



The Global Initiative

for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

**Parallel Report submitted by the
Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (GI-ESCR)
to the Country Task Force of the Human Rights Committee
on the occasion of the consideration of the
List of Issues Prior to Reporting
related to
the Fourth Periodic Report of Israel**

**Israel's continued violations of the International Covenant on
Civil and Political Rights with regard to house demolitions,
forced evictions and safe and accessible water and sanitation
in the Occupied Palestinian Territory and Israel**

Submitted March 2012

1. INTRODUCTION

1. The Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (GI-ESCR) is an international non-governmental human rights organization which seeks to advance the realization of economic, social and cultural rights throughout the world, tackling the endemic problem of global poverty through a human rights lens. The vision of the GI-ESCR is of a world where economic, social and cultural rights are fully respected, protected and fulfilled and on equal footing with civil and political rights, so that all people are able to live in dignity.

2. To further this vision, the Global Initiative works to support and engage advocates, social movements and grassroots communities at national and local levels to more effectively claim and enforce economic, social and cultural rights, including by engaging international mechanisms for local impact. We work to strengthen the international human rights framework through creative standard setting so that all people, and in particular marginalized individuals and groups, are able to fully enjoy their economic, social and cultural rights without discrimination and on the basis of equality. We provide innovative tools to policy makers, development actors and others on the practical implementation of economic, social and cultural rights. And, we enforce economic, social and cultural rights at international, regional and national mechanisms, ensuring remedies for violations of these rights, with a focus on creating beneficial jurisprudence aimed at transformative change.

3. The mission of the GI-ESCR is to strengthen the international human rights framework through creative standard setting, so that all people, and in particular marginalized individuals and groups, are able to fully enjoy their economic, social and cultural rights, and are able to do so without discrimination and on the basis of equality; provide innovative tools to policy makers, development actors and others on the practical implementation and realization of economic, social and cultural rights; enforce economic, social and cultural rights through international, regional and national mechanisms and seek remedies for violations of these rights, with a focus on creating beneficial jurisprudence aimed at transformative change; engage networks of human rights, women's rights, environmental and development organizations and agencies to advance the sustainable enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights at both national and international levels; and work with advocates, social movements and grassroots communities at national and local levels to more effectively claim and enforce economic, social and cultural rights, including by engaging international mechanisms for local impact.

4. Staff of the GI-ESCR have advocated in the area of housing rights, including the human right to adequate housing and the prohibition on forced eviction, in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory since 2002 and on the issues of rights related to water and sanitation, including the human rights to water and sanitation, since 2007.

2. Follow Up to the Concluding Observations of 2010

5. The GI-ESCR welcomes the Concluding Observations of the Human Rights Committee adopted on 29 July 2010 with respect to the third periodic report of Israel (UN Doc. CCPR/C/ISR/CO/3). In particular, the GI-ESCR welcomes that the Committee meaningfully applied the principle of indivisibility of human rights and considered violations related to housing, water and sanitation as amounting to violations of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.
6. The GI-ESCR hopes that the Committee follows up on these Concluding Observations, and in particular the recommendation provided in paragraphs 8, 17, 18 and 24.

3. Recommended Issues for the List of Issues

7. What steps has the State Party taken to lift the blockade and sanctions on the Gaza Strip?
8. What steps has the State Party taken to cease its practice of forced eviction and collective punitive home and property demolitions?
9. What steps has the State Party taken to review its housing policy and issuance of construction permits with a view to implementing the principle of non-discrimination regarding minorities, in particular Palestinians and to increasing construction on a legal basis for minorities of the West Bank and East Jerusalem.
10. What steps has the State Party taken to ensure that municipal planning systems are not discriminatory.
11. What steps has the State Party taken to ensure that all residents of the West Bank have equal access to water, such as in accordance with the World Health Organization quality and quantity standards?
12. What steps has the State Party taken to allow the construction of water and sanitation infrastructure, as well as wells, by Palestinians in the occupied Palestinian territory?
13. What steps has the State Party taken to address the issue of sewage and waste water in the occupied territories emanating from Israel?
14. What steps has been taken by the State Party to respect the Negev Bedouin population's right to their ancestral land and their traditional livelihood based on agriculture?
15. What steps has the State Party taken to guarantee the Bedouin population's access to health structures, education, water and electricity, irrespective of their whereabouts on the territory of the State Party?