

Background Information: Tell TripAdvisor to pull out of illegal Israeli settlements in occupied Palestine

Since 1967 when it captured the occupied Palestinian territories, it has been Israeli government policy to promote the creation and expansion of Israeli settlements in the occupied territories. This is a flagrant violation of international humanitarian law and is one of the main driving forces behind the mass human rights violations resulting from the occupation.

Meanwhile, companies from all over the world are conducting business activities in settlements and, in doing so, are helping sustain and expand Israel's settlements in the occupied territories. Digital tourism companies, like TripAdvisor, Airbnb, Booking.com and Expedia are profiting from war crimes by listing properties and attractions in Israeli settlements in occupied Palestinian territories.

These companies know that Israeli settlements have a negative impact on a vast number of human rights of the Palestinian population. This has been extensively documented by Amnesty International, the United Nations, and many other organizations. Even a basic risk assessment by the companies would reveal that any business activity in or with settlements would unavoidably contribute to sustaining an illegal situation, as well as a regime that is inherently discriminatory and abusive of the human rights of Palestinians.

In doing business with settlements, these companies are contributing to, and profiting from, the development, maintenance and expansion of illegal settlements, which amount to war crimes under international criminal law. The companies' promotion of Israeli settlements in occupied Palestinian territories as a tourist destination also has the effect of "normalizing" and legitimizing to the public what is recognized under international law as an illegal situation.

For more information, visit www.amnesty.ca/tripadvisor

Please send your signed petitions to Amnesty International by Sept 6, 2019.

