 4 November 2022

Sample of evidence: [IKMT](#), [FFMI](#), [YWAH](#), [FFMT](#), [YFAH](#), [UIAA](#), [MMSY](#), [SAMA](#), [DEJL](#), [MMML](#), [HAMQ](#), [MHMA](#), [LDMQ](#), [MKIZ](#), [URUR](#), [AMSG](#), [AANE](#), [AMHS](#), [MHAD](#), [YMAA](#), [ALAT](#), [DHHS](#), [AAAD](#), [AAAO](#), [MIMA](#), [FOAM](#), [MMSI](#), [DDLRL](#), [LBLA](#), [AEBJ](#), [EENU](#), [ZYIQ](#), [IMAR](#).



S. Release on bail

4.50 UNICEF's recommendations (2013):

- (i) Incarceration of children should always be a measure of last resort and for the shortest possible time. Except in extreme circumstances, release on bail should be the standard procedure.**
- (ii) Alternatives to detaining children should always be considered and encouraged, at both the pre-trial and post-sentencing stages of any judicial or military detention system.**
- (iii) All children in detention shall, within 24 hours of their arrest, have prompt and effective access to an independent judicial review of the legality of their arrest and detention.**
- (iv) The military courts should review every child's detention at least every two weeks, to ensure that detention is used only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest time possible; that the child is not being subjected to any form of ill treatment; and that the child is being granted access to relatives; a lawyer and a medical doctor.**
- (v) The conditions under which bail and plea bargains are granted should be revised to make them consistent with the Convention on the Rights of the Child.**
- (vi) State Parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child shall respect and ensure that the rights set forth in the Convention apply to each child within their jurisdiction without discrimination of any kind, irrespective of the child's or his or her parents' race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national, ethnic or social origin, property, disability, birth or other status.**

4.51 Under Israeli military law, a child's detention must be reviewed by a military judge within 24-72 hours of arrest for security offences, depending on age.²² The overwhelming majority of Palestinian children who appear in an Israeli military court in the occupied West Bank are denied bail and remanded in custody until the end of proceedings. Once bail is denied, the outcome of the proceedings is all but assured - for most children denied bail the quickest way out of the system is to accept a plea bargain. In the few cases where bail is granted, it is generally only done so after the child has already spent a significant period of time in detention. By way of contrast, Israeli children, including those living in settlements in the occupied West Bank, can expect to be released on bail in approximately 82 percent of cases.²³

Palestinian children released on bail in the military courts in the occupied West Bank

Year	% Children released on bail	Average time in detention before bailed	Source
2018	4%	n/a	Freedom of Information
2019	1%	n/a	Freedom of Information
2020	3%	80 days	MCW
2021	3%	53 days	MCW
2022	10%	44 days	MCW
Annual Average	4.2%	59 days	

"Two days later I was taken to a court in Jerusalem. The trip took more than six hours and I was not given my [diabetes] medicine. I was dizzy again because my blood sugar level went up. I nearly passed out. In all I had four court hearings. At my last hearing the military judge decided to release me on bail because of my health condition. He placed me under house arrest. My father had to pay NIS 3,000 bail and he had to provide a guarantor with an Israeli ID card. My father called a distant relative who lives in Beer Sabe' in the south of Israel and asked if he could do us this favour. Luckily, he agreed. The judge ordered that person to take to his house and told him he was not allowed to leave me alone in the house, not even to go to work. That person's life was turned upside down. He also had to come up with a large amount of bond money in case I violated my bail conditions ... The judge told me I was not allowed to be near settlers or even lay eyes on them, but that's impossible; the settlement is 200 meters away from our house and settlers pass by and harass us all the time."

[JAHA](#) (16 years) - Beit Iksa, occupied West Bank - 22 December 2022

Sample of evidence: [AAIA](#), [MKIZ](#), [IJIM](#), [JMHB](#), [AAAD](#), [AAAO](#), [TMTS](#), [JOMH](#), [AIAS](#), [NAHS](#), [JAHA](#).

T. Court proceedings, conviction rate and custodial sentences

4.52 UNICEF's recommendations (2013):

- (i) Children should only be deprived of their liberty as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time.**
- (ii) Alternatives to detaining children should always be considered and encouraged, at both the pre-trial and post-sentencing stages of any judicial or military detention system.**
- (iii) Children in conflict with the law should be channelled away from judicial proceedings through the development and implementation of procedures or programmes that enable many - possibly most - to avoid the potential negative**

effects of formal judicial proceedings, provided that human rights and legal safeguards are fully respected.

- 4.53 Under Israeli military law, a child must be brought before a military judge within 24-72 hours of arrest.²⁴ Frequently, it is during these interlocutory hearings that the child will meet his/her lawyer for the first time. Generally parents do not attend the first hearing as most are [not informed](#) of the court appearance. During the initial hearings, an application for bail will usually be made, and in some cases, the prosecution will request additional time for further interrogation. While every child will ultimately have legal representation, the military authorities provide no legal aid in security cases. Accordingly, legal representation is generally provided by the Palestinian Authority, NGOs or private lawyers - typically funded by foreign donors or the child's family - not Israeli tax payers.
- 4.54 Military court proceedings are conducted in Hebrew, with intermittent translation of varying degrees of quality provided. It is not uncommon for children to report having little or no understanding of what occurs in court. Once a child is denied bail, the best option is to [plead guilty](#) in order to receive a reduced sentence. There will usually be multiple interlocutory hearings before a plea bargain is concluded and some children report being [exhausted](#) by the frequent journeys from prisons inside Israel to military courts in the occupied West Bank. Almost all sentences comprise three parts: a [custodial sentence](#); a [suspended sentence](#); and a [fine](#). Alternatives to custodial sentences are rare. Children also report being [suspicious](#) of the court appointed welfare officer.

Conviction rates in the military courts in the occupied West Bank

Year	Conviction rates	Source
2010	99%	Freedom of Information
n/a	n/a	n/a
2014	98%	Freedom of Information
2015	95%	Freedom of Information
n/a	n/a	n/a
2018	98%	Freedom of Information
2019	99%	Freedom of Information
2020	99%	Freedom of Information
2021	n/a	n/a
2022	n/a	n/a
Annual Average	98%	-

"I met with a welfare officer based on a recommendation of the military court. She was young and did not speak Arabic. She asked me questions about my family and what I did with my life. I answered all her questions. But then she started to ask me questions about the incident I was accused of taking part in. At that point I refused to answer her questions. She was upset and reported me. Then a lawyer, who happened to be there, told her I was not obliged to answer questions about the incident."

[JMHB](#) (15 years) - Ofer prison, occupied West Bank - 6 June 2022

Sample of evidence: [JMHB](#), [JBJD](#), [FFMI](#).

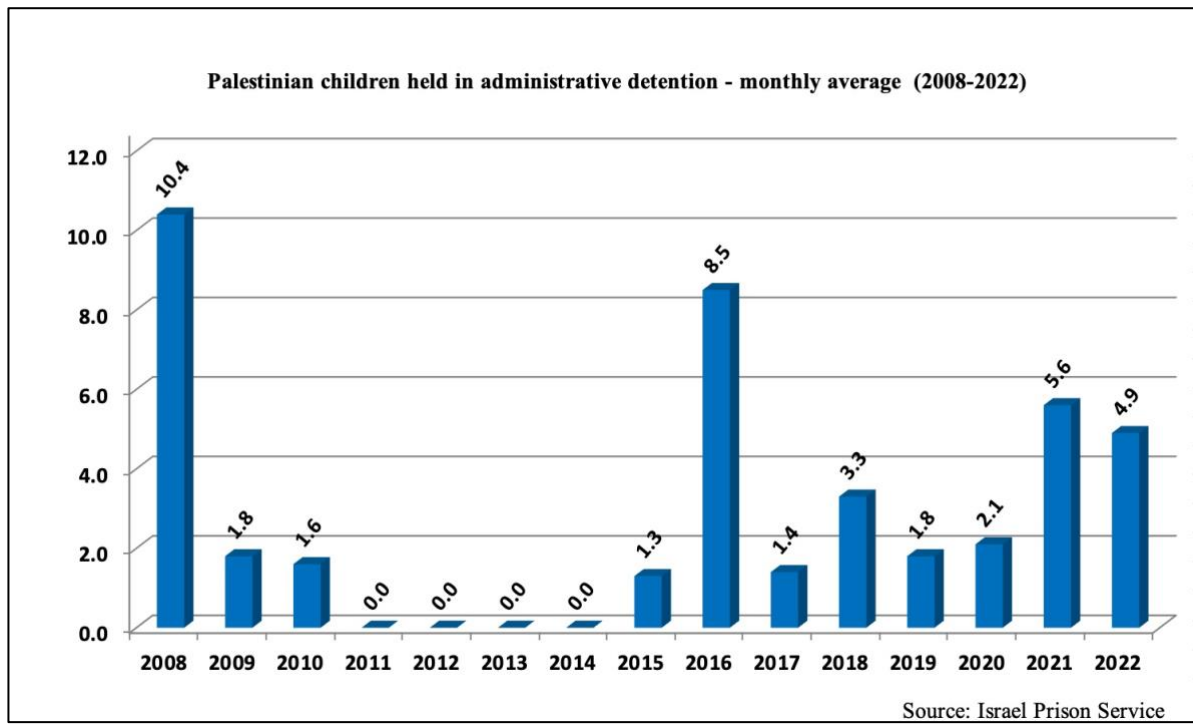
U. Administrative detention

4.55 UNICEF's recommendation (2013):

- (i) In all actions concerning children, the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration.**
- (ii) Children should only be deprived of their liberty as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time.**

4.56 Administrative detention is a procedure whereby an Israeli military commander in the occupied West Bank issues an order detaining an individual for up to six months at a time, without charge or trial, based on secret evidence. The UN Committee Against Torture has criticised Israel's extensive use of this procedure, which in certain circumstances can amount to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.²⁵

4.57 During the Reporting Period, up to 7 children were held in administrative detention at any one time.²⁶ It is relevant to note that between 2011 and 2014, there was a four-year hiatus in the use of administrative detention orders for children - suggesting that it is possible for the military authorities in the occupied West Bank to achieve their objectives without resorting to detaining children without charge or trial.



"I had five court hearings in all. At the fifth one I was handed an administrative detention order for four months based on secret evidence. I was devastated because it meant I could not defend myself because I was not told what I was accused of. A day before I completed my administrative detention and was ready to go home I was handed another administrative detention order for another four months. My spirit was crushed. Then again, 10 days before I completed my second four months in administrative detention I was handed another four-month extension. It was unbearable."

[NBUU](#) (17 years) - Qabatiya, occupied West Bank - 13 March 2022

Sample of evidence: [NBUU](#), [IAMO](#), [BIAH](#).

V. Education in prison

4.58 UNICEF's recommendation (2013):

In all actions concerning children, the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration.

4.59 During the Reporting Period, education opportunities for Palestinian children inside IPS facilities remained limited. Where education is available, it is generally restricted to Arabic, Hebrew and Mathematics, with a prohibition on teaching history, geography and the sciences based on "security considerations". When education is available, it is insufficient to ensure the child's smooth reintegration back into the Palestinian school system with the result that children frequently drop out of school after release.

"I spent all my prison sentence at Ofer where I attended classes in Arabic, Hebrew and Mathematics. The lessons were not useful because the level was very basic. I was a good student before I was arrested and was hoping to get a good average in my high school exams, now I'm not sure ... The prison authorities did not give me back my school bag which I had when I was arrested. All my books and school supplies were in it. To replace them I would need at least NIS 800."

[DDLRL](#) (17 years) - Hebron, occupied West Bank - 17 October 2022

Sample of evidence: [FFMT](#), [MTMN](#), [UIAA](#), [MMSY](#), [DAIO](#), [AFAZ](#), [DDLRL](#), [ZYIQ](#), [RAMO](#).

W. Family contact in prison

4.60 UNICEF's recommendation (2013):

- (i) **Whenever a child is detained, the right of family members to visit should be fully respected. All necessary measures should be taken to ensure that the administrative procedures in support of family visits, including all necessary permits, are promptly facilitated no later than 14 days after arrest.**
- (ii) **All children should be entitled to regular telephone communications with their families in order to maintain close social relations.**

- 4.61 Under Israel Prison Service (IPS) regulations children are entitled to a family visit (two persons) every two weeks of 45 minutes duration with no contact. These visits are facilitated by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). Some family visits are denied on "security grounds" or because the bureaucracy for obtaining permits can take up to [2-3 months](#). In some cases parents only receive the permit to visit their child in prison in Israel after the child has been released. In other cases children have no [family visits](#) or phone calls but do not know why. In some cases children ask their parents not to visit because they do not want to "[hassle](#)" them because it is a long and tiring trip to visit prisons in Israel from the occupied West Bank. In some cases children are denied family visits as a [punishment](#).
- 4.62 Following the cancellation of family visits to prisons during the Covid-19 pandemic, most prisons introduced monitored telephones which children could use to contact their parents. Depending on the prison, phone communication is generally permitted every [two weeks](#). However, this does vary from prison to prison and within [each prison](#), for no obvious reason. One boy reported that the prison authorities told his parents to [call back](#) so that they would pay for the call. Once the minor turns 18 telephone communication is [no longer permitted](#).

"I spent three months at Ofer and then I was transferred to Megiddo prison, inside Israel, where I spent my remaining time. I did not have any family visits because the permit for my parents to visit me was not issued in time. I was allowed to call home from a phone provided by the prison authorities once every two weeks, although sometimes the calls were more than two weeks apart."

[HDHD](#) (16 years) - Megiddo prison, Israel - 1 April 2022

Sample of evidence: [IKMT](#), [YFAH](#), [MMSY](#), [SAMA](#), [MIMQ](#), [HAMQ](#), [FAFI](#), [NBUU](#), [MKIZ](#), [MMAU](#), [KMMS](#), [HDHD](#), [AANF](#), [SRHB](#), [DAWA](#), [JMHB](#), [AAAO](#), [MIMA](#), [MMSI](#), [JMJH](#), [JHJK](#), [DDLRL](#), [QIAR](#), [EENU](#), [BAOA](#), [DADQ](#), [YAMS](#).

X. Going home

- 4.63 In some cases parents are not notified by the authorities of the exact date of their child's release. The child is simply dropped off at a military checkpoint and must find his/her own way home following release from prison. In cases where parents are informed, it is not

uncommon for the authorities to give them an [incorrect checkpoint](#) as the place for release - sometimes far away from the checkpoint where the child is waiting. In some cases involving short-term detentions of less than a day or so, the army simply abandons children at night on the side of a road while still tied, kilometers from home.

"I was released at Al Jib checkpoint on 23 May 2022, but my parents were told to wait by Ofer gate. They waited a long time and then got fed up and went home. I took a taxi and went home by myself. I arrived home at around 2:00 a.m."

[HAMQ](#) (17 years) - Ofer prison, occupied West Bank - 7 March 2022

- 4.64 The impact on children held in Israeli military detention is far-reaching. Many drop out of school - either due to falling far behind due to the inadequate level of education in prison, or because they are mistrustful of the children around them, or are themselves suspected of having been recruited as informants. However, there is one common thread through many of the testimonies which also sheds light on the military thinking behind this system - many children leave prison introverted and terrified of the army that implements Israel's 55-year old occupation and settlement policy.

"I have dropped out of school because my school is close to the by-pass road used by settlers and clashes with settlers and soldiers occur almost on a daily basis."

[MHMA](#) (16 years) - Al Khader, occupied West Bank - 7 March 2022

Sample of evidence: [AAIA](#), [YFAH](#), [HAMQ](#), [MHMA](#), [ALAT](#), [DHHZ](#).

5. Solitary confinement

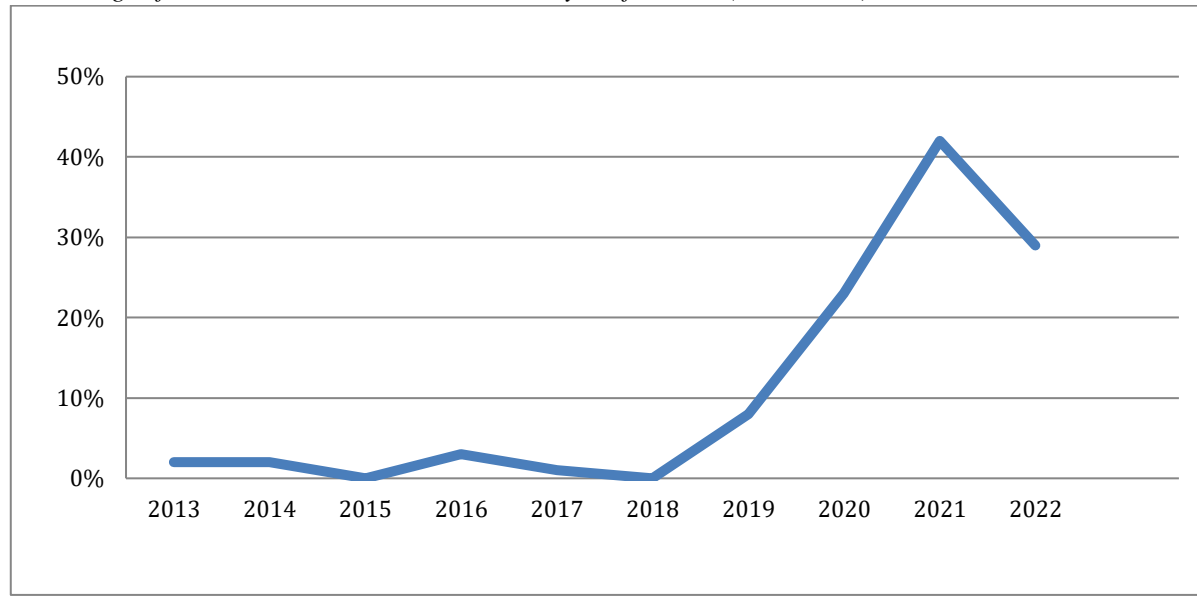
- 5.1 It is well [documented](#) that placing individuals, particularly children, in solitary confinement will have devastating psychological and physical consequences. Further, experience has shown that individuals, especially children, are prone to say, and do, almost anything to escape isolation. These findings prompted the UN and others to state that placing children in solitary confinement, of any duration, amounts to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment in violation of the UN Convention Against Torture and other well-known international instruments, and may also amount to torture in some circumstances.²⁷

UNICEF's recommendation (2013):

In no circumstances whatsoever should a child be held in solitary confinement.

- 5.2 During the Reporting Period, **29 percent** of Palestinian children detained by the Israeli military in the occupied West Bank reported being held in solitary confinement as part of their interrogation. It should be noted that prior to being held in solitary confinement these children also experienced some version of the treatment described above. Of the children held in solitary confinement, **100 percent** were males with an average age of **16.3 years**. The average period of time in solitary confinement was **16.4 days** - with the longest period being **45 days**. (**Annexure D**).

Percentage of Palestinian children held in solitary confinement (2013-2022)



- 5.3 The evidence does not explain why there has been a sharp increase in the use of solitary confinement since 2019, although it is worth repeating that children will say, and do almost anything to escape isolation - from providing confessional evidence to more general information about people in their communities. Any confessional evidence obtained from a child held in solitary confinement is inherently unreliable.

A. Location of interrogation facilities

- 5.4 The majority of children held in solitary confinement (**59 percent**) were held in facilities located inside Israel - most commonly at: [Al Jalama](#) (Haifa), [Al Mascobiye](#) (West Jerusalem) and [Petah Tikva](#). This is significant because the transfer and detention of these children outside the occupied West Bank is in violation of international law prohibiting the transfer of protected persons, including detainees, from occupied territory (See paragraph 6 below). The remaining children were held in solitary confinement in facilities located in military bases and police stations inside illegal settlements in the occupied West Bank - most commonly at: [Huwara military base](#) (near Nablus); [Binyamin settlement](#) (near Ramallah); [Etzion settlement](#) (near Bethlehem); and [Ofer](#) (near Ramallah). (**Annexure E**)

"Once outside I was taken to the back of a military jeep and forced to lay on the metal floor face down. The dog was on top of me. I was taken to the nearby settlement of Dotan where I was left in a laundry room for a couple of hours. A soldier slapped me and showed me a photograph of someone holding a gun. He told me the person holding the gun was me. I denied it was me. Then a doctor examined me. Then one of the soldiers told me he was going to "take me to hell" and then to Al Jalama interrogation centre. Then I was taken to Al Jalama, inside Israel. I was put in a small cell underground where I spent 70 days."

[DHHZ](#) (17 years) - Al Jalama interrogation centre, Israel - 15 November 2022

Sample of evidence: [MMSY](#), [SAMA](#), [SYMA](#), [IJIM](#), [AMHS](#), [HHMA](#), [DAWA](#), [MMMS](#), [NLNH](#), [THMI](#), [ZMHM](#), [JHJK](#), [AEBJ](#), [BAOA](#), [DHHZ](#), [HALL](#).

B. The cell

- 5.5 The children held in solitary confinement variously describe their cell as "[very small](#)", "[the size of a small bathroom](#)" or "[tiny](#)" - some children describe the cell as "[suffocating](#)". The dimensions of these cells vary in size with estimates ranging from [1 x 1 meters](#) up to [3 x 3 meters](#). The description of the cells provided by children bare a remarkable similarity to those documented by B'Tselem, over 30 years ago:

*"During interrogation, suspects are placed in solitary confinement in the 'Tzinok' (isolation cell) which is a small cell similar to isolation cells in other wings in prisons, and in two other much smaller cells: i) The Closet: this is a very small cell, in some prisons 1 x 1 meters, in others a smaller size, very dark and almost completely closed."*²⁸

"The cell measured about 1 x 1.5 metres and had dark rough walls which I could not lean against. It had a window but it was shut and covered the whole time. I could not tell whether it was day or night except when they woke me up and gave me my breakfast. The weather was cold and I was not given any blankets. I was cold the whole time and found it hard to cope especially in the beginning. Then I told myself I had no choice but to accept the situation I was in."

[YWAH](#) (17 years) - Huwwara military base, occupied West Bank - 21 January 2022

Sample of evidence: [AAIA](#), [YWAH](#), [UIAA](#), [SAMA](#), [UYAM](#), [JMDZ](#), [AMHS](#), [HHMA](#), [DAWA](#), [MJMY](#), [ZMHM](#), [AFAI](#), [JHJK](#).

C. Physical conditions

- 5.6 Most of the cells used to hold children in solitary confinement share a number of common features, in addition to being very small - suggesting that a significant degree of thought has gone into developing this system. In some interrogation centers, such as Al Jalama, the cells are underground. Most cells are either [without windows](#), or have very small windows which are often [covered](#) - the result is that most children cannot distinguish [day](#) from [night](#), contributing to their disorientation and distress. The cells are often painted black or are "[dark](#)" with a [rough surface](#) - preventing the child from [leaning](#) against the walls, as well as being depressing. Bedding is often described as [inadequate](#) or simply [absent](#). Toilets, where present, are often described as "[an open sewer](#)" - one boy describing how [excrement](#) from another cell seeped under the door to his cell. In some cases children are denied [showers](#) for extended periods. Sometimes there is the constant [sound](#) of loud machinery, such as a [ventilator](#), and in other cases the cells are kept uncomfortably [cold](#). Some cells are monitored by [CCTV](#) so children have no privacy - even when using the toilet. Other cells appear infested with [mosquitoes](#) or [cockroaches](#).

"The cell measured about 1x1 metres. I could barely sleep because my feet touched the walls at one end and my head touched the toilet at the other end. The light was left on 24 hours and the air conditioner was very cold. There were no windows and I could not tell day from night. I was stressed and thought of my family the whole time. I prayed and I was desperate to get out. During the 25 days in solitary confinement I was interrogated every day except Fridays and Saturdays, starting on the day I arrived."

[JMDZ](#) (17 years) - Ofer prison, occupied West Bank - 25 April 2022

Sample of evidence: [AAIA](#), [UYAM](#), [IAMO](#), [IJIM](#), [HHMA](#), [DAWA](#), [MMMS](#), [NLNH](#), [MJMY](#), [MAAF](#), [JHJK](#), [BAOA](#), [DHHZ](#), [HALL](#).

D. Sleep deprivation

- 5.7 The cells are generally lit by either a "[bright light](#)", a "[dim light](#)", or a "[flickering dim light](#)" which is controlled from [outside](#) the cell and which is often left on [24 hours](#) a day. In other cases, lights are turned off leaving the child in [the dark](#). The impact of holding children in artificially lit cells for days on end can be profound with some children describe being driven "crazy". As a result, children find it difficult to sleep resulting in severe sleep deprivation, [distress](#) and [exhaustion](#). In other cases, children report that the guards [deliberately kept them awake](#) every time they fell asleep. And in some cases children report being unable to sleep simply because the cell was [too small](#).

"The first cell I was kept in measured about 2 x 2 metres and did not have any windows. A light was left on 24 hours and I did not see natural light during my time there. I found it hard to fall asleep. I covered my head with a blanket in order to fall asleep. The walls were covered with rough concrete and I could not lean my head against the wall to rest. I spent 15 days in this cell and I was interrogated daily."

[ZMH](#) (16 years) - Al Jalama interrogation centre, Israel - 3 August 2022

Sample of evidence: [AAIA](#), [UIAA](#), [MMSY](#), [SAMA](#), [SYMA](#), [AMSG](#), [ORMA](#), [JMDZ](#), [THMI](#), [ZMH](#), [JHJK](#), [BAOA](#), [DHHZ](#), [FNDA](#).

E. Interrogation

- 5.8 It is in these circumstances that children are then subjected to multiple interrogations. In most cases where children are held in solitary confinement they are interrogated by intelligence officers. In some cases the right to consult with a lawyer is suspended or [ignored](#), while in other cases children are not informed of their [right to silence](#). In almost every case the children are [sleep deprived](#), [exhausted](#), [distressed](#) and alone. Children frequently report being interrogated [multiple times](#) in one day, over the course of [days](#) or [weeks](#) while being held in isolation. The [interrogations](#) are also often [harsh](#) in [nature](#), combining [threats](#), [intimidation](#) and sometimes [violence](#). In the end many children [confess](#) simply in order to [bring an end](#) to the ordeal - confessions that are inherently unreliable but which are routinely used to secure a conviction.

"I was taken to a small cell where I spent 14 days in solitary confinement. The cell measured about 2 x 2 metres, with no windows and a dim light which was left on 24 hours. During the first seven days I was interrogated around the clock, almost non-stop. I was sleep deprived and exhausted, physically and mentally. Those seven days were the worst in my entire life. I was in deep distress and I banged my head against the small opening in the door to attract attention ... I told the guard I was going to kill myself if they did not let me out of solitary confinement."

[UIAA](#) (17 years) - Ofer prison, occupied West Bank - 14 February 2022

Sample of evidence: [AAIA](#), [UIAA](#), [SAMA](#), [SYMA](#), [ORMA](#), [JMDZ](#), [HHMA](#), [MMMS](#), [NLNH](#), [ZMH](#), [JHJK](#), [AEBJ](#), [DHHZ](#).

F. Collaborator's cell

- 5.9 A common interrogation technique used in tandem with solitary confinement is the use of collaborators' cells. This technique involves removing the child from isolation and moving him to another cell with adult detainees and better conditions - the child now believes his

interrogation is over and he is in the general prison population. Unbeknownst to the child, the other "[detainees](#)" are in fact collaborating with the intelligence service. The collaborator(s) seek to win the child's [trust](#) and get him to [divulge](#) further [information](#) - which is recorded. The child will then be taken back to solitary confinement and interrogation - only now comprehending what has just occurred. In other cases a "detainee" is brought in to share the child's cell. In some cases children report being [suspicious](#) of their new cell mates who tend to be overly inquisitive.

"After I signed the statement I was sent to a cell with other detainees. At the time I thought I was done with interrogations and did not realise that the other detainees were informants. They were very friendly to me and I trusted them. By the end of the day I told them things I should not have. Later I was taken back to solitary confinement and was interrogated again multiple times."

[JHJK](#) (17 years) - Al Jalama interrogation centre, Israel - 16 October 2022

Sample of evidence: [UIAA](#), [DAWA](#), [MJMY](#), [JHJK](#), [DHHZ](#).

G. Impact

- 5.10 The impact on children placed in solitary confinement is profound, with some engaging in [self harm](#) and [suicide attempts](#). The words used by children to describe their experiences include: "[I felt exhausted and lethargic](#)"; "[depressed](#)"; "[deep distress](#)"; "[I felt I was suffocating](#)"; "[I was going crazy](#)"; "[I felt humiliated and my spirits were crushed](#)"; "[I was in a terrible situation](#)"; "[I was physically and mentally drained](#)"; "[I felt psychologically handicapped and lost my appetite](#)"; "[mentally on the verge of collapse](#)"; "[I felt I no longer wanted to live](#)"; "[I wanted to kill myself](#)"; and "[I was desperate to get out](#)".

"The cell measured about 2x1 metres and had a bunk bed and a toilet all in this small space. There was no space to walk around, I just sat on the bed the whole time. There was a small window and I could not tell day from night but I felt I was suffocating and lonely. I started to talk to myself... I felt I was psychologically handicapped after a few days and I lost my appetite. I lost hope and started to think of ways to commit suicide. It was tough."

[AMHS](#) (16 years) - Offek prison, Israel - 29 April 2022

Sample of evidence: [AAIA](#), [FFMI](#), [UIAA](#), [SAMA](#), [SYMA](#), [IAMO](#), [ORMA](#), [JMDZ](#), [AMHS](#), [HHMA](#), [DAWA](#), [MMMS](#), [JHJK](#), [BAOA](#), [DHHZ](#), [HALL](#).

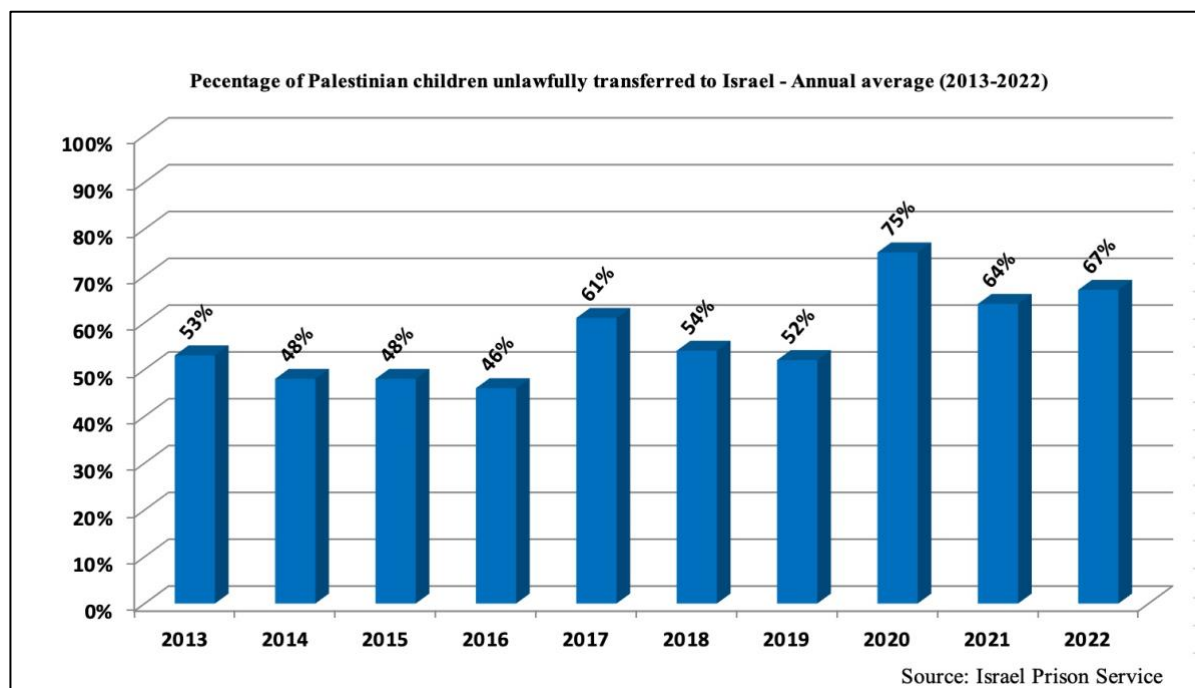
6. Unlawful transfer of children

6.1 Shortly after June 1967, Israel commenced transferring Palestinian detainees, including children, from the occupied West Bank to prisons and interrogation facilities located inside Israel. The transfer of protected persons, including detainees, from occupied territory is classified as a war crime under the Fourth Geneva Convention.²⁹ The unlawful transfer of Palestinian children from the occupied West Bank has been noted by, *inter alia*, the UN General Secretary, the US State Department and UNICEF.³⁰ Further, the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court has been in receipt of irrefutable evidence relating to this issue since 16 March 2015.

6.2 UNICEF's recommendation (2013):

In accordance with international law, all Palestinian children detained in the Israeli military detention system shall be held in facilities located in the occupied Palestinian territory.

6.3 According to data provided by the Israel Prison Service (IPS), the national detention authority of Israel,³¹ **67 percent** of Palestinian child detainees from the occupied West Bank were unlawfully transferred and detained inside Israel during the Reporting Period, or between 469 - 670 children.³² The evidence indicates that many of these children are subjected to treatment in violation of the UN Convention Against Torture before, during and after transfer, including periods in solitary confinement in interrogation centres inside Israel. A full list of transfer cases documented by MCW during the Reporting Period is included in **Annexure E**.



- **Number of children affected annually:**³³ **399 - 570 children**
- **Number of children affected since June 1967:** **21,945 - 31,350 children**

- 6.4 Israel's practice of transferring protected persons from the occupied West Bank to prisons located inside Israel has been challenged on two occasions in the Israeli Supreme Court, sitting as the High Court of Justice (the High Court). The practice was first challenged in the High Court in the Sejadia Case (1988) and more recently in the [Yesh Din Case](#) (2010). In both cases the High Court rejected the petitions based on the primacy of Israeli domestic law over provisions of international law where the two are in direct conflict. This position is without merit under international law by virtue of [Article 27](#) of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties, reflecting customary international law ([Lagrand Case](#)).
- 6.5 The absence of a domestic remedy was also confirmed by the military prosecutor appointed by Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs to liaise with UNICEF on issues relating to Palestinian child detainees. In response to UNICEF's concerns regarding the unlawful transfer of Palestinian children out of the occupied West Bank, the UN agency was informed by the prosecutor in 2015: "that no further action will be taken" in regards to this issue.³⁴

7. A link between child detention and illegal settlements

- 7.1 As in previous years the evidence collected by MCW suggests a strong geographic link between illegal Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank and the detention of Palestinian children living in close proximity. Out of 100 testimonies collected by MCW in 2022, **95 percent** of the children detained live within several kilometres of a settlement (or associated infrastructure) built in violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention. In the remaining 5 percent of cases the children were detained in close proximity to the Wall, military checkpoints or in Area A. Simply put, in order to safeguard half-a-million Israeli settlers living in occupied territory (excluding East Jerusalem), Palestinian communities adjacent to the settlements are subjected to a heavy military presence, inevitably resulting in friction, generational resentment and detention.
- 7.2 Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank also play a key logistical role in the detention of children, acting as staging posts for military raids on Palestinian villages, hosting military bases, police stations, interrogation and detention centres, or simply acting as convenient places to leave children until it is logistically convenient to process them onwards through the system. Evidence included in this report confirms that abuse at these locations is prevalent. These settlements include, but are not limited to: [Atarot](#), [Beit El](#), [Binyamin](#), [Dotan](#), [Etzion](#), [Hagai](#), [Huwara](#), [Karmi Shomron](#), [Karmi Zur](#), [Kiryat Arba](#), [Ma'aleh Adumim](#), [Maccabim](#), [Modi'in Illit](#), [Nilli](#), [Ofra](#), [Pesagot](#), [Qedumim](#), [Shave Shomron](#) and [Zufin](#).

8. Unlawful discrimination

- 8.1 Since 1967, Israel has exercised penal jurisdiction over both Palestinians and Israeli settlers living in the West Bank. Although Israeli military law technically applies to all individuals in the West Bank, in practice, the authorities apply civilian law to settlers and military law to Palestinians at the discretion of the prosecutor. The military law applied to Palestinians,

including children, has fewer rights and protections than the civilian law applied to Israeli settlers living in the same territory.

- 8.2 Under international law, no state is entitled to discriminate between those over whom it exercises penal jurisdiction on the basis of their race or nationality. The reasoning being that unequal or differential justice is not justice. It is on this basis that the Lawyers' Report recommended that: "Israel should not discriminate between those children over whom it exercises penal jurisdiction. Military law and public administration should deal with Palestinian children on an equal footing with Israeli children."
- 8.3 In most conflict situations the issue of unlawful discrimination does not arise. However, in the context of Israel's occupation of Palestinian territory, the issue of unlawful discrimination has arisen as a direct consequence of Israeli settlement activity in occupied territory. Whilst there is no serious dispute that Israel's settlements are illegal, there is also no lawful justification upon which Israel can discriminate between persons over whom it exercises penal jurisdiction in the West Bank.
- 8.4 Although Israel is not permitted to apply its civilian law to Palestinians in the occupied West Bank on the grounds that this would be tantamount to unlawful annexation, the laws that are applied should contain rights and protections no less favourable than those applied to Israelis living in the settlements. Failure to do so violates the principle of non-discrimination.
- 8.5 Some of the key differences between the two legal systems relating to children are included in the following table. The information includes changes introduced following the introduction of Military Order 1798 in April 2018. It is relevant to note that the primary time periods under the new amendments remain unchanged (with one exception) while the extension periods to the initial times have been reduced. This table should be read with reference to the Endnotes.

#	Description	Civilian law ³⁵		Military law	
1	Age of majority	18 yrs		16-18 yrs ³⁶	
2	Prohibition against night-time interrogation.	Yes ³⁷		No	
3	Legal right to have a parent present during interrogation.	Yes ³⁸		No	
4	Maximum period of detention before being brought before a judge.	12-13 yrs	12 hrs ³⁹	12-13 yrs	24 hrs ⁴⁰
		14-17 yrs	24 hrs ⁴¹	14-15 yrs	48 hrs ⁴²
				16-17 yrs	72 hrs ⁴³
5	Maximum period of detention without access to a lawyer	48 hrs ⁴⁴		96 hrs ⁴⁵	
6	Maximum period of detention prior to indictment.	10 days ⁴⁶		15 days ⁴⁷	
7	Maximum period of detention between indictment and conclusion of trial.	6 months		9 months ⁴⁸	

9. Domestic and international accountability

- 9.1 In May 2016, the Israeli rights group B'Tselem [announced](#) that after 25 years it would no longer submit complaints on behalf of Palestinians using the military's complaint mechanisms due to a lack of confidence in the system's ability to provide accountability. During the course of 25 years, B'Tselem submitted 739 complaints in which it was alleged that soldiers killed, injured or beat Palestinians, used them as human shields or damaged their property. In **2 percent** of these cases a soldier was disciplined.
- 9.2 In 2022, the Israeli rights group The Public Committee Against Torture in Israel (PCATI) released [data](#) on accountability arising out of alleged torture by the Israel Security Agency (ISA) on Palestinian detainees during interrogation. According to this data over 1,400 complaints have been submitted to the Ministry of Justice since 2001 resulting in just 3 criminal investigations resulting in no indictments - an investigation rate of **0.2 percent**. The average time it took to process a complaint was **44 months**.
- 9.3 In December 2022, the Israeli rights group Yesh Din released [data](#) on accountability arising out of alleged wrongdoing by Israeli soldiers against Palestinians covering the period 2017-2021. According to this data nearly **79 percent** of complaints were not investigated, and the complaints that were had just a **0.87 percent** chance of culminating in an indictment.
- 9.4 Numerous binding UN Security Council resolutions; an advisory opinion from the International Court of Justice; and internal Israeli government legal advice have all confirmed the illegality of Israel's settlement project in the occupied West Bank - a driving influence behind child detention.⁴⁹ However, while the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court opened a preliminary investigation into the situation in Palestine in January 2015, and following confirmation of jurisdiction, a [formal investigation](#) in March 2021, there is yet to be a single indictment, giving rise to a [perception](#) that the Court has been politicised and undermining confidence in a viable rules based order.

10. Recent developments

- 10.1 **High Court petition reveals no substantive reduction in night arrests of children** - A pilot study to issue written summons in lieu of arresting Palestinian children from the occupied West Bank at night was [introduced](#) in 2014 following widespread [criticism](#) of this traumatic practice. By 2020 the study was largely defunct and in November a [petition](#) was filed to reinstate the use of summonses. In July 2021, the State responded that new classified procedures had been formulated regarding night arrests. In February 2022, evidence submitted to the Court by the State, and subsequent evidence, indicated limited use of summonses and a continuation of the practice of arresting children in night-time military raids.
- 10.2 **US State Department's annual report on human rights** - In March 2023, the US State Department published its annual country [report](#) on human rights for 2022. The Report is mandated by Congress and documents human rights conditions in 200 countries including

Israel/Palestine. The report again confirmed that Israel applies two legal systems in the occupied West Bank depending on whether a person is Palestinian (military law) or an Israeli settler (civilian law). The report also noted that the overwhelming majority of Palestinian child detainees reported physical abuse and denial of legal rights following arrest and 67 percent were unlawfully transferred from the occupied West Bank to prisons in Israel.

- 10.3 **UN Secretary-General's Annual Report on Children in Armed Conflict** – In June 2023, the UN Secretary-General published his annual [report](#) for 2022. In relation to Palestinian children held in Israeli detention the report notes that: "the UN verified the detention of 852 Palestinian children for alleged security offences by Israeli forces in the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem (527), including 17 held under administrative detention. The United Nations received the testimonies of 82 children who reported ill-treatment by Israeli forces while in detention." In previous [reports](#) the Secretary-General also noted the unlawful transfer of Palestinian child detainees in violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention.
- 10.4 **Military courts update information sheet** - In September 2022, the "Military Courts Unit (Judea and Samaria)" updated the [information sheet](#) distributed to observers visiting Ofer military court. The information sheet continues to base the legal foundation for Israel's military courts on [Article 66](#) of the Fourth Geneva Convention. This is consistent with the terms of the original military order (No. 3) which established these courts on 7 June 1967. It will be recalled that [Article 49](#) of the same Convention prohibits settlement construction in the occupied West Bank and [Article 76](#) prohibits the transfer of Palestinian detainees, including children, to interrogation facilities and prisons located inside Israel (**Annexure F**).
- 10.5 **Israel bans outside observation of military court hearings involving children** - Public access to hearings involving minors in the military courts was generally permitted, subject to the consent of the child's parents. This position was reflected in [information sheets](#) distributed by the military authorities which stated that: "As a matter of policy, people who are not direct family members of the defendant can be present as long as the minor and his family agree." In December 2019, the information sheet was [amended](#) to provide the judge with a discretion to exclude outside observations "in the best interests of the child". In September 2022 this discretion was [removed](#) and outside observation of hearings are now [banned](#).

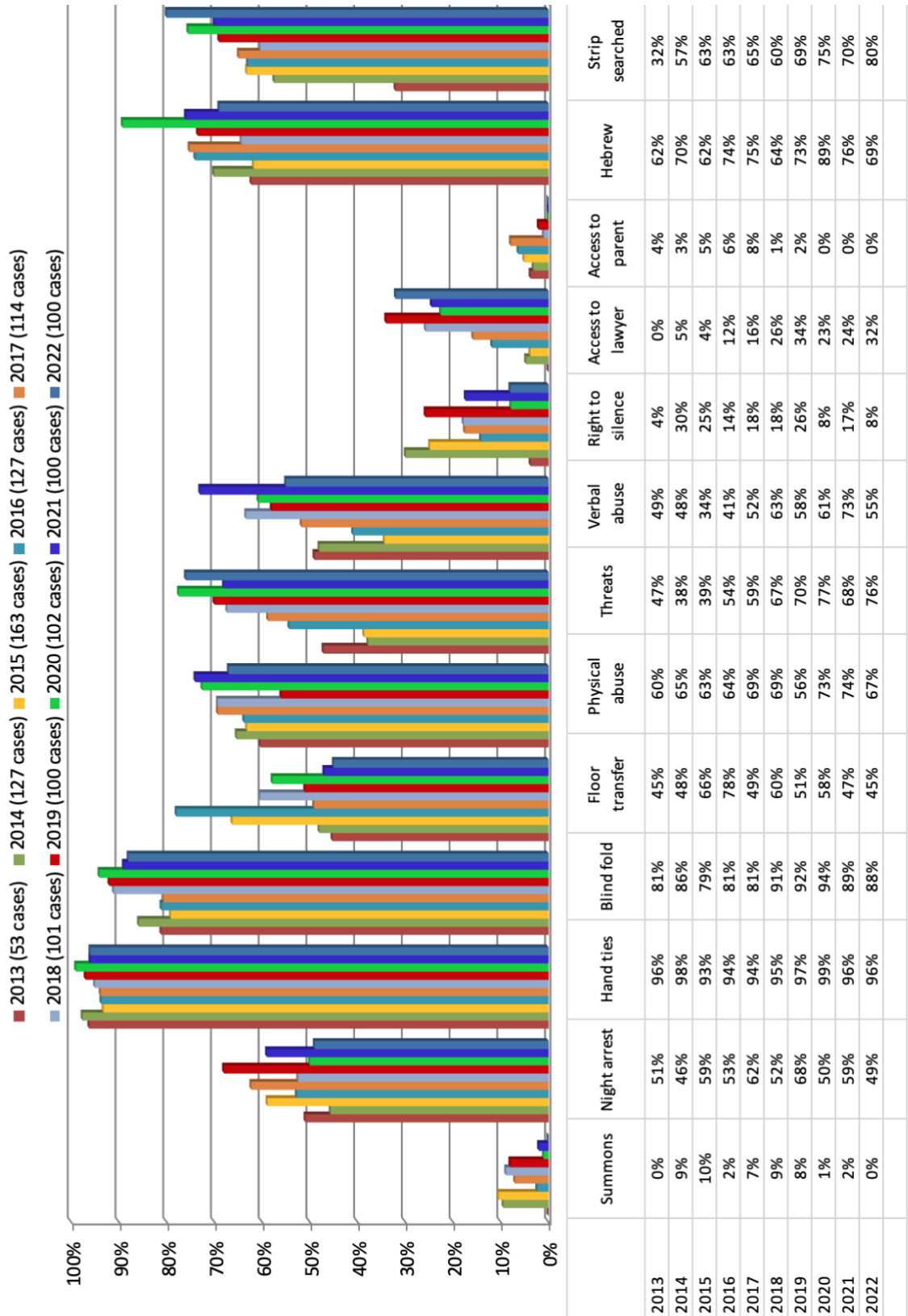
11. Recommendations

11.1 MCW continues to advocate for the effective implementation of six non-severable recommendations. The recommendations, and progress in their implementation, are presented in the following table.

#	Recommendation	Comments
1	Children should only be arrested during daylight hours except in rare and exceptional circumstances. In all other cases summonses should be used.	In 2022, 49 percent of children reported being arrested at night. No reports of written summonses being issued in lieu of a night arrest were received.
2	All children, and their legal guardians, should be provided on arrest with a written statement in Arabic informing them of their full legal rights in custody.	In 2022, a form was distributed in 35 percent of cases where children were arrested from home but this form does not include information about the child's legal rights while in custody.
3	All children must consult with a lawyer of their choice prior to questioning.	In 2022, 32 percent of children reported being permitted to consult with a lawyer prior to their interrogation in accordance with their right under military law.
4	All children must be accompanied by a family member throughout their questioning.	In 2022, no children reported being accompanied by a parent during interrogation in accordance with a discretion permitted under military law.
5	Every interrogation must be audio-visually recorded and a copy of the tape must be provided to the defence prior to the first hearing.	In 2022 there was no requirement for audio-visual recording of interrogations in "security offences" involving minors in the West Bank. In no cases are tapes of interrogations being provided to defence counsel prior to the first hearing.
6	Breach of any of these recommendations should result in the discontinuation of the prosecution and the child's immediate release.	While some military judges have been critical of the manner in which children are arrested and interrogated this does not automatically result in the dismissal of proceedings – a step that is probably essential in order to ensure compliance with existing military regulations.

ANNEXURE A
COMPARATIVE GRAPH - ISSUES OF CONCERN (2013-2022)

COMPARATIVE GRAPH (2013 - 2022)



ANNEXURE B
TESTIMONIAL EVIDENCE -
12 TESTIMONIES
(January - December 2022)

Testimony 1 - January

Name: YWAH
Age: 17
Date: 21 January 2022
Location: Azzun, occupied West Bank
Accusation: Throwing stones / weapon possession

I, YWAH of Azzun, after being warned under oath that what I say shall be the truth, or I shall be subjected to criminal penalty, declare as follows:

1. There were clashes with Israeli soldiers at the entrance to my village at around 4:00 p.m. I was followed by a military jeep to the centre of my village. I ran as fast as I could to a friend's house. The soldiers saw me and followed me into the house where they arrested me.
2. A soldier tied my hands behind my back with two plastic ties on top of each other. He tightened them hard and I was in pain. My hands swelled and I asked the soldier to loosen the ties but he did not do anything. Only about three hours later did he replace them with looser ones.
3. After I was tied I was taken to the back of a military jeep where I sat on the metal floor. Inside the jeep soldiers verbally abused me. I sat between the soldiers' boots. The soldiers did not beat me and the commander was in the jeep and he kept an eye on me.
4. I was taken to a nearby settlement where I was left in a shipping container and a soldier blindfolded me. I was left in the container for about two hours and nothing happened to me. I was not given any food or drink but I was allowed to use the toilet.
5. After about two hours the commander came and accused me of throwing stones at settler cars and soldiers on the main road. He did not inform me of my rights and I denied the accusation. Then I was taken to a military base where I was given a quick medical examination.
6. After the medical exam I was taken to Huwwara military base where I was strip searched and asked to crouch up and down. I found this embarrassing and humiliating. I spent 10 days in a cell at Huwwara, six of which were in solitary confinement.
7. The cell measured about 1 x 1.5 meters and had dark rough walls which I could not lean against. It had a window but it was shut and covered the whole time. I could not tell whether it was day or night except when they woke me up and gave me my breakfast. The weather was cold and I was not given any blankets. I was cold the whole time and found it hard to cope

especially in the beginning. Then I told myself I had no choice but to accept the situation I was in.

8. Two days after my arrest I was taken for interrogation at Salem interrogation centre. I was not blindfolded but I was handcuffed and shackled. The interrogator wore civilian clothes and had a camera in the room. He did not remove the handcuffs or the shackles. He offered me tea and cigarettes and pretended to be my friend. Then when he realised I was not going to cooperate with him he became aggressive and raised his voice at me.
9. The interrogator did not allow me to speak to a lawyer and did not inform me of my right to silence. He accused me of throwing stones at settler cars and military vehicles on the main road. I denied the accusation. He then accused me of weapons possession which I also denied. He told me that soldiers had testified against me and yelled in my face. He told me he had revoked my brother's work permit and I later found out he indeed had.
10. He questioned me for about 90 minutes. At the end he asked me to sign a document written in Hebrew but I refused to sign something I did not understand. Then he told me there was nothing for me to worry about because the session was recorded, still I refused to sign. After the interrogation I was taken back to Huwwara.
11. My first military court hearing was two days after the interrogation. It was by video link and my parents were not informed and did not attend. In total I had three military court hearings.
12. At the last hearing, which was a month after my arrest, I was sentenced in a plea bargain to four months in prison and fined NIS 2,000. I also received a suspended sentence but I don't know the details. I accepted this plea bargain because otherwise I was facing eight months in prison based on the accusations in the charge sheet. I accepted it without hesitation.
13. After spending 10 days at Huwwara I was transferred to Megiddo prison, inside Israel. I was strip searched on arrival and spent two days at the quarantine section before being transferred to the juvenile section where I spent the rest of my prison sentence.
14. In prison I had one family visits and was allowed to make phone calls from a phone provided by the prison authorities once every two weeks. I spent a lot of time sleeping and feeling bored. I attended classes in Arabic, Hebrew and Mathematics.
15. I was released on 27 March 2022, and I went home with my brother. I arrived home in the early evening.

Testimony 2 - February

Name: UIAA
Age: 17
Date: 14 February 2022
Location: Hebron, occupied West Bank
Accusation: Membership of a banned organisation

I, UIAA of Hebron, after being warned under oath that what I say shall be the truth, or I shall be subjected to criminal penalty, declare as follows:

1. I was fast asleep when an Israeli soldier woke me up at around 3:00 a.m. About 15 soldiers entered our home after my father let them in. They came straight to my bedroom and woke me up. All 15 soldiers were wearing masks. There were more soldiers outside and they had dogs with them, but they did not bring the dogs into our home.
2. The commander collected our mobile phones and asked to see our identity cards. When he checked mine, he returned the other phones and identity cards to my family and kept mine. At that point I realised they had come for me. Then he told me to say good bye to my family and took me outside. Meanwhile the soldiers searched our house and turned it into a complete mess. Then they left without giving my parents any documents or reasons for my arrest.
3. By the front gate a soldier tied my hands behind my back with two plastic ties on top of each other. The ties were tight and very painful. Then he blindfolded me and pushed me into the back of a military jeep and made me sit on the metal floor between the soldiers' legs.
4. The jeep drove to the nearby settlement of Kiryat Arba. I arrived there at around 5:30 a.m. I was left in a shipping container until around 11:00 a.m. During this time the soldiers who were around me called me "a son of a whore" and made fun of me. They did not give me any food or even water and did not allow me to use a toilet. A soldier took my name and age for the file.
5. At around 11:00 a.m. I was put in a troop carrier and taken to Ofer prison, near Jerusalem, together with four other boys. The boys were dropped off at the prison gate and I was taken to a small cell where I spent 14 days in solitary confinement. The cell measured about 2 x 2 meters, with no windows and a dim light which was left on 24 hours. During the first seven days I was interrogated around the clock, almost nonstop. I was sleep deprived and exhausted, physically and mentally. Those seven days were the worst in my entire life. I was in deep distress, and I banged my head against the small opening in the door to attract attention. I paced in the small cell to pass the time. I told the guard I was going to kill myself if they did not let me out of solitary confinement.
6. The first interrogation session was on the day I arrived at Ofer, about an hour after I was taken to the cell. I was questioned for about eight hours nonstop. The interrogator was in civilian clothes and had a camera in the room. He handed me a document with all sorts of rights and

obligations and asked me to sign it. The document said I had the right to have a towel and the right to have a shower every day and things like that. They did not implement any of my rights mentioned in the document. I did not have access to a lawyer and I was not informed of my right to remain silent.

7. The interrogator accused me of membership in a banned organisation and of being in contact with a person abroad. He also accused me of distributing leaflets during protests and of incitement on Facebook. When I denied the accusations, he told me he was going to keep me in solitary confinement for twenty or thirty days, the maximum he is allowed under the law, if I did not confess. He did not ask me to sign any documents. Then I was taken back to the cell.
8. I was questioned over the following six days for long periods of time, sometimes for 24 hours nonstop. I was exhausted and just wanted the nightmare to be over. During this time, I did not have access to a lawyer and I was not informed of my right to silence. I continued to deny the accusations and I was not asked to sign any documents.
9. On the seventh day I was taken into the informants' cell and I did not realise it at the time. I was with an older person who made me feel I could trust him. He took care of me and gave me the impression that he was on my side. He told me he was going to unite me with my relatives in prison. I trusted him and told him things I should not have told him. Then I was taken for another interrogation where I confessed because I felt I had no choice.
10. Then I was taken for a police interrogation. The police interrogator called a lawyer for me and allowed me to speak to him. The lawyer told me not to confess but I told him I had already confessed. The interrogator did not inform me of my right to silence and told me to repeat what I had told the interrogator during the last session when I confessed. At the end he asked me to sign a document written in Hebrew and I signed.
11. Then the interrogation sessions stopped. During the following seven days, I was not interrogated and I did not speak or see anyone except the guard who gave me my food. I felt I was suffocating. I did not sleep well, I slept 4-5 hours at a time. I did not know day from night and this affected me mentally. I was going mad.
12. My first military court hearing was on the fourth day of my detention. My parents did not attend because they were not informed and my detention was extended. I had another hearing during my time in solitary confinement and my parents did not attend that one either. I had 14 hearings in all.
13. At the last hearing my lawyer told me he had agreed on a plea bargain with the prosecutor in which I was sentenced to one year in prison and fined NIS 3,000. I was also given another eight months in prison suspended for five years. I accepted the plea bargain based on my lawyer's advice.

14. After spending 14 days in solitary confinement I was transferred to Ofer prison where I was strip searched and then I was taken into the minors' section. I spent two months there and then when I turned 18 I was transferred to the adults' section where I spent the rest of my sentence.
15. I was denied early release for good conduct because the judge who ruled on my application for early release said all the children who are released early go back and commit offenses once they are released. I was released at Ofer on 14 March 2023, and I went home with my father and brother. I arrived home at around 9:00 p.m.
16. While in prison my parents visited me three times and I was allowed to call home from a telephone provided by the prison authorities once every 14 days at the minors' section. I left school after prison because the teachers were on strike and I found it hard to study on my own. I now work at a quarry.

Testimony 3 - March

Name: SYMA
Age: 17
Date: 20 March 2022
Location: Till, occupied West Bank
Accusation: n/a

I, SYMA of Till, after being warned under oath that what I say shall be the truth, or I shall be subjected to criminal penalty, declare as follows:

1. I heard loud banging at our front door at around 2:30 a.m. My father opened the door and a large number of Israeli soldiers entered our home. They asked for our names and when I said my name the commander said I was under arrest. He did not say why and did not give my parents any documents.
2. The soldiers held my parents and my four siblings in a separate room and took me to another room. My younger sister, who is 10-years-old, was terrified. The soldiers remained in our home for about one-and-a-half hours.
3. After about one-and-a-half hours the soldiers took me outside where my hands were tied behind my back with two plastic ties on top of each other. He tightened them hard and I was in pain. They also blindfolded me. I was then led away on foot for about 30 minutes to a nearby Israeli military base. At the base I was left outdoors on a chair for about an hour before being given a quick medical examination.
4. After the medical check I was taken to the back of a military jeep where I sat on a seat and I was taken to Huwwara military base, near Nablus. On arrival I was strip searched before being taken to a cell by myself until around 4:00 p.m. the following day. During this time, they brought me some sweetened fruit yogurt.
5. At around 4:00 p.m. I was taken to Petah Tikva interrogation centre, inside Israel, where I waited for about two hours before being interrogated.
6. The interrogator removed my blindfold but kept me tied. He was in civilian clothes and there was a camera on the wall. He gave me a document about my rights written in Arabic and Hebrew. It said I had the right to consult with a lawyer and the right to remain silent, among other things. The interrogator did not phone a lawyer for me and immediately started to ask me questions.
7. The interrogator wanted to know what I did and told me he had video evidence against me. He mentioned lots of charges against me. He questioned me for about five hours and I denied all the accusations. He threatened to arrest my family members if I did not confess. He then told me he was never going to let me out of solitary confinement if I did not confess. I continued to deny the accusations.

8. After the interrogation I was taken to a small cell where I spent 22 days in solitary confinement. The cell measured about 2x2 meters and had a mattress on the floor with two blankets. I used one of the blankets as a pillow. There were no windows in the cell and a bright light was left on 24 hours a day. There were two air conditioning units which made a lot of rattling noise and I could not sleep. It sounded like there was a bulldozer in the cell. I did not know day from night and found it hard to keep my spirits up. I started to talk to the walls in a loud voice to entertain myself because I was going crazy. The food was disgusting and hardly enough.
9. Over the period of time I was in solitary confinement I was interrogated multiple times. Each session was about five hours long. The interrogator was the only person I interacted with for the entire 22 days. I did not speak to any lawyers and was not informed of my right to silence other than the first time. The interrogator wanted me to confess to the charges against me and wanted me to give him information about other boys in my village.
10. In the end, after trying hard to hold on, I could not take it anymore and I confessed to some of the charges, not all. After I confessed I was asked to sign a document written in Arabic. I signed after I read it and found that it was identical to what I had said.
11. During the 22 days in solitary confinement I had two military court hearings on Zoom. My parents were not there and I did not understand anything. It was on the first zoom session that I saw a lawyer for the first time. He just told me my detention was extended.
12. After 22 days I was taken to Megiddo prison, inside Israel, where I was searched in my clothes before being taken to the minors' section.
13. I had about 25 military court hearings. At the last one, which was four days before my release, I was sentenced in a plea bargain to 10 months in prison and fined NIS 2,000. I was also given a sentence of another 15 months in prison suspended for two years. I accepted the plea bargain because I wanted to go home.
14. I spent the rest of my prison sentence in Megiddo prison where I distributed food to the other prisoners, worked as a cleaner and I attended classes in Arabic, Hebrew and Mathematics. I am pleased that my Hebrew is now very good. I also studied for my final high school exam which I passed. I had a couple of family visits and I was allowed to call home from a telephone provided by the prison authorities twice a month for 15 minutes each time.
15. I was released at Salem checkpoint on 29 December 2022 and I went home by myself because my parents were not informed of my release. I took a taxi to Nablus and then I called my parents and they came and picked me up. I arrived home at around noon. I now work at a supermarket in the village.

Testimony 4 - April

Name: UYAM
Age: 17
Date: 13 April 2022
Location: Beit Ummar, occupied West Bank
Accusation: Shooting

I, UYAM of Beit Ummar, after being warned under oath that what I say shall be the truth, or I shall be subjected to criminal penalty, declare as follows:

1. I heard commotion outside our house at around 5:00 a.m. I woke my father up and told him. My father looked out the window but did not see anything. Shortly afterwards we heard loud banging at our front door and the sound of someone trying to break in. I was scared and went back to my bedroom. When they could not break in the front door they went to the back door and broke it open.
2. About 20 Israeli soldiers entered our home and one of them immediately grabbed my father and took him outside. My mother asked the soldiers why they were in our house and they told her they wanted to arrest me. We were not given any documents.
3. My mother came to my bedroom followed by some soldiers. She told me the soldiers wanted to arrest me. The soldiers immediately dragged me outside the house where they tied my hands behind my back with two plastic ties on top of each other. The ties were tight and painful. Then the soldiers searched our home and turned everything upside down. Then they asked me to hand over my telephone and I did. Later the commander asked me if I had any medical conditions and I told him I had been shot in the leg. Then he told me to go inside and say goodbye to my family and I did.
4. The commander told me not to be scared because no one was going to hurt me. Then he blindfolded me and took me to the back of a military jeep and made me sit on the metal floor. Nothing happened inside the jeep. Then I was taken to the police station in Etzion settlement.
5. We arrived at Etzion at around 9:00 a.m. I was left on a chair in an open area for about an hour and then I was driven to a small cell at Ofer interrogation centre, near Jerusalem, where I was strip searched. I was held in solitary confinement at Ofer for 36 days.
6. The cell was the size of a small bathroom and did not have any windows. A light was left on 24 hours and the air conditioner was very cold. I did not know day from night and this made me depressed. I was worried because I did not know when I was going to be taken out of solitary confinement and I had no idea what plan they had for me. A toilet and a sink were in the room which made the space even smaller. There was also a bed with a blue mattress. I was in bad psychological state. My first interrogation was on the day I arrived at Ofer.

7. The guards removed the ties and the blindfold before taking me into the interrogation room. The interrogator allowed me to speak to a lawyer on the phone. The lawyer told me I was suspected of shooting at soldiers and told me not to be afraid. He also advised me to remain silent. The conversation lasted for about three minutes while the interrogator was listening.
8. During the interrogation the interrogator was typing on his computer. He informed me of my right to silence and gave me a document in Arabic with all my rights and obligations. Among other things, the document said I had the right for a family member to attend the interrogation. When I asked the interrogator about this right he told me this was the case a long time ago and that the rules had changed.
9. Then he asked me how I was and whether I knew why I was in his office. He warned me that if I lied to him he was going to lock me up for the longest possible time in administrative detention. Then he told me I could be facing four years in prison because I was suspected of shooting at soldiers during clashes.
10. The interrogator also told me that he was an intelligence officer and that they knew everything about me. He repeated the accusation and I denied it. This went on for about five hours and each time I denied the accusation I was sent back to the solitary confinement cell. I continued to deny the accusation and I was not asked to sign any documents.
11. I was interrogated multiple times during the 36 days, on average once a day except on Fridays and Saturdays. The same accusations were repeated again and again. Only before the first interrogation was I allowed to speak to a lawyer and informed of my right to silence. The interrogator threatened to lock me up in prison for a long time if I did not confess and told me I was never going to see my parents again. He also tied my hands behind my back when I denied the accusation. Although I was under tremendous pressure and I suffered from depression because of the solitary confinement, I continued to deny the accusation and insisted I was innocent.
12. My first military court hearing was two days after my arrest. I was taken to Ofer military court but my parents were not there because they were not informed. I had about 10 hearings and at the last one, which was on the day before my release, I was released without charge because there was no charge sheet against me. The military judge fined my parents NIS 1,000 and told me I was going to be monitored for 152 days and that I had a suspended sentence of three years valid for five years. I accepted these conditions because I wanted to go home.
13. After spending 36 days in solitary confinement I was taken to another cell with two other boys. I was released on 20 May 2022, at Al Jib checkpoint and I went home with my family and friends. I arrived home at around 2:00 a.m. and we all celebrated with a nice meal which my mother had prepared.

Testimony 5 - May

Name: HHMA
Age: 16
Date: 8 May 2022
Location: Balata refugee camp, occupied West Bank
Accusation: Throwing stones / pipe bombs

I, HHMA of Balata camp, after being warned under oath that what I say shall be the truth, or I shall be subjected to criminal penalty, declare as follows:

1. I was asleep in bed when Israeli special forces raided our home at around 4:45 a.m. About 20 soldiers entered our home through the windows and brought in five service dogs with them. My mother was nursing my younger brother when they appeared in the middle of her bedroom. They did not allow her to put on her robe and they yelled at her when she stood up to grab it.
2. All I remember is going to the kitchen and a soldier grabbed me and lifted me up. Service dogs were sniffing me and hovering around. I was in shock and it took me a few seconds to figure out what was happening.
3. Our whole neighbourhood woke up to our screams and shouts. The person who grabbed me asked to check my identity card and when he read my name he went crazy and started to shout saying I was under arrest. The dogs became even more tense and circled me from all directions. A soldier handcuffed me. The handcuffs were very tight and caused me a lot of pain. I begged for him to loosen them but he did not. Then he shackled my feet and blindfolded me. A soldier gave my mother a document written in Hebrew which she could not read.
4. Then I was taken outside and pushed into the back of a jeep. The soldiers in the jeep immediately started to beat me up all over my body; on my back, my head, my legs and arms. They made me sit on the metal floor and called me "a son of a whore" when I tried to sit on the seat. Then another one cocked his gun and I was terrified.
5. I was taken to Huwwara military base where I was given a quick medical examination. Then I was taken to Petah Tikva interrogation centre, inside Israel. I had no idea what time it was when we got there. I was strip searched before being taken into a small cell where I spent 14 days in solitary confinement.
6. The cell was the size of a small bathroom and did not have any windows. A light was left on all the time and I found it hard to fall asleep. There was an open sewage hole in the floor which I used as a toilet but the stench was unbearable. There were lots of mosquitos around and other little insects and I could not sleep. I could not tell day from night and banged the door to try to get the attention of the guards.

7. I suffered tremendously in the cell. I was mentally and psychologically on the verge of collapse. I wanted to kill myself. I shouted at the guards just to speak to someone. The guards threatened to handcuff me if I continued to shout and bang the door. I hit the wall with my arm to try and break it in order to go to the hospital. I felt one more day in the cell and I would have died. During this time, I was interrogated four times.
8. The first interrogation was on the second day following my arrest. The interrogator removed the blindfold but kept the handcuffs. He was in civilian clothes and had a camera in the room. The area commander spoke to me via video link. He sarcastically called me "the neighbourhood shahid" and told me he had yet to see who was going to get me released and that he was going to "leave me in prison like a forgotten dog".
9. I told the interrogator I wanted to speak to my mother and to a lawyer. Then he called a lawyer and allowed me to speak to him. I was suspicious the person he called was not a lawyer because he spoke nonsense. He told me to say whatever I felt like saying. When I heard this, I hung up and asked to speak to a different lawyer. The second lawyer told me not to speak and if I had to, to only confess to a minor offense. The interrogator was listening to the short conversation on speaker phone.
10. The interrogator did not inform me of my right to silence. He accused me of throwing pipe bombs at soldiers and of firing gun shots and throwing stones. I denied the accusation. He showed me video footage of the incident as proof but I continued to deny the accusation. He was aggressive and shouted at me the whole time. He wanted me to confess. He questioned me for about four hours and did not ask me to sign any documents. After the interrogation he sent me back to the cell.
11. I had three more interrogation sessions. I was never informed of my right to silence and only before the first interrogation was I allowed to speak to a lawyer. I was accused of the same accusations and I continued to deny them. During the last interrogation I was questioned by two interrogators who were very aggressive. They yelled at me and then accused me of possessing a Carlo weapon. I then confessed to throwing stones and two pipe bombs because I did not want to be accused of weapons possession because then I would spend a long time in prison. After I had confessed I was taken to another room where an Israeli police officer asked me to repeat what I had confessed to. I denied everything I had confessed to and told him I had done nothing wrong. He then asked me to sign a document written in Hebrew which he translated for me and I signed it.
12. My first military court hearing was two days after my arrest. It was not open to the public and my family did not attend. My detention was extended. I had lots of hearings, maybe about 20, I don't remember exactly how many. At the last hearing, which was about four months before I was released, I was sentenced in a plea bargain to nine months in prison and fined NIS 5,000. I was also given a suspended sentence for five years. I accepted this plea bargain because I was facing four years in prison had I not accepted it.

13. After spending 14 days in solitary confinement I was transferred to Megiddo prison, inside Israel, where I was strip searched on arrival. I sent the rest of my prison sentence there. I Attended classes in Arabic, Hebrew and mathematics. My family visited me five time and I was allowed to call home from a telephone provided by the prison authorities twice a month.
14. I was released at Salem checkpoint on 20 November 2022. I took a taxi to Jenin where I met my family who took me home. We arrived home at around 8:00 p.m. I left school after prison because I could not keep up.

Testimony 6 - June

Name: THMI
Age: 17
Date: 8 June 2022
Location: Qalqiliya, occupied West Bank
Accusation: Throwing stones / Molotov cocktails

I, THMI of Qalqiliya, after being warned under oath that what I say shall be the truth, or I shall be subjected to criminal penalty, declare as follows:

1. I had a valid permit from the Israeli military authorities to enter our land behind the Wall but I used it to go into Israel for work. On the day of my arrest I was working at a car wash in Israel. At around 9:00 a.m. a group of about 20 soldiers approached me. I resisted and tried to escape but a soldier pushed me to the ground and started to kick and swear at me.
2. The soldiers shackled and handcuffed my hands behind my back with metal handcuffs and tightened them hard. I was in pain. He also blindfolded me and left me on the ground. Then the area commander came and introduced himself. He asked me whether I recognized him and then told me he had turned a page with me. I understood this to be a threat. He asked me how old I was and when I told him I was 15 he told me I was seventeen and five months and told me I was a liar. Then I asked him why he wanted to arrest me and he told me I knew exactly why. Then he told me other young men from my village had confessed against me.
3. I was then taken to the back of a jeep where I was made to sit on a metal box in the middle of the floor. I was taken to Petah Tikva interrogation centre inside Israel. At Petah Tikva I was strip searched and then I was taken for interrogation.
4. The interrogator removed the handcuffs and the blindfold but kept my legs shackled. He was wearing a shirt and Jeans and had a voice recorder on his desk which he turned on. Then I told the interrogator I was not going to say anything or cooperate with him unless I spoke to a lawyer and my parents.
5. The interrogator then called a lawyer and allowed me to speak to him. The lawyer told me I already knew everything there was to know from my previous arrest. He then told me to stick to my position and deny everything. The conversation lasted for about two minutes and the interrogator was listening on speaker phone and I did not feel comfortable talking to the lawyer while he listened. Then I spoke to my father and told him where I was and reassured him about me.
6. Then the interrogator told me I had the right to either speak and answer his questions or remain silent. I decided not to remain silent because I thought this would be interpreted as an admission of guilt. I felt it was better to deny the accusations and defend myself that way.

7. The interrogator then named some people and asked me whether I knew them. I told him I did not. He then told me they had confessed against me and said I had thrown stones, Molotov cocktails and pipe bombs at soldiers and settlers at the checkpoints. I denied the accusations.
8. Then the interrogator became aggressive and angry. He accused me of insulting him by lying to him. He threatened to cancel all my family's work permits. He questioned me for about two-and-a-half hours. I continued to deny the accusation. At the end he asked me to sign a document in Hebrew but I refused to sign because I did not speak Hebrew.
9. After the interrogation I was taken to a small cell where I spent 24 days in solitary confinement. The cell was small and did not have any windows. It had a flickering dim light which was left on all the time. It had an air filter and the walls were rough. They gave me a very thin mattress and a blanket which I used as a pillow. I asked the guards for the time in order to get a sense whether it was day or night and they mostly answered me.
10. I found my time in solitary confinement very hard. During this time, I was interrogated five times. Time went by very slowly and I was constantly thinking of how to get myself out of solitary confinement. I prayed and read the Quran to pass the time.
11. I was questioned by a different interrogator each time. I was not allowed to speak to a lawyer except at the first interrogation but I was always informed of my right to silence. I was accused of the same accusation and I continued to deny them. I was asked to sign a document written in Hebrew after each interrogation but I refused to sign, except after the last interrogation when I was given a document in Arabic which I read letter by letter and then I signed.
12. After spending 24 days in solitary confinement I was taken to Megiddo prison, inside Israel, where I was searched with my clothes on before being taken into the minors' section. My first military court hearing was two days following my arrest. It was at Salem. No one from my family was informed so they did not attend. My detention was extended.
13. I had six military court hearings. At the last one, which was about a month before I was released, I was sentenced in a plea bargain to nine months in prison and fined NIS 2,000. I was also given a 44-month suspended sentence for five years. This is because they transferred my previous suspended sentences. I accepted the plea bargain because it was better than the 16 months in prison which the prosecutor wanted.
14. I spent my entire prison time at Megiddo. I passed the time exercising and studying Hebrew. My parents visited me five times and I was allowed to call home twice a month from a telephone provided by the authorities.
15. I was released from Salem on 14 February 2023, and I went home with my brother and friends. I left school when I was in eighth grade. I now sell corn on the streets.

Testimony 7 - July

Name: KKKI
Age: 14
Date: 25 July 2022
Location: Beit Fajjar, occupied West Bank
Accusation: Throwing Molotov cocktails

I, KKKI of Beit Fajjar, after being warned under oath that what I say shall be the truth, or I shall be subjected to criminal penalty, declare as follows:

1. Six Israeli soldiers grabbed me at the entrance to our village at around 5:00 p.m. One of them beat me on the back and chest with his rifle butt. He swore at me calling me "a son of a whore". Then he pushed me to the ground and stripped me of all my clothes. I was completely naked. They searched me and left me naked for about 30 minutes. They did not find anything on me.
2. The soldiers then placed something beside me that looked like a bomb and took a picture. Then they allowed me to get dressed and they tied my hands behind my back with three plastic ties: one on each wrist and another connecting the two. The ties were tight and painful and left marks on my wrists for weeks. They also shackled me with plastic ties and blindfolded me.
3. I was left on the ground tied, shackled and blindfolded for about four hours. During this time soldiers aimed their guns at me and threatened to shoot me. One of them told me they had shot my father and killed him. I was devastated.
4. After about four hours I was taken to the back of a military jeep where I sat on a seat. Inside the jeep soldiers slapped me and swore at me. I was driven to the police station in Etzion settlement. We arrived there at around 10:00 p.m. A soldier removed the ties and the blindfold and I was immediately taken for interrogation.
5. The interrogator was in a T-shirt and jeans and had a camera in the room. He phoned a lawyer and allowed me to speak to him. The lawyer told me not to confess and to take care of myself. The conversation lasted for about two minutes with the interrogator listening. The interrogator did not tell me I had the right to silence.
6. Then the interrogator accused me of planning a terrorist attack against a soldier. I denied the accusation. Then he told me he had photographic and video evidence against me. I continued to deny the accusation. He was aggressive and spoke to me in a loud voice. He threatened to arrest my family members and to impose a security ban on them. I later found out they had revoked the work permits of my brothers, uncles and my grandfather.
7. I was questioned all night over the course of about seven hours. The interrogation ended at around 6:00 a.m. I was tired and sleep deprived and I was not allowed to use the toilet as

much as I needed. The interrogator insisted I had to confess and said he was not going to let go of me until I confessed.

8. In the end I confessed to some charges but not all of them. I confessed to throwing a Molotov cocktail and denied the accusations that had to do with explosives and weapons. After I had confessed he asked me to sign a document written in Hebrew. He translated it for me and I signed.
9. After the interrogation I was taken to Ofer prison, near Jerusalem. We arrived there at about 4:00 p.m. I was tired and sleep deprived and completely drained. At Ofer I was strip searched before being taken into the minors' section.
10. The following day I had my first military court hearing. My parents were not there because they were not informed about the hearing. My detention was extended.
11. I had about nine military court hearings. At the last one, which was on 22 November 2022, I was sentenced in a plea bargain to six months in prison and fined NIS 2,000. I was also given another 10 months in prison suspended for three years. I also received a bond of NIS 4,000 payable if I'm arrested again. I accepted the plea bargain because I wanted to go home as quickly as possible.
12. I spent about six weeks in Ofer prison and then I was transferred to Megiddo prison, inside Israel. My family visited me in prison twice. My mother, my grandmother and sisters visited me. I was also allowed to call home from a telephone provided by the prison authorities twice a week.
13. In prison I lifted weights to keep fit and I attended classes in Arabic, Hebrew and Mathematics. I was released at Salem checkpoint on 4 January 2022. I went home by myself; my parents could not pick me up. I found out my mother had not slept at all the night before. I arrived home at around 3:00 p.m.

Testimony 8 - August

Name: ZHMH
Age: 16
Date: 3 August 2022
Location: Qabatiya, occupied West Bank
Accusation: Trading weapons

I, ZHMH of Qabatiya, after being warned under oath that what I say shall be the truth, or I shall be subjected to criminal penalty, declare as follows:

1. I was woken up by an Israeli soldier at around 2:00 a.m. I was shocked when I opened my eyes and saw a soldier staring at me. About 20 masked soldiers broke open our front door and stormed into our home; more soldiers surrounded our house outside.
2. The soldier dragged me out of bed and took me to the bathroom. He started to question me in the bathroom without informing me of any rights. He accused me of weapons possession and of throwing a pipe bomb. He beat me in the stomach with a baton and caused me a lot of pain. He also swore at me. He questioned me for about 20 minutes and I denied all the accusations.
3. The soldiers searched our house turning everything upside down, they did not leave a thing in its place. They also beat up my father and brother. Then, in front of my parents, a soldier tied my hands behind my back with two plastic ties on top of each other. The ties were tight and painful and left marks on my wrists.
4. Then they took me outside and led me away on foot to where a military jeep was waiting. They pushed me into the back of a jeep and made me sit on the metal floor. Inside the jeep a soldier blindfolded me. Then he slapped and kicked me as well as swearing at me. We drove to the nearby settlement of Dotan. An ambulance arrived and a paramedic examined my finger which I had injured in an accident at work before I was arrested.
5. I was left in an outdoor area at the settlement until around 7:00 a.m. Nothing happened during this time. I was left there tied and blindfolded. Then I was taken to Salem military base where I was left in a room until around 1:00 p.m. Then I was strip searched before being taken to Al Jalama interrogation centre, in Israel. I was left in solitary confinement for a total of 35 days.
6. The first cell I was kept in measure about 2x2 meters and did not have any windows. A light was left on 24 hours and I did not see natural light during my time there. I found it hard to fall asleep. I covered my head with the blanket in order to fall asleep. The walls were covered with rough concrete and I could not lean my head against the walls to rest. I spent 15 days in this cell and I was interrogated daily.
7. The first interrogation was on the day when I arrived. I was not allowed to speak to a lawyer and I was not informed of my right to silence. The interrogator was in civilian clothes. He was tense and aggressive. He told me my friend had confessed against me. I denied having done anything

wrong. Then the interrogator spat at me and shouted at me telling I was a liar. During the interrogation I was shackled and handcuffed to the back with metal handcuffs.

8. The first interrogation lasted for about three hours. The interrogator threatened to arrest my brother. I later found out they had summoned my brother and questioned him. The interrogator also threatened to "crucify" me. At one point he brought in the boy who he said had confessed against me and made him repeat his confession in front of me. I was tired and scared and at the end I confessed to certain things and denied others. I confessed to contacting a person in Gaza and trading in weapons.
9. I never spoke to a lawyer and I was never informed of my right to silence, except at the last interrogation when I was questioned by an Israeli policeman who just asked me to repeat what I had said earlier. I spoke to my lawyer for the first time in the military court. The policeman showed me two documents: one in Hebrew and one in Arabic and asked me to sign them and I did.
10. Fifteen days later I was transferred to another cell which was monitored by a CCTV camera 24 hours. The walls were painted white and there were no windows. I was not able to tell whether it was day or night. I slept a lot to pass the time. When I asked the guards what time it was one would say 12:00 and the other would say 10:00. I did not believe them.
11. Twenty days later I was taken into another cell with the boy who confessed against me. Him and I used to be close friends but not anymore. Now we don't speak to each other. He went one way and I went another.
12. My first military court hearing was three days following my arrest. My parents were not informed and they did not attend. My detention was extended. I had four hearings and then they stopped taking me to court because the lawyer did not show up. I was sentenced about one month before I was released. I was sentenced in a plea bargain to eight-and-a-half months in prison and fined NIS 3,000. I was also given another 12 months in prison suspended for five years. I accepted the plea bargain because otherwise I was facing one-and-a-half years in prison.
13. After about 45 days at Al Jalama I was transferred to Megiddo prison, also in Israel, where I was searched in my clothes. I spent the rest of my prison sentence at Megiddo. My parents visited me five times and I called home twice a month from a phone provided by the prison authorities. In prison I worked as a cook.
14. I was given early release and went home from Salem on 21 December 2022. I went home with my brother. I arrived home at around 7:00 p.m. I had dinner and then went to bed, I was exhausted.

Testimony 9 - October

Name: MMSI
Age: 14
Date: 12 October 2022
Location: Beit Sira, occupied West Bank
Accusation: Throwing stones

I, MMSI of Beit Sira, after being warned under oath that what I say shall be the truth, or I shall be subjected to criminal penalty, declare as follows:

1. I was arrested from home at around 3:30 a.m. I was asleep when I heard loud banging at our front door. By the time I got out of bed many Israeli soldiers were already inside our home. I heard one of the soldiers call my name. He told my parents they wanted to arrest me and question me about stone throwing. The soldier gave my parents a document filled out in Hebrew and asked my father to sign it. They did not give us a copy of this document.
2. The soldiers took away all our phones. Within about half-an-hour I was taken outside where my hands were tied to the front with two plastic ties on top of each other. The ties were a bit painful. I was then blindfolded before being led away on foot for about 30 minutes before being put in the back of a troop carrier. Inside I sat on a seat.
3. The soldiers inside the troop carrier made fun of me and the other boys and threatened to strip me. We were then taken to the police station in Binyamin settlement where I was left outdoors for about three hours before being taken for interrogation.
4. The interrogator removed the blindfold but kept me tied. The interrogator phoned a lawyer and allowed me to speak to him while he left the room. The lawyer told me not to confess and to persevere. The conversation lasted for about two minutes.
5. Then, without informing me of my right to silence, the interrogator asked me if I knew why I was in his office. When I told him I did not, he told me I was accused of throwing stones at the Wall during clashes. At first, I denied the accusation.
6. The interrogator insisted I had to confess. He gave me a date in September and told me one of my friends had confessed against me. He then brought his face close to mine and shouted “confess, confess”. He was swearing and wanted me to confess against my friends. He asked me about one of my friends and wanted me to tell him what I knew about him. I told him his father had died when he was very young and that he stutters a bit.
7. At one point another interrogator came in and yelled at me urging me to confess. Then he opened the door and ordered me to strip. I refused to strip and confessed to throwing two stones at the wall. I was questioned for about one-and-a-half hours. I did not confess against my friends.

8. Then the first interrogator asked me to sign lots of documents in Hebrew. I signed without understanding anything. Then I was taken to Ofer prison where I was searched in my boxer shorts before being taken to the section for children. The following day I had a military court hearing. My father attended and my detention was extended.
9. I had six more military court hearings. At the last one I was sentenced in a plea bargain to three months in prison and fined NIS 2,000. I was also given a suspended sentence for two years and an order that my parents had to pay another NIS 10,0000 if I'm arrested again. I accepted the plea bargain because my lawyer negotiated it.
10. I spent the rest of my sentence at Ofer where I studied Hebrew and Arabic, watched television, helped in the kitchen and chatted to the other boys. I worried about my school work and my younger brother who had to undergo surgery in my absence. I did not have any family visits because the permit to visit was not issued in time.
11. I was given early release and I was released on 4 December 2022. I was dumped someplace I did not know. I asked someone and he told me I was at Al Jib checkpoint. My parents were not informed of my release and they were not there so I called them and my father and uncle drove from the village to take me home. I arrived home at around 1:00 a.m.

Testimony 10 - October

Name: JHJK
Age: 17
Date: 16 October 2022
Location: Tubas, occupied West Bank
Accusation: Throwing stones

I, JHJK of Tubas, after being warned under oath that what I say shall be the truth, or I shall be subjected to criminal penalty, declare as follows:

1. Israeli soldiers broke open our front door at around 3:30 a.m. and stormed into our home. About 15 soldiers spread out in the small space and three of them came into my bedroom and woke me up. One of the soldiers told me I was under arrest. He did not say why and did not give my family any documents.
2. The soldiers did not search our house and within 15 minutes, in front of my family, my hands were tied behind my back with one plastic tie. The tie was tight and painful and left marks on my wrists for days. Then I was blindfolded before being taken outside where a troop carrier was waiting. I sat on a seat and the troop carrier drove to a nearby military base.
3. At the military base I was left in a shipping container until around 5:00 a.m. and then I was taken to Al Jalama interrogation centre, near Haifa, in Israel, where I was strip searched. I was then taken to a small cell where I was left in solitary confinement. The cell measured about 1x1.5 meters and was not long enough for me to spread my legs out. Initially, I found it hard to sleep and I was in distress. The cell did not have any windows and the light was turned on 24 hours a day. I could not tell day from night.
4. On the third day after my arrest I was taken for interrogation. The interrogator did not remove the handcuffs. He was in civilian clothes and had a camera in the room. He did not allow me to speak to a lawyer and did not inform me of my right to silence. He accused me of throwing stones and of other more serious accusations.
5. When I denied the accusations, the interrogator lost his temper. He shouted at me and threatened to keep me in solitary confinement for a long time if I did not confess. I denied the accusations. He told me my friends had confessed against me. Still, I continued to deny the accusation. He questioned me for about four hours until I was exhausted. He did not ask me to sign any documents and sent me back to solitary confinement.
6. On the fifth day I was interrogated again. I did not speak to a lawyer and was not informed of my right to silence. The interrogator questioned me for about three hours and lied to me. He told me he was done and I was not going to be interrogated any more. He then sent me to a room next door where I was questioned by a policeman. The policeman called a lawyer for me and allowed me to speak to him. The lawyer told me not to worry and advised me to remain silent. The policeman was not in the room during the telephone conversation.

7. After I spoke to the lawyer, the policeman told me I had the right to remain silent. Then he asked me to repeat what I had told the first interrogator and typed everything on a computer. Then he printed out a document in Arabic and asked me to sign it. I signed after I realised it was identical to what I had said.
8. After I signed the statement I was sent to a cell with other detainees. At the time I thought I was done with interrogations and did not realise that the other detainees were informants. They were very friendly to me and I trusted them. By the end of the day I told them things I should not have.
9. Later I was taken back to solitary confinement and was interrogated again multiple times, more than 20 times over a whole month. I did not have access to a lawyer and was not informed of my right to silence. I denied the accusations and denied having told the informants anything.
10. The interrogations got harder and harder and my spirits were crushed from being held in solitary confinement. Still, I was able to continue to deny the accusations. I spent 35 days in solitary confinement. Towards the end I felt I no longer wanted to live. I tried to suffocate myself with the blankets but it did not work out.
11. The prison authorities found out I was trying to commit suicide and immediately moved me to another cell with CCTV cameras. This cell was worse than the other one. I was handcuffed on both sides of a metal bed in such a way that I could not stand up or move. They wanted to punish me for attempting to commit suicide. I was left there for a day and then I was moved to another small cell where I was monitored 24 hours a day.
12. My first military court hearing was three days after my arrest. I was taken to Salem military court, near Jenin. My family were not informed and they did not attend. My detention was extended for more interrogation. I had about 15 court hearings.
13. At the last military court hearing, which was on 20 November 2022, I was sentenced in a plea bargain to two-and-a-half months in prison and fined NIS 2,000. I was also given another four months in prison suspended for five years. I accepted the plea bargain because I trusted my lawyer who was my cousin.
14. After spending 35 days in solitary confinement I was transferred to Megiddo prison, inside Israel. I was searched over my clothes before being taken to a cell with older prisoners because by then I had turned 18 years.
15. I did not have any family visits because the permit was not issued in time. I was granted one telephone call, three days before I was released. The only time I saw my family was during court hearings.

16. I was released at Salem checkpoint on 16 December 2022, and I went home with my father. I arrived home at around 10:00 a.m.

Testimony 11 - November

Name: DHHZ
Age: 17
Date: 15 November 2022
Location: Birqin, occupied West Bank
Accusation: Throwing Molotov cocktails / pipe bombs

I, DHHZ of Birqin, after being warned under oath that what I say shall be the truth, or I shall be subjected to criminal penalty, declare as follows:

1. A group of special forces from the Israeli army came into our village disguised in a Palestinian vegetable truck. I was on the front porch chatting to my friend when about 20 soldiers showed up in front of our house. They had service dogs and they were all masked and looked terrifying. It was around 4:30 p.m. I think an informant tipped them that I was home. I estimate that three out of 10 people in our village are informants.
2. One of soldiers grabbed me and painfully twisted my arm behind my back and banged my head against the wall. Then he yelled at me and told me to hand in the weapons in my possession. I told him I had no weapons.
3. The soldier then pushed me against the window, stuck his gun to my head and asked me for my birth date. Meanwhile a dog was sniffing me. He then struck me on the head with the helmet he was wearing and then he handcuffed me behind my back with metal handcuffs. The handcuffs were tight and cut my wrists and I was bleeding.
4. The soldiers then entered our house and threatened to shoot anyone who moved. One of them beat my mother and pushed her out of the way. They also pushed my sister-in-law. Our neighbour's girls (aged 9 and 13) were taking private lessons with my sister and they were terrified to see the masked soldiers in our house.
5. Suddenly somebody started shooting at the soldiers from the street. The soldiers then forced the girls to sit on the stairs as human shields. The girls were shaking. Then they took me to the kitchen, and one of the soldiers stuck my head inside a cupboard and slammed the door shut. He wanted me to tell him where I hid the weapons they were looking for.
6. The soldiers searched our house and caused damage to the furniture. They threatened to destroy our belongings if I did not say where the weapon was. Then one of the soldiers covered my eyes with a mask, did not allow me to say good bye to my family and dragged me outside. They did not give my parents any documents.
7. Once outside I was taken to the back of a military jeep and forced me to lay on the metal floor face down. The dog was on top of me. I was taken to the nearby settlement of Dotan where I was left in a laundry room for a couple of hours. A soldier slapped me and showed me a photograph of someone holding a gun. He told me the person in the photo was me. I

denied it was me. Then a doctor examined me. Then one of the soldiers told me he was going to take me "to hell" and then to Al Jalama interrogation centre.

8. Then I was taken to Al Jalama interrogation centre, inside Israel. I was put in a small cell underground where I spent 70 days. I was in solitary confinement for 45 of the 70 days. The cell measured about 2 x 4 meters, had a mattress on the floor and an open sewer and a sink. There were no windows but there was a noisy ventilator in the wall. I did not know day from night. A yellow dim light was in the room which they sometimes turned off and I could not see. The walls were painted grey.
9. I was miserable in solitary confinement and wanted to kill myself. I lost 20 kilos. I tried to hang myself using the towel they gave me. I tried to tie the towel to the ventilator in the wall and wrapped it around my neck but it did not work. They found out I had attempted to kill myself and as punishment they took me to another room which had CCTV cameras on 24 hours.
10. My first interrogation was on the second day. The interrogator removed the blindfold but kept me handcuffed and shackled. He did not call a lawyer for me but he gave me a document written in Arabic which said I had the right to remain silent. Then he warned me if I decided to remain silent and did not confess I would be sentenced to six years in prison.
11. The interrogator made 12 accusations against me which included stone throwing, weapons possession, firing a gun, throwing a Molotov cocktail, throwing pipe bombs and planning a terrorist act. He showed me a video of a person throwing a pipe bomb and said it was me. I denied it. Then he named someone and told me he had testified against me. I later found out this was not true.
12. The interrogator was aggressive and shouted at me the whole time. He questioned me for two days non-stop. I was sitting on a chair the whole time handcuffed and shackled. He did not allow me to sleep for two days although I begged him to give me some time to sleep. He threatened to leave me in solitary confinement until my brain was severely damaged. In fact, I did lose my mind in solitary confinement. I constantly thought about getting out of that cell.
13. For a whole week I was denied a shower. Some days they did not bring me food, other days the food was disgusting and had hair in it. One day they did not bring me lunch or dinner. I called to remind them. Ten masked guards came into the cell and beat me up with batons. One of them made me takeoff my trousers and then opened the small window in the door and told me if he heard my voice again he was going to beat me up. I had difficulty taking a deep breath and felt I was going to die. They gave me a pill which made me sleepy.
14. The first interrogation lasted about 48 hours. I did not confess and I was not asked to sign any documents. The interrogator left the room at times. It was a cold room because the air conditioner was very cold. When I was taken to a military court later, the judge saw I was

shivering uncontrollably from the cold and lack of sleep. The judge ordered them to bring me a jacket.

15. I was interrogated nine times over this period of time, the shortest session was nine hours. I never spoke to a lawyer, except at the last interrogation which was conducted by a policeman. I was never informed of my right to silence, except during the first interrogation.
16. The interrogations were harsh. Ten people would enter the room and start yelling at me and urging me to confess. Then, one of them would pretend to be the nice one and would speak to me softly implying he cared about me. I was also taken to a cell with informants. I detected them and I was careful. When I refused to cooperate with them they accused me of being a collaborator. They said they had asked about me and were told I was a collaborator and that I caused the death of people from my village. They told me I deserved to be in a cell in solitary confinement.
17. One of the interrogators told me my father had died and my mother was sick with cancer. He also told me my sister was in a cell in solitary confinement. Then he told me he was going to take me for a ride in a jeep and go and assassinate my brother and demolish our house. Then he told me if I worked with him he would help me work in Israel and build a house and travel to Turkey for a holiday.
18. My first military court hearing was three days after my arrest. It was then that I saw a lawyer for the first time. It was held at Al Jalama and my parents did not attend because they were not informed. I had about 25 hearings, the last one was on 14 February 2023. I was sentenced in a plea bargain to four months in prison and fined NIS 1,000. I was also given another six months in prison suspended for a year. My lawyer told me the deal was good and encouraged me to accept it.
19. After 70 days at Al Jalama I was taken to Megiddo prison, also in Israel, where I was strip searched. My parents visited me twice but I was not allowed to call home. In prison I spent a lot of time sleeping and I worked in the kitchen.
20. I was released at Salem checkpoint on 23 February 2023 and I went home with my brother and mother. I arrived home in the evening.
21. I still suffer the consequences of this experience. I sometimes bleed from my nose and have uncontrolled shivers. When I hear soldiers are in the village I run home; I don't want to ever see a soldier again.
22. I left school in tenth grade and I sometimes work at the local church. I would like to visit Jerusalem one day but I am denied a permit. I also would like to travel abroad.

Testimony 12 - December

Name: HALL
Age: 17
Date: 20 December 2022
Location: DCO checkpoint, occupied West Bank
Accusation: Throwing stones / Molotov cocktails

I, HALL of Ramallah, after being warned under oath that what I say shall be the truth, or I shall be subjected to criminal penalty, declare as follows:

1. I was with some friends at the District Co-ordination Office checkpoint in Al Bireh when there were clashes with Israeli soldiers. It was around 5:00 p.m. Suddenly two military jeeps approached me; one drove fast behind me and I was in the middle. Then a group of soldiers started shooting from the side. I tried to run away but I tripped and fell, badly injuring my left hand. I had a deep cut and I was bleeding. My friends managed to escape.
2. Four soldiers grabbed me and started to slap and beat me: on my head, my back, my stomach, wherever they could hit. They were also swearing at me calling me "a son of a whore". They made me take off my T-shirt and used it to blindfold me. Then a soldier tied my hands behind my back with two plastic ties on top of each other. The ties were tight and painful and caused me pain, especially in my injured hand.
3. The soldiers then led me on foot for about 5 minutes until we reached a military jeep where I was made to sit on the metal floor. Inside the jeep the soldiers continued to kick, slap and swear at me. I was driven to the police station in Binyamin settlement where I was left in a room, still bleeding heavily, for about three hours.
4. About three hours later a soldier wiped off the blood, removed the blindfold and took me to an interrogation room. It was around 10:00 p.m. The interrogator saw my bleeding hand but did not remove my hand ties. He asked me how I injured it and I told him what had happened. He then called a lawyer and allowed me to speak to him. The lawyer told me not to be afraid and to answer the questions; not more and not less. He also told me I could remain silent. The interrogator and the interpreter were standing right beside me and they heard what the lawyer told me. We spoke for a matter of seconds.
5. Then, without informing me of my right to silence, the interrogator told me 10 soldiers had testified against me. He told me I was accused of throwing stones and a Molotov cocktail and a pipe bomb at the soldiers. I denied the accusations and asked him to bring the soldiers to testify in front of me. He never did.
6. The interrogator wanted to know the names of the boys who were with me. He wanted to know where they lived. He told me to save him and myself the trouble and confess, otherwise he was going to keep me for a long time. He questioned me for about two hours and spoke to me through the interpreter which took a long time. I continued to deny the accusation and

told him I wanted to remain silent. He got upset and shouted at me and said I had to answer his questions if I wanted to go home.

7. Towards the end the interrogator asked me to sign something electronically. He did not show me a document or a text and I signed without knowing what it was, or what language it was in. Then I was taken to a military base where I was left in a cold room. The weather was cold and they turned two air conditioners on cold. I was cold and tired and still bleeding.
8. I wanted to sleep but the soldier in the room did not allow me to sleep. I asked him to let me sleep and he said yes, but then the minute I nodded off he kicked me and woke me up. I was not given any food for two days and I was not allowed to use the toilet. I was given one glass of water.
9. At around 7:00 p.m. I was taken to a hospital in West Jerusalem. At the hospital I remained hand tied. The doctor was upset with the soldiers and ordered them to untie me. I spent about four hours at the hospital, most of the time just waiting. One family felt sorry for me and saw how tired I was. I told them I was hungry so they got me something to eat and a drink but the soldiers who were guarding me did not allow it.
10. Then the doctors examined my hand and stitched it with seven stitches. By then I had lost a lot of blood and was feeling weak. Then I was taken to Al Mascobiye police station, in West Jerusalem. I was strip searched and I felt the person who searched me deliberately humiliated me by focusing on my sensitive parts.
11. After being strip searched I was put in a small cell where I was left in solitary confinement for seven days. The cell did not have any windows. There was a light which I did not control. I used to ask the guards to turn it off at night. I also asked for the time to keep track of the day. Next to my cell were other cells where prisoners were chatting and laughing together while I had no one to talk to. I found it hard mentally. There was a camera in the room and an open sewer in the ground. I had no privacy. I was in distress and was desperate to get out.
12. During these seven days the same interrogator would come into my cell urging me to confess if I wanted to go home. I was not informed of my rights while at Al Mascobiye. Also during this time I had three military court hearings. I was taken back and forth to Ofer military court, near Jerusalem.
13. After seven days I was taken to the other cell where I spent 15 days with other detainees. Then I was taken to Ofer prison where I was strip searched again before being taken to section 13.
14. I had about 20 military court hearings in all. At the last one, which was about a month before I was released, I was sentenced in a plea bargain to five-and-a-half months in prison and fined NIS 2,000. I was also given another four months in prison suspended for four years. I accepted the plea bargain because I was facing eight months in prison based on the prosecutor's request.

15. I spent the rest of my prison sentence at Ofer. I spent the time exercising and praying. I did not have any family visits; the visiting permit for my parents to visit me was issued three weeks after I was released. I called home twice during this time from a telephone provided by the prison authorities.
16. I lost a lot of school days in prison and I found it hard to keep up so I dropped out. My mother was upset with my decision to drop out of school. I now work at a restaurant in Ramallah to earn some money.
17. I was released at Ofer on 5 May 2023, and I went home with my father. I arrived home in the afternoon.

ANNEXURE C
GSS (ISA) RIGHTS IN CUSTODY DOCUMENT (ARABIC)
PROVIDED IN SOME INTERROGATIONS

دولة اسرائيل

جهاز الأمن العام

صحيفة بيانات للشخص المعتقل

انت موجود الآن في تحقيق لجهاز الأمن العام تشترك فيه شرطة اسرائيل، وتكون مشتبها بارتكاب مخالفات كذا جاء في امر الاعتقال.

فيما يلي بيان بالحقوق التي تتمتع بها وكذلك اللبؤد التي يحق للقائمين على التحقيق والمسؤولين في مركز التوقيف فرضها أولاً. حقوق قضائية

1. ان يتم تبليغ الجهة التي تختارها عن اعتقالك.
2. يحق لك استشارة المحامي الذي تختاره.
3. يحق لك ان تقدم للمحكمة في اي وقت وبموجب تعاليم القانون المفروضة عليك باي ادعاء او طلب. بخصوص اعتقالك وذلك إما شخصياً او بواسطة المحامي الذي يوكله.
4. لست مجبراً على الادلاء خلال التحقيق بما من شأنه ان يدينك، ولكن امتناعك عن الاجابة عن اسئلة قد يقوي الأدلة ضدك.

ثانياً: الحقوق المتعلقة بطرقك في المعتقل

1. من حقتك ان تستحم مرة واحدة يومياً، لكن بإمكان القائم على التحقيق وفي ظروف معينة، ان يؤجل ممارسة هذا الحق لفترة لا تزيد عن ثلاثة ايام.
2. يحق لك اسلام ملابس.
3. يحق لك اسلام بطايات لاستعمالك الشخصي.
4. لك الحق بالعلاج الطبي المناسب بعد ان يفحصك طبيب.

ثالثاً: واجبات وقبؤد

1. حسب القانون، يمكن عدم السماح باجراء مقابلة بينك وبين المحامي الذي وكلته، وذلك بموجب الاسباب المنصوص عليها فيه.

2. في هذه الحالة، يتم تمديد فترة اعتقالك بواسطة المحكمة، دون ان تتمكن من مقابلة محاميتك، مع العلم انه يستطيع تقديم ادعاء نيابة عنك.

3. استناداً الى القانون ننذكرك ألا تعتمد الى غرفة التحقيق اذ ان غرفة التحقيق -او محاولة ذلك- تعتبر عدلاً جانبياً.

4. بموجب عليك المحافظة على نظافة الغرفة وعلى سلامة العهدة التي اسلمتها.

5. اذا لم نلم بأداء الواجبات المتعلقة بالانضباط داخل المعتقل فستعرض لانتخالل الاجراءات التي ينص عليها القانون لفرض الانضباط.

وأخيراً: تعليمات عامة

بخصوص اي مشكلة او طلب، عليك التوجه الى المسؤول عن التحقيق معك في مكان اعتقالك.

إقرار

أقر ابي قرأت ما جاء في صحيفة البيانات هذه واستوعبت قواعدها:

اسم الشخص المعتقل _____ توقيع الشخص المعتقل _____ التاريخ والساعة _____

تم التوقيع أمام الملقب _____

TRANSLATION

State of Israel

General Security Service

Document for Detained Person

You are now being interrogated by the General Security Service which the Israeli Police will take part in, and you are suspected of committing offences as mentioned in the arrest warrant.

Following is a list of the rights that you have and also the restrictions which those conducting the interrogation and those responsible at the detention centre have the right to impose on you.

First: Legal rights

1. To inform someone of your choice of your arrest.
2. You have the right to consult with a lawyer of your choice.
3. You have the right, at any time and in accordance with the applicable law, to submit any request or complaint to the court regarding your arrest, either personally or through the lawyer you appoint.
4. You are not obliged, during the interrogation, to make any statements that might convict you, but abstaining from answering questions may re-enforce evidence against you.

Second: Rights pertaining to your prison conditions

1. You have the right to have a shower once a day, but the person conducting the interrogation, under certain circumstances, has the right to delay granting you this right for no more than three days.
2. You have the right to receive clothes.
3. You have the right to receive blankets for your personal use.
4. You have the right to appropriate medical treatment following your examination by a doctor.

Third: Obligations and restrictions

1. In accordance with the law, it is possible not to grant you a meeting with the lawyer you appoint, for reasons provided for in the law.
2. In this case, your detention will be extended by the court, without being able to see your lawyer, keeping in mind the lawyer can submit a complaint on your behalf.
3. We warn you, in accordance with the law, not to deliberately obstruct the interrogation as obstructing the interrogation – or attempting to do so – is considered an offence.
4. You are obliged to keep your cell clean and to take good care of the items you received.
5. Should you fail to implement the duties concerning good conduct in detention, disciplinary actions will be taken against you to impose order in accordance with the law.

ANNEXURE D
CHILDREN HELD IN SOLITARY CONFINEMENT (2022)

#	Name	Age	Date of Arrest	Residence (OPT)	Facility		Solitary Days
					OPT	Israel	
1	AAIA	17	19 Jan	Beit Ummar	Etzion	-	11
2	FFMI	16	20 Jan	Beit Fajjar	Etzion	-	12
3	YWAH	17	21 Jan	Azzun	Huwwara	-	6
4	UIAA	17	14 Feb	Hebron	Ofer	-	14
5	MMSY	15	18 Feb	Al Araqa	-	Megiddo	2
6	SAMA	15	21 Feb	Beit Fajjar	-	Al Mascobiyyeh	10
7	SYMA	17	20 Mar	Till	-	Petah Tikva	22
8	AMSG	15	29 Mar	Al Jalazun	Binyamin	-	2
9	UYAM	17	13 Apr	Beit Ummar	Ofer	-	36
10	IAMO	16	17 Apr	Bethlehem	Etzion	-	9
11	IJIM	14	20 Apr	Qarawa Zaid	-	Ramleh	2
12	ORMA	17	24 Apr	Qalandiya Camp	Ofer	-	25
13	JMDZ	17	25 Apr	Beit Ummar	Ofer	-	25
14	AMHS	16	29 Apr	Douha	-	Offek	8
15	HHMA	16	8 May	Balata Camp	-	Petah Tikva	14
16	DAWA	16	9 May	Jenin	-	Al Jalama	23
17	MMMS	17	12 May	Birgin	-	Al Jalama	22
18	NLNH	17	17 May	Balata Camp	-	Petah Tikva	22
19	MJMY	17	18 May	Till	Huwwara	-	13
20	THMI	17	8 Jun	Qalqilya	-	Petah Tikva	24
21	ZHMH	16	3 Aug	Qabatiya	-	Al Jalama	35
22	AFAI	17	6 Aug	Al Jalazun	Salem	-	2
23	MAAF	15	12 Oct	Hebron	n/a		14
24	JHJK	17	16 Oct	Tubas	-	Al Jalama	35
25	AEBJ	15	20 Oct	Hebron	-	Al Mascobiyyeh	5
26	BAOA	17	7 Nov	Assila	-	Al Jalama	28
27	DHHZ	17	15 Nov	Birgin	-	Al Jalama	45
28	FNDA	17	16 Dec	Al Mughayyer	n/a		3
29	HALL	17	20 Dec	Ramallah	-	Al Mascobiyyeh	7
-	-	16.3	-	-	41%	59%	16.4

ANNEXURE E
CASES DOCUMENTED BY MCW OF CHILDREN UNLAWFULLY TRANSFERRED IN
2022

#	Name	Age	Date of Arrest	Residence (Occupied West Bank)	Transfer Destination (Israel)
1	FFMI	16	20 Jan	Beit Fajjar	Megiddo prison
2	MSMQ	16	6 Feb	Beit Fajjar	Damoun / Megiddo prisons
3	IAMT	16	10 Feb	Bethlehem	Al Mascobiyyeh interrogation centre
4	YFAH	16	11 Feb	Beit Furik	Megiddo prison
5	MMSY	15	18 Feb	Al Araqa	Megiddo prison
6	SAMA	15	21 Feb	Beit Fajjar	Al Mascobiyyeh / Megiddo prison
7	SORG	16	22 Feb	Al Jalazun refugee camp	Damoun prison
8	DEJL	17	22 Feb	Beit Ummar	Damoun prison
9	DAIO	16	27 Feb	Abu Dis	Damoun prison
10	MIMQ	17	28 Feb	Beit Ummar	Megiddo prison
11	KAAM	17	7 Mar	Shuqba	Rimon / Negev prisons
12	NBUU	17	13 Mar	Qabatiya	Megiddo prison
13	LDMQ	17	16 Mar	Beit Ummar	Rimon prison
14	SYMA	17	20 Mar	Till	Petah Tikva / Megiddo prison
15	THMS	17	20 Mar	Kafr Qadoun	Megiddo prison
16	MMAU	17	30 Mar	Kafr Qadoun	Megiddo prison
17	KMMS	16	30 Mar	Kafr Qadoun	Megiddo prison
18	AMSO	17	30 Mar	Kafr Qadoun	Megiddo prison
19	HDHD	16	1 Apr	Al Lubban Asharqiyeh	Megiddo prison
20	IJIM	14	20 Apr	Qarawa Bani Zaid	Ramleh prison
21	AMHS	16	29 Apr	Douha	Offek interrogation centre
22	SRHB	16	7 May	Al Fara'a refugee camp	Rimon prison
23	HHMA	16	8 May	Balata refugee camp	Petah Tikva / Megiddo prison
24	DAWA	16	9 May	Jenin	Al Jalama / Megiddo prison
25	MMMS	17	12 May	Birqin	Al Jalama / Megiddo prison
26	NLNH	17	17 May	Balata refugee camp	Petah Tikva / Megiddo prison
27	MJMY	17	18 May	Till	Petah Tikva / Megiddo prison
28	IMLI	15	25 May	Qalqiliya	Al Jalama / Megiddo prison
29	AMYS	16	30 May	Hebron	Ramleh prison
30	JBJD	16	1 Jun	Beit Fajjar	Megiddo prison
31	JMMB	17	2 Jun	Qalqilya	Megiddo prison
32	KIND	17	8 Jun	Beit Fajjar	Megiddo prison
33	THMI	17	8 Jun	Qalqiliya	Petah Tikva / Megiddo prison
34	KKKI	14	25 Jul	Beit Fajjar	Megiddo prison
35	ZHMH	16	3 Aug	Qabatiya	Al Jalama / Megiddo prison
36	DHHS	16	21 Aug	Beit Fajjar	Damoun prison
37	AAAD	15	26 Aug	Nabi Samuel	Al Mascobiyyeh / Damoun prison
38	AAAO	15	29 Aug	Nabi Samuel	Al Mascobiyyeh / Damoun prison
39	BALA	17	31 Aug	Kifil Haris	Megiddo prison
40	BIAH	17	2 Oct	Jenin	Megiddo prison
41	TMTS	14	3 Oct	Beit Sira	Modi'in police station
42	JHJK	17	16 Oct	Tubas	Al Jalama / Megiddo prison
43	AIAS	16	20 Oct	Al Amari refugee camp	Al Mascobiyyeh interrogation centre
44	AEBJ	15	20 Oct	Hebron	Al Mascobiyyeh / Damoun prison
45	MIRH	17	29 Oct	Azzun	Megiddo prison
46	ZYIQ	17	31 Oct	Hebron	Hasharon / Damoun prisons
47	BAOA	17	7 Nov	Assila Alharithiya	Al Jalama / Megiddo prison

48	DHHZ	17	15 Nov	Birqin	Al Jalama / Megiddo prison
49	RAMO	15	22 Nov	Balata refugee camp	Megiddo prison
50	FNDA	17	16 Dec	Al Mughayyer	Al MascobiyeH interrogation centre
51	HALL	17	20 Dec	Ramallah	Al MascobiyeH interrogation centre
52	JAHA	16	22 Dec	Beit Iksa	Al MascobiyeH interrogation centre

ANNEXURE F

ISRAELI MILITARY INFORMATION SHEET

THE MILITARY COURTS UNIT (JUDEA AND SAMARIA)
UPDATED – SEPTEMBER 2022

THE MILITARY COURTS UNIT IN JUDEA AND SAMARIA

Introduction

The Military Courts in Judea and Samaria (hereinafter: "**The Military Courts**") were established in accordance with international law, and have jurisdiction to hear criminal cases and cases involving security offenses.

The purpose of the Military Courts is to apply and implement the Rule of Law, by trying those accused of perpetrating security or other criminal offences, whether committed in Judea and Samaria, or intended to cause harm therein, and through judicial review of administrative decisions, all in accordance with the jurisdiction bestowed upon the courts. All this while upholding the highest standards of judicial independence and the assurance of just and fair legal proceedings.

Article 66 of the 4th Geneva Convention refers to the role of military courts in areas under military control. The article states that members of protected populations accused of crimes may only be brought before courts whose members have military status (and are subordinate to the military authorities). As will become clear, the courts do not define subordinate to mean that the military authorities have the right to hand down orders to the court. The law explicitly denies this and ensures independence.

Judicial independence of the Military Courts is anchored in section 8 of the Security Provisions Order: "*In judicial matters a person vested with judicial power shall not be subject to any authority but that of the law and security legislation*"

In HCI 87/85 Arjub vs. IDF Military Commander in Judea and Samaria – The High Court of Justice stated that although The Military Courts play an essential part in maintaining law and order in the area, they have to be absolutely impartial and independent in their considerations, inter alia by protecting the law and holding a fair trial, as the judicial proceedings serve the main objective of ensuring justice by among other factors, assuring its appearance.

It is important to note the main principles of criminal procedure practiced in the military courts. The same evidentiary rules apply as in Israeli courts and the same substantial and procedure principles apply as in Israeli courts. These include the right to confer with counsel during investigation, the right to counsel during trial, the right to receive all evidence / the prosecution cannot submit secret evidence, the right to appear in court, judicial hearings are in open court, the right to confront the witnesses, the right to call witnesses and the right of appeal.

The Military Courts are comprised of two regional courts, each with a separate juvenile court, as well as a separate court for the review of administrative detention orders. Defendants have a right of appeal to the Military Court of Appeals.

THE MILITARY COURTS UNIT (JUDEA AND SAMARIA)
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Additionally, the Military Court system is subject to judicial review by the Israel High Court of Justice.

Judicial Independence

The Military Courts are a separate and distinct unit within the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) and are independent in judicial matters from the IDF command hierarchy and subject only to the law.

Military Court judges are required to uphold the rule of law and are subject to ethical and professional standards, similar to all criminal and civil judges in Israel.

Military Court judges are selected by a Judicial Selection Committee. The committee is chaired by the President of the Military Court of Appeals and comprises of, among others, three sitting judges and a retired judge. All Military Court judicial candidates must meet the professional qualification requirements for magistrate court judges in Israel, and must be IDF officers in active or reserve duty. The Judicial Selection Committee selects judges from a broad range of legal backgrounds, including the private sector, academia, and the military.

Due Process

The right of suspects and defendants to due process in the Military Courts is strictly upheld through a variety of mechanisms, such as:

1. **The Right to Legal Representation**

During all judicial proceedings, suspects and defendants are entitled to representation by an attorney of their choice, including Palestinian attorneys. In most cases where a defendant is not represented by an attorney, a defense attorney will be appointed by the Military Courts. All defense attorneys, including Palestinian attorneys, are granted full access to the Military Courts and to all the evidence brought before the court.

2. **Defendant's Presence at Hearings**

Defendants have the right to be present at all hearings relating to them.

3. **Public Hearings**

As a rule, proceedings in the Military Courts are open to the public. Military courts strictly uphold the publicity of hearings in general, and the presence of family members in particular. The presence of family members is particularly important in cases involving minors. Journalists, NGO representatives and other observers are often present at these hearings.

THE MILITARY COURTS UNIT (JUDEA AND SAMARIA)
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Military Courts have the authority to conduct an in-camera hearing, but this is done only in special circumstances and where specific strict grounds are met.

4. Translation of Proceedings

Proceedings in the Military Courts are conducted in Hebrew or Arabic and translated during the course of the proceedings by court interpreters. Several Military Court judges are also fluent in Arabic. All indictments are translated into Arabic.

5. Judicial Review of Detention

The maximum period of detention before being brought before a judge is 48 hours for ordinary crimes and 96 hours for security offenses. If the suspect is not brought before a judge within these periods, he/she is released. A judge may order to extend the detention of a suspect for a period of up to 20 days, and afterwards for periods of up to 15 days each upon further review. A suspect may not be detained for an overall period exceeding 60 days without being indicted.

The time frame for judicial review of detention of juveniles is shorter, as indicated below.

6. Notification of the Charges

A written indictment is submitted to defendants. Additionally, the indictment is read out to each defendant in Court in their native language, unless the defense attorney waives this right. In any case, the judge ascertains that the defendant fully comprehends the charges against him/her.

7. Right to Receive all Evidence

Defendants are entitled to receive a copy of the evidence against them and to summon witnesses in their defense. The prosecution may not use any evidence that has not previously been provided to the defense.

Victims' Rights

All victims (including family members where the victim was killed) of crimes perpetrated by defendants being tried in The Military Courts, have certain procedural rights. Those include but are not limited to; special protection by the court during proceedings, the right to be informed of upcoming proceedings, the right to view the indictment, the

THE MILITARY COURTS UNIT (JUDEA AND SAMARIA)
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right to be present at all hearings, the right to express their opinion regarding a plea bargain and the right to make a statement prior to sentencing. Additionally, victims have the right to be represented by counsel, and may be accompanied to all hearings by a person of their choice.

The Juvenile Military Court in Judea and Samaria

The Juvenile Military Court was established formally in 2009. It should be noted that even before then, The Juvenile Court in Samaria applied most of the special rules regarding minors.

The main rules applying to the juvenile court are:

1. The presiding judge sitting in a judicial panel (or a single judge) hearing a case involving a minor is required to be qualified youth judge.
2. The age of majority is 18
3. Judicial proceedings involving minors are held separately from those of adults.
4. A minor is not indicted together with an adult.
5. By law, trials are held in closed session. The parents of the defendant may be present and are awarded special rights during the trial.
6. There is an obligation to inform a minor's parent or close adult relative when a minor is brought to a police station for investigation, according to the contact details provided by the minor.
7. Parents have the right to act on behalf of the minor by filing applications, questioning witnesses together with or instead of the minor.
8. The law imposes a duty to inform a minor of his/her right to notify and consult with an attorney in private, before the beginning of an investigation. Such notification must be explained in a language which the minor understands according to the minor's age and level of maturity.
9. The Juvenile Military Court may order the preparation a Probation Officer's Report by a welfare officer in the Civil administration.
10. There is a shortened period of detention for juveniles (pre-trial and trial) (24/48H).
11. The statute of limitations is shorter.

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Judicial Review by the High Court of Justice

The Military Courts do not operate in a void. In addition to the internal mechanisms for judicial review within the military system, the Military Court system is subject to review by Israel's Supreme Court, sitting as the High Court of Justice.

Any defendant who believes his rights have been violated at any stage of the judicial process in the Military Courts can submit a petition to the High Court of Justice, which will hear the petition in accordance with the highest standards of judicial review.



End Notes

¹ The UN estimates that between June 1967 and January 2008, 700,000 Palestinian adults and children were "imprisoned". Assuming a constant rate of detention between June 1967 and January 2008 (40.5 years), this estimate suggests an annual average of 17,284 "imprisonments". (See: UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967, Professor John Dugard, Human Rights Situation in Palestine and Other Occupied Arab Territories, 21 January 2008, A/HRC/7/17, paragraph 45).

Year	Total imprisoned	Annual average	Source
1967-2008	700,000	17,284	UN

Since January 2008, there are a number of data points available to estimate the number of detained Palestinians. It should be noted that the official detention statistics provided by the Israel Prison Service (IPS) only disclose how many Palestinians are in IPS facilities on the last day of a particular month. It is not possible to calculate from this data the total number of detentions in any given year. However, it is possible to obtain a best estimate based on the number of annual indictments in the military courts and data on short-term detentions provided by the Israeli army. It should be noted that not all Palestinians indicted in the military courts are detained, such as in cases involving traffic offences committed in Area C of the West Bank.

Year	Total indictments	Annual average	Short detention (IDF)	Source
1993-2000	124,000	15,500	n/a	IDF Law Review
2001-2007	n/a	n/a	n/a	(This period includes the 2nd Intifada)
2008-2013	50,058	8,343	n/a	Military Courts - Annual Activity Report
2014	n/a	n/a	890	Freedom of Information
2015	n/a	n/a	2,044	Freedom of Information
2016	n/a	n/a	2,403	Freedom of Information
2017	10,454	10,454	2,302	Freedom of Information
2018	7,731	7,731	1,741	Freedom of Information
2019	7,136	7,136	1,561	Freedom of Information
2020	6,350	6,350	1,275	Freedom of Information
2021	n/a	n/a	1,655	Freedom of Information
2022	n/a	n/a	n/a	-
2023	n/a	n/a	1,907	Freedom of Information
Annual Average (2008-2023)		8,003	1,753	-
		9,756		

Included in this total are detained children. Based on the available sources, including IPS data, data obtained under Government of Israel Freedom of Information and data provided by the Israeli military prosecutor, it is estimated that approximately 700 - 1,000 children are detained each year, including short-term detentions, or 38,500-55,000 children between June 1967 and December 2022.

Year	Short detention (IDF)	Arrested (Indicted)	Total	Source
2013	349	655 (465)	1,004	Military prosecutor
2014	83	861 (499)	944	Freedom of Information
2015	382	871 (540)	1,253	Freedom of information
2016	290	n/a	n/a	Freedom of information
2017	349	n/a	n/a	Freedom of information
2018	238	(569)	n/a	Freedom of information
2019	223	(451)	n/a	Freedom of information
2020	188	(338)	n/a	Freedom of information
2021	172	n/a	n/a	Freedom of information
Annual Average	253	796 (477)	1,067	

² Children in Military Custody (June 2012) - A report written by a delegation of British lawyers on the treatment of Palestinian children under Israeli military law (Lawyers' Report) - Available at: <https://is.gd/CUmAxs>

³ The Lawyers' Report found that Israel's military child detention system violates at least six of the following articles under the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child:

- (i) Article 2 - Discrimination;
- (ii) Article 3 - Best interests;
- (iii) Article 37(b) - Premature resort to detention;
- (iv) Article 37(c) - Non-separation from adults;
- (v) Article 37(d) - Prompt access to lawyers;
- (vi) Article 40 - Use of shackles.

The Lawyers' Report also found that Israel would be in breach of the prohibition on cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment in Article 37(a) of the Convention if the multiple reports of ill-treatment are, to a significant extent, correct.

The Lawyers' Report also found violations of two articles under the Fourth Geneva Convention:

- (i) Article 65 - Failure to translate all military orders from Hebrew to Arabic; and
- (ii) Article 76 - Transfer of child prisoners out of the occupied West Bank to prisons inside Israel.

⁴ UNICEF: Children in Israeli Military Detention - Observations and Recommendations (February 2013). Available at: <https://is.gd/QIhy1J>

⁵ UNICEF: Children in Israeli Military Detention - Observations and Recommendations - Bulletin No. 1: October 2013. Available at: <https://is.gd/hbrEaP>. UNICEF Bulletin No. 2: February 2015. Available at: <https://is.gd/rXGYZ9>.

⁶ See Endnote 5 above.

⁷ The "Military Prosecutor of Judea and Samaria" (occupied West Bank) at the time was Lt. Col. Maurice Hirsch. On 24 May 2014, the Israeli newspaper Haaretz reported that Hirsch was a resident of the West Bank settlement of Efrat. Available at: <https://is.gd/KcCBLZ>. Hirsch also acknowledged being a settler in the 2022 Israeli documentary, "Two Kids a Day". Available at: <https://is.gd/jtgo78>

⁸ Data for 2013 was provided by Israel's then military prosecutor in the West Bank, Lt.-Col. Maurice Hirsch, at Ofer Military Court on 26 February 2014 and to UNICEF prior to February 2015. This is the most comprehensive data available and includes short term detentions (up to 6 hours), arrests and indictments. It is not clear whether this data also includes arrests conducted by the Israeli Border Police in the West Bank.

⁹ This figure was obtained under a Freedom of Information application filed by ACRI and includes children arrested by both the Israeli military and police in the West Bank.

¹⁰ See Endnote 9 above

¹¹ Information collected by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in the occupied Palestinian territories (OCHA oPt) and presented in the Protection of Civilians Reports (2018-2022) indicates that the Israeli military conducted between 3,500-4,500 search and arrest operations in the occupied West Bank annually (5-year average: 3,816 operations). Available at: <https://is.gd/FATDGs>. Additional evidence indicates that over 80 percent of these operations occur at night. See also Yesh Din, Breaking the Silence and Physicians for Human Rights, [A Life Exposed: Military invasions of Palestinian homes in the West Bank](#), (November 2020), page 12 ("88% of the recorded invasions began between midnight and 5:00 A.M.").

¹² Jerusalem Post, Chief West Bank prosecutor says IDF may end long-standing night arrests of Palestinians, 18 February 2014. Available at: <https://is.gd/cbi9iH>

¹³ Yesh Din, Breaking the Silence, Physicians for Human Rights: A Life Exposed - Military Invasions of Palestinian Homes in the West Bank, November 2020, page 13. Available at: <https://is.gd/xvnRC8>

¹⁴ Based on the assumption that between 700-1,000 Palestinian children are arrested each year by the Israeli military in the occupied West Bank and 49 percent of these children were arrested at night in 2022 (based on MCW's sample of 100 cases).

¹⁵ See for example: The Independent - Bound, Blindfolded and Beaten (2009), available at: <https://is.gd/qnespG>; The Guardian - Former Israeli soldiers break the silence on military violations (2011), available at: <https://is.gd/HqiURB>; The Guardian - Hundreds of Palestinian minors jailed for throwing stones, says report (2011), available at: <https://is.gd/WUUp7j>; The Independent - How Israel takes its revenge on boys who throw stones (2011), available at: <https://is.gd/0GtfjG>; The Australian - Stone Cold Justice (2011), available at: <https://is.gd/4zC9kY>; Haaretz - Nearly 100% of All Military Court Cases in West Bank End in Conviction, Haaretz Learns (2011), available at: <https://is.gd/5SXvc2>; The Guardian - The Palestinian children - alone and bewildered - in Israel's Al Jalame jail (2012), available at: <https://is.gd/c4T4XS>; The Guardian - Israel subjecting Palestinian children to 'spiral of injustice' (2012), available at: <https://is.gd/OJkJzm>; Channel 4 News - Israel 'breaches rights of Palestinian children' (2012), available at: <https://is.gd/MhGPYc>; The Independent - UK ready to take on Israel over fate of children clapped in irons (2012), available at: <https://is.gd/siy9Zp>; The Independent - Nothing resonates like the mistreatment of minors (2012), available at: <https://is.gd/tripEY>; BBC - Israel 'breaching UN convention on children's rights' (2012), available at: <https://is.gd/yVK18p>; Haaretz - UK Slams Israel with Stiff Upper Lip: Not All Palestinian Kids Are Potential Terrorists (2012), available at: <https://is.gd/3qrfCL>; The Independent - Israel breaks silence over army abuses (2012), available at: <https://is.gd/5KSg6B>; AFP - Israel ill-treatment of Palestinian minors 'systematic' (2013), available at: <https://is.gd/4eBWre>; Associated Press - UNICEF urges Israel to reform detention of minors (2013), available at: <https://is.gd/bjzoOy>; The Australian - UN's circle of unaccountability (2013), available at: <https://is.gd/lzmGRG>; The Australian - Israel in U-turn on child justice (2014), available at: <https://is.gd/qoMGMI>; ABC Four Corners - Stone Cold Justice. Available at: <https://is.gd/Fh5mBe>; The Jerusalem Post - New IDF arrest policy may be attempt to avoid ICC (2014), available at: <https://is.gd/HQgm1M>.

¹⁶ See Endnotes 4 and 5 above.

¹⁷ Based on 7 years' worth of data (2016-2022).

¹⁸ The Coordination of Government Activities in the Territories (COGAT) - an IDF unit that reports to Israel's Ministry of Defence and coordinates with the Palestinian Authority in the occupied West Bank.

¹⁹ Lawyers' Report, paragraph 54.

²⁰ Military Order 1745 (10 September 2014). Available at: <https://is.gd/Gi5QJ4>

²¹ Yisascharov v The Head Military Prosecutor (2006).

²² Military Order 1798. Available at: <https://is.gd/HNVW3y>. Under Israeli civilian law children must generally be brought before a judge within 12-24 hours.

²³ In 2015, 17.9 percent of children indicted in Israel's civilian juvenile justice system were denied bail.

²⁴ See Endnote 22 above.

²⁵ UN Committee against Torture, Concluding Observations (Israel), 14 May 2009, paragraph 17. Available at: <https://is.gd/3ih8yo>

²⁶ See MCW Statistics page, available at: <https://is.gd/HCBOTj>

²⁷ Lawyers' Report, paragraph 111.

²⁸ B'Tselem, The Interrogation of Palestinians During the Intifada: Ill-Treatment, "Moderate Physical Pressure", or Torture? (March 1991) - page 59. Available at: <https://is.gd/s823jp>

²⁹ Fourth Geneva Convention - article 76. Available at: <https://is.gd/sPo19h>

Article 76 - Treatment of detainees

"Protected persons accused of offences shall be detained in the occupied country, and if convicted they shall serve their sentence therein."

³⁰ See paragraph 2.2 above.

³¹ Israeli Ministry of Public Security website. Available at: <http://is.gd/pxjrK9>

³² Based on the assumption that between 700-1,000 Palestinian children are arrested each year by the Israeli military in the occupied West Bank and 67 percent of these children were transferred (according to the IPS).

³³ Taking the average percentage of child transfers reported by the IPS between 2013-2022 (10 years) (57 percent) and assuming an annual detention rate of between 700-1,000 children.

³⁴ UNICEF Bulletin No. 2: February 2015, page 13, paragraph 13(i). Available at: <https://is.gd/rXGYZ9>.

³⁵ Youth (Trial, Punishment and Modes of Treatment) Law (1971)

³⁶ In September 2011, Military Order 1676 came into effect requiring that all children below the age of 18 be tried before a military juvenile judge. However, provisions relating to arrest, detention, interrogation and sentencing for adults still apply to youths aged 16 and 17.

³⁷ Youth (Trial, Punishment and Modes of Treatment) Law (1971) – Section 9J.

³⁸ Youth (Trial, Punishment and Modes of Treatment) Law (1971) – Section 9H. A parent is allowed to be present at all times in circumstances where the child has not been formally arrested but may not intervene in the interrogation process. Exceptions include: Parents do not present themselves within a reasonable time; waiting for a parent would harm the investigation, the child, or a third party; parents cannot be located after a reasonable attempt; and a parent can be removed from the interrogation if he/she threatens the child or disrupts the interrogation. Reasons why a parent is not present must be documented in writing by an authorized officer.

³⁹ This time period can be extended by 12 hours for urgent investigation needs.

⁴⁰ This time period remains the same following the introduction of Military Order 1798 (April 2018) but extension periods will be reduced from 24 to 12 hours in non-security cases.

⁴¹ This time period can be extended by 12 hours for urgent investigation needs.

⁴² This time period remains the same following the introduction of Military Order 1798 (April 2018) but extension periods will be reduced from 48 to 24 hours in non-security cases.

⁴³ This time period was reduced from 96 hours to 72 hours in security cases following the introduction of Military Order 1798 (April 2018). Extension periods have also been reduced from 96 hours to 72 hours.

⁴⁴ Criminal Procedures (Powers of Enforcement-Arrests) Law (1996) – Section 34 (criminal offences). In the case of security offences, the time period is 21 days - Section 35.

⁴⁵ Military Order 1651 – Article 56(e) (criminal offences). In the case of security offences, the time period is 60 days - Articles 58 and 59.

⁴⁶ This period can be extended by 10 days up to a maximum of 20 days by a judge. This period can be further extended up to a maximum of 40 days by the Attorney General. This period can be further extended by 45 days at a time by the Supreme Court.

⁴⁷ This period can be extended by 10 days up to a maximum of 40 days by a military judge. The Military Appeals Court can further extend this period by 45 days at a time in security cases. Military Order 1798 (April 2018) reduced this last time period down from 90 days.

⁴⁸ Military Order 1798 (April 2018) reduced this time period down from 12 months, to 6 months for non-security offences and 9 months for security offences.

⁴⁹ See UN Security Council Resolution 2334 (23 December 2016) and resolutions cited therein. Available at: <https://is.gd/EPd6wH> ; the International Court of Justice, Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Advisory Opinion (9 July 2004). Available at: <https://is.gd/QEqjA1> ; and internal Israeli legal advice to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (18 September 1967). Available at: <https://t.ly/5PgGW>