

Revealed: Etsy's business with shops in illegal Israeli settlements

Briefing - 7 August 2024



Key findings

Dozens of shops on Etsy – the popular online platform for selling and buying artisanal and vintage items, with a mission to ‘keep commerce human’ – are explicitly labelled as located in places that are considered illegal Israeli settlements in Palestinian territories by the UN and under international law

This is despite Etsy’s own rules against sales of items that are illegal, stolen, or “subject to complex legal regulations.” Etsy’s policies also clearly state it can suspend sellers’ access to its platform at any time

Hundreds of other Etsy shops are labelled unclearly as located in “Israel” without naming any specific city or town; this lacking transparency makes it hard to tell if these shops are also in illegal settlements – however we were able to establish these links in a few cases (where settlements are named, for example, in additional information about the seller or where to send returns to)

So far Etsy’s ties to the illegal settlements seem to have flown under the radar, despite other research into, and demands of, other platforms (e.g., Booking.com, Airbnb) that are similarly profiting from business with these places

Etsy’s contracts with shops in the settlements appear to be specifically done through the company’s subsidiary in Ireland (which is likely to alarm many in that country where there are growing calls to cut ties with settlement businesses)

There are also potentially serious questions for Etsy to answer about whether proceeds from its business with illegal settlements are entering the Irish financial system against Irish anti-money laundering legislation

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Summary

Under the radar, Etsy – the popular online platform for selling and buying artisanal and vintage items, with a mission to “keep commerce human”¹ – has been profiting from businesses with shops in illegal Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT). This briefing reveals, for the first time, how Etsy hosts numerous shops that explicitly name as their locations places that are considered illegal Israeli settlements by the UN and under international law – and as recently confirmed by the International Court of Justice (ICJ), in its ruling in July 2024.² The platform also hosts many more shops that only say they are based in ‘Israel’, without specifying particular locations, making it hard or impossible for consumers to tell if they are also in such settlements.

Etsy makes money when shops on its platform list and sell their items, and it promotes “star sellers” and highlights them to buyers.³ These “star sellers” include at least four that list specific illegal settlements as their locations, including one that had made more than 12,000 sales (as of late July 2024), with prices of up to £500 per item. The full amount of money that has gone to businesses in the settlements, and Etsy in the process, is hard to estimate. This trade has a significant Irish connection, too – which will alarm many in that country, where there are growing calls to cut ties with settlement businesses.⁴ Etsy’s contracts with these shops in settlements appear to be done through the company’s Irish subsidiary, Etsy Ireland UC, which is headquartered in Dublin.⁵

1 Etsy (July 2024) [“Etsy’s New Ad Campaign Doubles-Down on its Mission to Keep Commerce Human”](#).

2 ICJ (July 2024) [“Summary of the Advisory Opinion of 19 July 2024”](#).

3 Etsy. [“Star Seller: How it works”](#) (accessed 31 July 2024).

4 Walsh, E. (March 2024) [“Gaza puts Ireland’s public investments in the occupied territories under scrutiny”](#) Irish Examiner.

5 See the section ‘Irish connection’ of this report for more information.

For years – as well as amidst the unfolding ‘plausible genocide’ in Gaza⁶, Israeli efforts to expand their illegal settlements in the West Bank, and increasing settler violence against Palestinians – consumers of conscience may have bought unknowingly from Etsy shops in these illegal settlements. Etsy may not have been questioned about these business links before. These problems, at least, can end now. This briefing presents the results of research by the Institute for Journalism and Social Change (IJSC) identifying Etsy shops in illegal settlements – and conflicts between this part of the company’s business and its own policies and rules, as well as international law.

6 ICJ (January 2024) [Order of the court in response to “Request for the indication of provisional measures”](#).

Introduction

Etsy is a big player in the online shopping industry – with a particular niche for ‘feel good’ shopping for conscious consumers who want to buy direct from small artisans or sellers of vintage items (from handmade jewellery to wall art to wedding supplies). For years, other major online platforms like Booking.com and Airbnb (which also connect buyers and sellers) have been challenged for “contributing to the crimes committed against Palestinians” and “facilitating the criminal Israeli settlement enterprise” because they list accommodation for rent in illegal Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT).⁷ The UN has a database of more than 100 companies that similarly benefit from and contribute to the creation, maintenance and expansion of these settlements.⁸ However, Etsy’s role in hosting, supporting and profiting from businesses in the settlements has gone under the radar and remained unchallenged – until now.

Background on the settlements

In January 2024, the UN’s top court, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) said it was “plausible” that Israel is committing acts of “genocide” in Gaza – in a major, ongoing case launched by South Africa in 2023 that is expected to take years to conclude.⁹ In July 2024, the ICJ separately confirmed “that the continued presence of Israel in the Occupied Palestinian Territory [Gaza and the West Bank including East Jerusalem] is illegal”. “Israel must immediately cease all new settlement activity,” it stressed, and “provide full reparation for the damage caused by its internationally wrongful acts.” This includes the return of land seized since the occupation started in 1967, and “requires the evacuation of all settlers from existing settlements.”¹⁰

7 De Leeuw, L. (May 2024) [“Booking.com accused of laundering profits from Israeli war crimes in Palestine”](#). SOMO - The Centre for Research on Multinational Corporations.

8 United Nations Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. [“Database Pursuant to Human Rights Council Resolution 31/36”](#). (accessed 31 July 2024).

9 Al-Jassab, F. (January 2024) [“A top U.N. court says Gaza genocide is ‘plausible’ but does not order cease-fire”](#). NPR

10 ICJ. (July 2024) [“Summary of the Advisory Opinion of 19 July 2024”](#).

Amidst Israel's 'plausible genocide' in Gaza, it has been expanding its settlements in the West Bank. This has been covered across the global media, for example: "With the world's focus on Gaza, settlers have used wartime chaos as cover for violence and dispossession" (noted an article in *The New Yorker*)¹¹; "As Israel carries out a devastating war on Gaza, settlers are exploiting the lack of global attention on the occupied West Bank to expel Palestinians from their land there" (*Al Jazeera*).¹²; and "Israel takes advantage of Gaza war to expand West Bank settlements" (*El Pais*).¹³

In March 2024, UN Human Rights Chief Volker Türk condemned a "drastic acceleration in settlement building... exacerbating long-standing patterns of oppression, violence and discrimination against Palestinians. He said that an Israeli plan to build around 3,500 more settler homes in the West Bank "amounts to a war crime under international law." Consequences for Palestinians of expanding settlements include displacement, he said, "through Israeli settler and state violence, as well as through forced evictions, non-issuance of building permits, home demolitions and movement restrictions."¹⁴

As of 22 July 2024, UN figures showed that since 7 October 2023 there had been at least 1,143 new Israeli settler attacks against Palestinians.¹⁵ Amnesty International has also denounced what it called a "state-backed deadly rampage by Israeli settlers" that "highlights the urgent need to dismantle illegal settlements, end Israel's occupation of the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT) and its longstanding system of apartheid."¹⁶

There are now approximately 700,000 Israeli settlers living in about 300 illegal settlements in the occupied West Bank including East Jerusalem.¹⁷ There are another

11 Bauer, S. (February 2024) "[The Israeli Settlers Attacking their Palestinian Neighbours](#)". *The New Yorker*.

12 Nashed, M. (July 2024) "[How Israeli settlements are taking over the West Bank as Gaza war wages](#)". *Al Jazeera*.

13 Pita, A. (May 2024) "[Israel takes advantage of Gaza war to expand West Bank settlements](#)". *El Pais*.

14 Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. (March 2024) "[UN Human Rights Chief deplores new moves to expand Israeli settlements in occupied West Bank](#)".

15 Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. (July 2024) "[Humanitarian Situation Update #195 | West Bank](#)".

16 Amnesty International. (April 2024) "[State-backed deadly rampage by Israeli settlers underscores urgent need to dismantle apartheid](#)".

17 Middle East Eye. (March 2024) "[Record year for Israeli settlements with new approval for Jordan Valley units](#)".

approximately 20,000 settlers in about 30 settlements in the occupied Golan Heights in south-western Syria, where the Israeli settler population surpassed that of native Syrians in 2023.¹⁸ Some of these settlements have existed for decades; some of them are newer; and some are still expanding as denounced by the UN this year.

One way that people around the world may be connected to these settlements is through business, a fact that has prompted a growing number of investigations and calls for change. In the UK, for instance, in March 2024, Global Justice Now, War on Want and partners wrote to the British government calling for action against trade with the settlements, condemning “Israel’s relentless expropriation of Palestinian land [that is]... a key driver of the Israel-Palestinian conflict” and is in violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention and is a war crime under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.¹⁹ The UK government has also faced pressure from the Trade Union Congress to end active trade talks with Israel, under its “obligation as a party to the Genocide Convention to take measures to prevent genocide”²⁰; in July 2024, however, the Trade Secretary controversially announced plans to renew trade talks with Israel.²¹

In May 2024, after Ireland, Norway and Spain officially recognised Palestine as a state, Israel’s finance minister called for more settlements to be established in response.²²

18 BBC News. (August 2023) [“Golan Heights profile”](#).

The New Arab. (June 2023) [“Israeli settlers outnumber Syrian population in Golan Heights: UN”](#)

19 Letter to UK Secretary of State (March 2024) from Global Justice Now, War on Want and partners: [“Suspending trade agreements and negotiations in response to the ICJ ruling on Gaza”](#).

20 Crawford, R. (March 2024) [“UK government must stop trade talks with Israel to support peace in the Middle East”](#). Trade Union Congress (TUC).

21 UK Department for Business and Trade and The Rt Hon Jonathan Reynolds MP (July 2024) [“New Government drives forward trade talks to turbocharge economic growth”](#).

22 Middle East Monitor. (May 2024) [“Israel minister: Build a new settlement for every country that recognises Palestine”](#).

Background on Etsy

Etsy is a big company with a kind-sounding mission: to “keep commerce human”.²³ In 2023, it said 92 million people made at least one purchase on the platform that year (up from 46 million in 2019), and that its annual revenues surpassed \$2.7 billion.²⁴ Listed on the Nasdaq stock exchange, Etsy, Inc is headquartered in Brooklyn and incorporated in Delaware.²⁵ However, its contracts with sellers outside the Americas, it says, are done with its subsidiary in Ireland (more on this below in the section: Irish connection).

Etsy profits from the shops that are hosted on the platform; it charges vendors fees when they list items and when they sell items (including a 6.5% transaction fee on the sale price including delivery, as well as payment processing fees if Etsy Payments is used). Etsy also collects fees from paid ads on its platform.²⁶

Etsy can take, and it has previously taken, action to restrict sales on its platform. Last year, Etsy blocked accounts of all Russian vendors (including those living abroad).²⁷ Etsy’s various policy documents also outline restrictions and explain how the company can make decisions to remove sellers’ access to its platform. For example:

- “Etsy may refuse service of Etsy Payments to anyone, for any reason, at any time. Etsy reserves the right to decline or refund transactions that we believe to be high risk, fraudulent, in violation of trade sanctions, or otherwise in violation of Etsy’s Terms of Use.” (Etsy Payments Policy).²⁸
- “Don’t Use Our Services to Break the Law. You agree that you will not violate any laws in connection with your use of the Services. This includes any local, state, federal, and international laws that may apply to you.” (Terms of Use).²⁹
- “Stolen items are not allowed on Etsy. Neither are certain items that are subject

²³ Etsy also owns several other related businesses: Reverb (a major online platform for selling and buying musical instruments); depop (a ‘people-powered fashion marketplace’ with ‘strong affinity with the Generation Z and Millennial consumer demographics’) and elo7 “the Etsy of Brazil”.

Etsy, “[Events & Presentations](#)” and Etsy, “[Q4 2021](#)” (accessed 31 July 2024).

²⁴ Etsy, “[Events & Presentations](#)” (accessed 31 July 2024).

²⁵ Yahoo! Finance, “[Etsy Inc Nasdaq](#)” and The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, “[Etsy Inc](#)”.

²⁶ Etsy, “[Fees & Payments Policy](#)” (accessed 31 July 2024).

²⁷ Etsy, “[Information for Sellers in Belarus and Russia](#)” (accessed 31 July 2024).

²⁸ Etsy, “[Etsy Payments Policy](#)” (accessed 31 July 2024).

²⁹ Etsy, “[Etsy Terms of Use](#)” (accessed 31 July 2024).

to complex legal regulations”; “listings may be unavailable for users in regions where the item is restricted to purchase or sell.” (Prohibited Items Policy).³⁰

³⁰ Etsy. “[Prohibited Items Policy - Effective from 29 July 2024](#)” (accessed 31 July 2024).

Etsy + illegal settlements

Artisanal jewellery, leather sandals and stained glass suncatchers. These are just some of the things you could unknowingly buy on Etsy from shops located in illegal Israeli settlements in Palestinian territory. These shops are labelled as if they were based in Israel, and customers may not be aware that they are in illegal settlements unless they have heard of or look up the specific names: Maale Adumim, for example.

Maale Adumim is an Israeli settlement in the West Bank, outside of east Jerusalem. Though it was first established decades ago, it has also been in the news recently because of controversial new plans to expand it with more settler homes; it was one of the settlements whose expansion was denounced by UN Human Rights Chief Volker Türk in March 2024 as a war crime.³¹ Maale Adumim is also the listed location of an Etsy “star seller” which had a total sales record (as of late July 2024) of over 12,000 sales since the shop opened in 2021. Items for sale in this jewellery-focused shop have price tags up to £500; are prominent in search results under prompts such as ‘heart necklace’ and ‘necklace for mom’; and also include personalised “IDF military dog tags”.

In July 2024, the IJSC identified at least 44 shops on Etsy, including the one referenced above, that said on their pages that they were located in a total of 16 different specific settlements that are considered illegal by the UN and under international law;³² 12 of these settlements are in the occupied West Bank while four of them are instead in the Israeli-occupied Syrian Golan Heights.³³

31 Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. (March 2024) [“UN Human Rights Chief deplors new moves to expand Israeli settlements in occupied West Bank”](#).

32 These settlements are: Ariel, Ma’ale Adumim, Tekoa, Talmon, Oranit, Na’ale, Kfar HaOranim, Hashmonaim, Har Adar, Elazar, Beitar Illit, Beit Horon (in the West Bank); Yonatan, Merom Golan, and Had Nes (in the Golan Heights). Two of the identified shops only gave “Judea and Samaria Area” as their location; this is another name for the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

33 Shops in the illegal settlements identified by the IJSC have been open on Etsy since at least 2009. At least three shops have opened in 2024. Three of the shops that we found were ‘closed’ (but still have pages on the platform), seven were labelled as taking a ‘short break’ in July 2024. We found names of illegal settlements in tables published in UN reports and by peace groups, and searched for these names on the Etsy platform. See: Peace Now, [“Settlements List”](#) and United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, (2019) [“Settlements in West Bank Index”](#) (accessed 31 July 2024).

These connections were either explicit in the shop’s profile information (in 41 cases) or they were found in additional information sections, for instance about returns (in 2 cases) or about the shop’s owner (1 case).

It is possible that there are many more Etsy shops in illegal settlements. The IJSC identified hundreds that gave no specific locations: just the country, ‘Israel’.³⁴

This means it is likely currently impossible (for buyers and others outside of the company) to be able to determine exactly which Etsy shops are in settlements and how many there really are, overall. In contrast, it appears that Etsy does know where each shop is located; in order to open a shop on the platform, sellers must submit, for example, their addresses for tax purposes including postal codes.

The IJSC shared details with Etsy of these shops including screenshots showing their explicit naming of locations in places considered illegal settlements by the UN and under international law, as well as screenshots of shops on its platform that only identify their location as “Israel” without naming a specific city or town.³⁵

Irish connection

Etsy has an important subsidiary in Ireland: Etsy Ireland UC, which is headquartered in Dublin.³⁶ Etsy’s Terms of Use for sellers with shops on its platform states:

“If you live in North America or South America, the contract is between you and Etsy, Inc.; if you live elsewhere, the contract is between you and **Etsy Ireland UC**, a subsidiary of Etsy, Inc.; We’ll just refer to Etsy, Inc. and all of its subsidiaries collectively as “Etsy”.³⁷

³⁴ IJSC identified these shops by reviewing the list of [‘All shops in Israel’](#) provided on Etsy’s platform (last accessed: 31 July 2024) and making notes of those that did not list any specific location. We found more than 200 (at least 217) that only said their location was “Israel”. We also made notes of hundreds of other shops that show up on Etsy’s list of “All shops in Israel” but do not provide any location information at all (not even ‘Israel’).

³⁵ We have withheld these images from this publication as they could identify individuals.

³⁶ Etsy. [“Legal imprint”](#) (accessed 31 July 2024).

³⁷ Etsy. [“Terms of Use”](#) (accessed 31 July 2024).

Etsy's payments policy includes the same language about its use of the company's Irish subsidiary for contracts with sellers outside of the Americas.³⁸ Etsy collects VAT on physical goods that are delivered to the EU from outside countries.³⁹ It also, as described above, profits from the listing and sales of goods. If Etsy's illegal settlement business – and proceeds from it – are going through Ireland, this is likely to concern many in the country where there are growing and high-level calls for action to stem or end trade and business relationships with these settlements.⁴⁰

If Etsy's proceeds from illegal settlement businesses are being brought into the Irish financial system, this could also leave the company exposed to questions and claims that it is violating Irish anti-money laundering legislation. A criminal complaint in the Netherlands, filed in November 2023 by civil society organisations including SOMO, Al-Haq, European Legal Support Center, and The Rights Forum accused Booking.com (which is registered in the Netherlands) of contravening Dutch anti-money laundering legislation by facilitating the rental of vacation homes on land stolen from Palestinians, and bringing profits from war crimes into the country's financial system.⁴¹ The company has disagreed with these allegations, and said there were no laws prohibiting listings in illegal Israeli settlements. Dutch authorities are still investigating the complaint.⁴²

Business with illegal Israeli settlements – and what action can be taken to stem it – has been in the news in Ireland recently around, for instance, proposals to divest state funds from companies operating in the settlements. Human rights organisations, GLAN, Sadaka and Al-Haq, have also recently launched a first-of-its-kind complaint in Ireland arguing that the country's Criminal Assets Bureau should seize any revenue generated for Ireland from illegal settlements under the Proceeds of Crime Act.⁴³

38 Etsy. "[Etsy Payments Policy](#)" (accessed 31 July 2024).

39 Etsy. "[Seller Handbook](#)" (accessed 31 July 2024).

40 The Journal. (May 2024) "[Harris confirms he has received 'recent' legal advice on Occupied Territories Bill](#)".

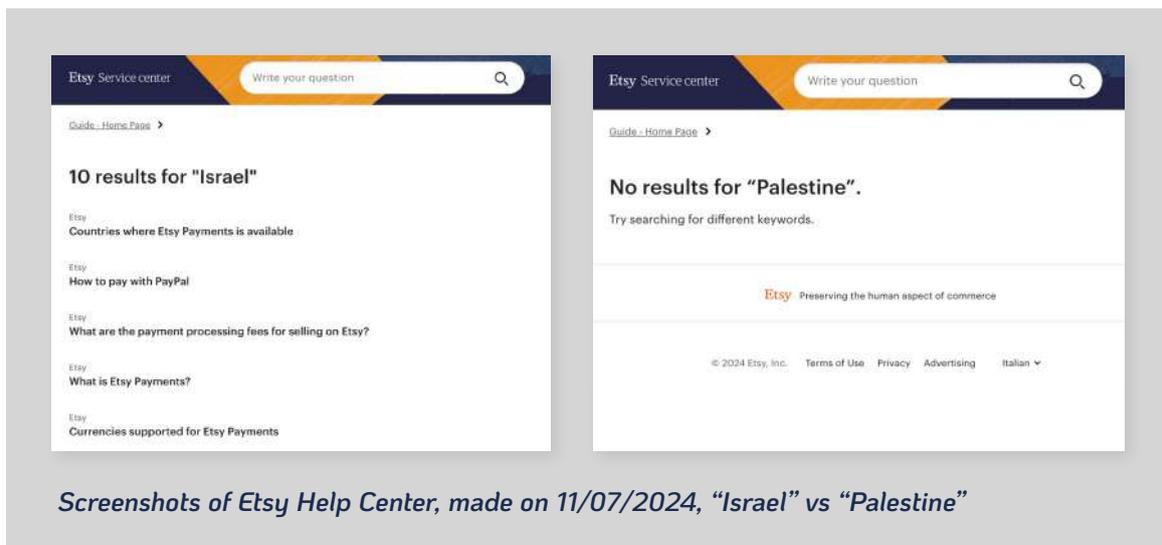
41 De Leeuw, L. (May 2024) "[Booking.com accused of laundering profits from Israeli war crimes in Palestine](#)". SOMO - The Centre for Research on Multinational Corporations.

42 De Leeuw, L. (May 2024) "[Booking.com accused of laundering profits from Israeli war crimes in Palestine](#)". SOMO - The Centre for Research on Multinational Corporations.

43 Curran, J. (April 2024) "[State investment fund pulls out of Israeli companies operating in illegal settlements](#)." Irish Times.

Missing: Etsy shops in major Palestinian cities?

In contrast to the number of Etsy shops that say their location is in Israel, or that it is specifically in an illegal Israeli settlement, we found no Etsy shops that list their location as Hebron, Nablus, or Ramallah (major Palestinian cities). Also, in contrast to the number of pages in Etsy's Help Center that include the word "Israel", there was not a single one in July 2024 that included the word "Palestine" or "Palestinian."



For sellers in Israel, Etsy's Help Center specifies: "PayPal is not available to Etsy sellers located in Israel and enrolled in Etsy Payments... However, Etsy Payments gives your buyers more ways to pay, including credit cards, Etsy gift cards, and more." There is no advice for potential Palestinian sellers on that page or anywhere else on the platform.⁴⁴

⁴⁴ Etsy. "[Countries Eligible for Etsy Payments](#)" (accessed 31 July 2024).

Conclusions

Etsy's business with illegal Israeli settlements has, until now, gone under the radar. There are likely to be other shops in these settlements, meanwhile, beyond those identified in this briefing – including because of a lack of transparency by many Etsy shops in Israel, and a lack of relevant warnings or advice for buyers.

We now know that Etsy is another company that is profiting from business relationships with the illegal settlements. By facilitating the sale of products from shops located in these settlements, Etsy could be connected to war crimes – and this could, in turn, be making users of the platform around the world, as well as Ireland (as the location of Etsy's subsidiary contracting with settlement shops), unknowingly involved too.

These business relationships look like a serious problem for Etsy. But Etsy also has an opportunity to respond to these revelations, and concerns about them. It could act on its ability, as written into its policies, to cut its ties with shops in illegal settlements. It could also require that all shops disclose their location (city/town and not just country). In doing so, it could show real leadership to many already or potentially loyal users: people who want to make 'feel good', conscious and more ethical purchases online.

Etsy shops in illegal Israeli settlements in the West Bank (occupied Palestine)⁴⁵

Illegal settlement	Brief description	Etsy shops ⁴⁶
Ariel	Ariel is one of the largest illegal settlements in the West Bank, with over 20,000 residents as of 2024. ⁴⁷ Ariel's mayor has reportedly, repeatedly, blocked the access to the adjacent Palestinian city of Salfit, claiming that this has happened for settlers' security. ⁴⁸ In May, Israel announced new plans to expand the area with the establishment of "Ariel West", which would cut off Salfit from other nearby Palestinian villages. ⁴⁹	At least fourteen
Maale Adumim	In March, UN Human Rights Chief Volker Türk said that Israel's plans to build a further about 3,500 settler homes in the West Bank – including in Maale Adumim – “amounts to a war crime under international law.” ⁵⁰ The expansion of Maale Adumim, under Israeli plans announced that month, would reportedly displace around 1,300 Palestinian Bedouins. ⁵¹ Palestinian Bedouins had moved to the area in the 1950s after being expelled by Israeli forces from the Negev desert. ⁵² Since then, decades of settler expansion and other forced relocations have pushed Palestinian Bedouins out of this area too. ⁵³	At least nine

45 IJSC identified these shops by searching Etsy for items being sold by shops in places that are illegal Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian West Bank and occupied Syrian Golan Heights. We found names of illegal settlements in tables published in UN reports and by peace groups, and searched for these names on the Etsy platform. See: Peace Now, "[Settlements List](#)" and United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, (2019) "[Settlements in West Bank Index](#)" (accessed 31 July 2024).

46 Identified by IJSC in July 2024

47 Sharon J. (March 2024) "[Construction begins on large new settlement neighborhood west of Ariel.](#)" The Times of Israel.

48 Freidson, Y and Peleg, B. (July 2024) "[West Bank Settlement Closes Access Road to Palestinian Town, Angering Security Officials.](#)" Haaretz.

49 Peace Now. (April 2024) "[Massive Expansion of Ariel Industrial Zone to be Approved](#)".

50 Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. (March 2024) "[UN Human Rights Chief deplores new moves to expand Israeli settlements in occupied West Bank](#)".

51 Shezaf, H. (March 2024) "[Israel Declares Area With Bedouin Residents Near Ma'aleh Adumim as State Land](#)". Haaretz.

52 Buxbaum, J. (March 2024) "[Israel Takes Final Steps to Large-Scale Land Confiscation and Forced Displacement of Bedouin](#)". Jerusalem Story.

53 Purkiss, J. (October 2014) "[The Bedouins long history of demolitions and displacement](#)". Middle East Monitor.

Tekoa	This settlement is among others that have been named in recent major media reports about incidents of settler violence against Palestinians that have risen since 7 October 2023. ⁵⁴	At least four
Talmon	This settlement, west of the Palestinian city Ramallah and occupies land from Palestinian villages including Al Janya. ⁵⁵ In July 2024, it was named in news reports about Israeli settlers who set fire to nearby Palestinian farms of olive trees: the settlers reportedly crossed the fence separating the settlement from the village and set fire to the targeted lands. ⁵⁶	At least 1
Oranit	This settlement has also been named in reports of Israeli forces impeding access of Palestinians to olive groves. ⁵⁷	At least 1
Na'ale	This is a smaller settlement in the West Bank, founded in the late 1980s. Photos of a new housing project in the settlement were published by several media outlets in 2019. ⁵⁸	At least 1
Kfar HaOranim	This settlement, also referred to as Menorah, was founded in the late 1990s, with land confiscated from the Palestinian Saffa village. ⁵⁹ In 2022, one of its inhabitants (Herzi Halevi) became the first settler to become chief of staff of Israel's military. ⁶⁰	At least 1
Hashmonaim	This settlement was founded in 1985 with land confiscated from the same Palestinian Saffa village. ⁶¹ In 2019, reporters for Vice visited the settlement and described "manicured lawns, top-notch schools" – and how nearly half of its 2,600 settlers were from the New York area; many were working remotely. ⁶² A Haaretz article previously dubbed it "Little America." ⁶³	At least 1
Beitar Illit	This is one of Israel's largest and most rapidly growing settlements in the West Bank. It was established in the 1980s and now has more than 60,000 residents. ⁶⁴	At least 1
Beit Horon	This is a smaller settlement, established in the 1970s.	At least 1

54 Smith, A and Azzeh, M. (November 2023) "[Israeli settlers drive a new wave of anti-Palestinian violence in the occupied West Bank](#)". NBC News.

55 United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. (January 2017) "[The humanitarian impact of de facto settlement expansion: the case of Talmon-Nahliel bloc](#)".

56 Saba. (July 2024) "[Zionist settlers set fire to Palestinian lands in Al-Janiya, west of Ramallah](#)".

57 Scammel, R. (December 2020) "[The Israeli families moving to the occupied West Bank](#)". The National News.

58 Federman, J. (February 2019) "[West Bank settlers report surge in population growth](#)". Times of Israel.

59 The Applied Research Institute – Jerusalem. (2012) "[Saffa Village Profile](#)".

60 Goldenburg, T. (October 2022) "[For first time, settler becomes chief of staff of Israel's military](#)". Associated Press republished by PBS News.

61 The Applied Research Institute – Jerusalem. (2012) "[Saffa Village Profile](#)".

62 Feldman, K. (January 2013) "[Living the American Dream in the West Bank](#)". Vice.

63 Morad, T. (November 2010) "[Little America, Just Over the Green Line](#)". Haaretz.

64 Peace Now. "[Settlements List](#)" (accessed 31 July 2024).

Har Adar	This settlement was established in the mid-1980s. It sits on the 'Green Line' and has been called by Israeli newspaper Haaretz one of "the most well-off communities in Israel". ⁶⁵	At least 1
Elazar	This settlement was established in the 1970s. In March 2024, a Palestinian was reportedly shot dead by an Israeli reservist at a bus stop by this settlement. ⁶⁶	At least 1

65 Blau, U. (March 2013) "[Har Adar Is Over the Green Line, but Its Residents Don't Like to Be Called Settlers.](#)" Haaretz.

66 Middle East Eye. (March 2024) "[Palestinian who converted to Judaism shot dead by Israeli soldier in West Bank](#)".

Etsy shops in illegal Israeli settlements in the Golan Heights (occupied Syria)⁶⁷

Illegal settlement	Brief description	Etsy stores ⁶⁸
Geshur	This settlement, in the southern Golan Heights, was built on the lands of a destroyed village, Aidesa, and was first constructed as a military settlement in 1968 before becoming a civilian one in the 1970s. ⁶⁹	At least 3
Yonatan	This settlement, in the central Golan Heights, was established in the 1970s. ⁷⁰	At least 1
Merom Golan	This settlement is in the northern Golan Heights, in an area that had been inhabited by Syrian Druze (most of whom were displaced during or after the Six Day War in 1967). ⁷¹	At least 1
Had Nes	This settlement was established in the 1980s.	At least 1

⁶⁷ Al-Marsad (Arab Human Rights Centre in Golan Heights). "[Illegal Settlements](#)" (accessed 31 July 2024).

⁶⁸ Identified by IJSC in July 2024

⁶⁹ Al-Marsad (Arab Human Rights Centre in Golan Heights). "[Illegal Settlements](#)" (accessed 31 July 2024).

⁷⁰ Al-Marsad (Arab Human Rights Centre in Golan Heights). "[Illegal Settlements](#)" (accessed 31 July 2024).

⁷¹ Beinan, J. (March 2019) "[Building of 'Israeli' Golan Heights: Trump's Recognition Climax of Decades-Long Process](#)". *The Globe Post*.

Etsy's response (as of 6 August 2024)

“We appreciate you reaching out to us. We have shared this information internally with the appropriate teams for review. Please note that Etsy strives to comply with applicable laws, including relevant anti-money laundering and sanctions laws, and we take those very seriously. We regularly screen our sellers against sanctions watchlists to ensure sanctioned individuals and entities are not able to sell on Etsy, and we constantly monitor for changes in applicable rules and take appropriate actions.”



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