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[ALL NEWS](#)**Israel Gradually Occupies Eastern Jerusalem**

By Foreign News Desk

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Israel is in actual fact occupying parts of Jerusalem where Arabs reside by using Jewish settlements and the "firewall" with the idea in mind of prohibiting East Jerusalem from being the capital of the independent Palestinian state.

A report prepared by the British Foreign Ministry contains information on the measures Israel has taken. The report on the Council of European Union contains accusations against Israel for violating the law and putting the residential peaceful state in danger. The British newspaper, The Guardian, and its American counterpart, The New York Times, called attention to the state of Eastern Jerusalem as the capital of the Palestinian State according to the Road Map. "Ariel Sharon intends his actions to exclude Eastern Jerusalem from the course of negotiations," said the newspapers.

This would lead Palestinians in Jerusalem to become more radical, the report asserted, highlighting the implications of the construction by Sharon of thousands of new apartments as a sheer Israeli occupation of the holy city and an act of splitting the West Bank into two. When Israel is finished with the construction of the "firewall", the report indicates, Palestinians will not be able to pursue their way from the West Bank to Eastern Jerusalem.

British Foreign Minister Jack Straw suggested the report to the Council of European Union for discussion on Monday; however, pressure from Italy caused discussions over the report to be delayed until December. The Council regards Palestine will likely ask for recognition of their political activities in Eastern Jerusalem in response to such Israeli policies.

In the report, in which the EU is advised to prevent the discriminative measures Israel conducts against Palestinians in eastern Jerusalem, countries member of the union are asked to attain a harsher attitude towards Israel's East Jerusalem and Ramallah policy and provide a helping hand to the Palestinians in the area of work and residence permit. This decision to be taken is stated to bring to the agenda talks European Union will have with Palestine in East Jerusalem instead of in Ramallah.

Organization of Islamic Conference Secretary General Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, too, said in recent days Israel's an activity in the holy town has been damaging Islamic architecture. Ihsanoglu warned the international community against the danger of expanding Israeli occupation with the aim of jewishizing Jerusalem. Israel claims the eastern part of Jerusalem it occupied in the 1967 war is part of its "indivisible capital. Almost all governments maintain embassies in Tel Aviv because they do not recognize the Israeli claim.

Criticism of Mussolini to Sharon

Tommy Lapid, the chairman of Israel's secular Shinui Party defending Zionism, criticized the name Sharon chose for his new party, Kadima, because it holds the same meaning as the Italian dictator Mussolini's

party. Lapid accused those managing Sharon's election campaign, "They do not know neither Italian nor history," and asserted Sharon is claimed to have made contact with the Arab community in his country for the elections to be held in March. The Arab newspaper, Kul El Arab, wrote Sharon is in contact with Arab leaders to persuade them to take part in his party and plans to include Arab ministers in his cabinet in case he becomes prime minister after the elections to be held on March 28.

Istanbul



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