



# How the US protects Israel

UN Security Council attempts to keep Israel within some sort of human rights framework have generally run into one obstacle — the United States. With its ability to veto Security Council resolutions, the US has repeatedly prevented any UN action against Israel — delaying a political settlement in the region. This list of vetoes, stretching back to 1972, gives a sense of just how often the US has given the thumbs-down

**10/9/72:** UN condemns Israel's attacks against southern Lebanon and Syria. Vote: 13 to 1 (US veto) with 1 abstention.

**26/7/73:** Affirms the rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination, statehood and equal protection. Vote: 13 to 1 (US veto) with China absent.

**8/12/75:** Condemns Israel's air strikes and attacks in southern Lebanon and its murder of innocent civilians. Vote: 13 to 1 (US veto) with 1 abstention.

**26/1/76:** Calls for self-determination of Palestinian people. Vote: 9 to 1 (US veto) with 3 abstentions.

**25/3/76:** Deplores Israel's altering of the status of Jerusalem, which is recognised as an international city by most world nations and the UN. Vote: 14 to 1 (US veto).

**29/6/76:** Affirms the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people. Vote: 10 to 1 (US veto) with 4 abstentions.

**30/4/80:** Endorses self-determination for the Palestinian people. Vote: 10 to 1 (US veto) with 4 abstentions.

**20/1/82:** Demands Israel's withdrawal from the Golan Heights. Vote: 9 to 1 (US veto) with 4 abstentions.

**2/4/82:** Condemns Israeli mistreatment of Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and its refusals to abide by the Geneva Convention protocols of civilised nations. Vote: 14 to 1 (US veto).

**20/4/82:** Condemns Israeli soldier who shot 11 Muslim worshippers near Al Aqsa mosque in the Old City of Jerusalem. Vote: 14 to 1 (US veto).

**8/6/82:** Urges sanctions against Israel if it does not withdraw from Lebanon. Vote: 14 to 1 (US veto).

**26/6/82:** Urges sanctions against Israeli if it does not withdraw from Lebanon. Vote: 14 to 1 (US veto)

**6/8/82:** Urges an end to economic aid to Israeli if it refuses to withdraw from Lebanon. Vote: 11 to 1 (US veto) with 3 abstentions.

**2/8/83:** Condemns continued Israeli settlements in occupied Palestinian territories of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, denouncing them as an obstacle to peace. Vote: 13 to 1 (US veto) with 1 abstention.

**6/9/84:** Deplores Israel's brutal massacres of Arabs in Lebanon and urges its withdrawal. Vote: 14 to 1 (US veto).

**12/3/85:** Condemns Israeli brutally in southern Lebanon and denounces the Israeli "Iron Fist" policy of repression.

Vote: 11 to 1 (US veto) with 3 abstentions.

**13/9/85:** Denounces Israel's violation of human rights in the occupied territories. Vote: 10 to 1 (US veto) with 3 abstentions.

**17/1/86:** Strongly deplores Israel's violence in southern Lebanon. Vote: 11 to 1 (US veto) with 3 abstentions.

**30/1/86:** Deplores Israel's activities in occupied Arab East Jerusalem which threaten the sanctity of Muslim holy sites. Vote: 13 to 1 (US veto) with 1 abstention.

**6/2/86:** Condemns Israel's hijacking of a Libyan passenger airplane. Vote: 10 to 1 (US veto) with 1 abstention.

**18/1/88:** Strongly deplores Israeli attacks against Lebanon and its measures and practices against the civilian population. Vote: 13 to 1 (US veto) with 1 abstention.

**1/2/88:** Calls on Israel to abandon its policies against the Palestinian uprising which violate the rights of occupied Palestinians, to abide by the Fourth Geneva Convention and formalise a leading role for the UN in future peace negotiations. Vote: 14 to 1 (US veto).

**15/4/88:** Urges Israel to reaccept deported Palestinians, condemns Israel's shooting of civilians, calls on Israel to uphold the Fourth Geneva Convention and calls for a peace settlement under UN auspices. Vote: 14 to 1 (US veto).

**10/5/88:** Condemns Israel's 2 May incursion into Lebanon. Vote: 14 to 1 (US veto).

**14/12/88:** Strongly deplores Israel's commando raids on Lebanon. Vote: 14 to 1 (US veto).

**17/2/89:** Strongly deplores Israel's repression of the Palestinian uprising; calls on Israel to respect the human rights of the Palestinians. Vote: 14 to 1 (US veto).

**9/6/89:** Strongly deplores Israel's violation of the human rights of Palestinians.

**11/7/89:** Demands Israel return property confiscated from Palestinians during a tax protest and allows a fact-finding mission to observe Israel's crackdown on the Palestinian uprising. Vote: 14 to 1 (US veto).

**31/5/90:** Calls for a fact-finding mission on abuses against Palestinians in Israel-occupied lands. Vote: 14 to 1 (US veto).

Source: *Washington Report on Middle East*