

## Israeli Perspective on Security

In June 2002, following the 2<sup>nd</sup> Intifada (uprising) by Palestinians in 2000, the Israeli cabinet decided to erect a physical barrier separating Israel and the West Bank with the declared objective of regulating entry of Palestinians from the West Bank into Israel.

The Israeli government believe the barrier has played a key role in reducing the number of attacks by Palestinians within Israel.

‘The number one overarching concern for Israeli citizens, wherever they are, is security. They want the freedom that most of us enjoy in Europe despite the recent terrorist attacks: to live a life without concern that you may be stabbed, shot, blown up on a bus or have your house hit by a rocket’

Jerusalem Post May 2016

Binyamin Netanyahu has announced his intention to “surround all of Israel with a fence” to protect the country from infiltration by both Palestinians and the citizens of surrounding Arab states, whom he described as “wild beasts”.

The Israeli prime minister unveiled the proposal during a tour of the Jordan border area in Israel’s south, adding that the project – which would cost billions of shekels – would also be aimed at solving the problem of Hamas infiltration tunnels from Gaza, a recent source of renewed concern.

He called the border project a part of a “multi-year plan to surround Israel with security fences to protect ourselves in the current and projected Middle East”.

Guardian February 2016