

UN Partition Plan (1947)

In 1947, facing escalating violence and political unrest, Great Britain turned over administration of Mandatory Palestine to the United Nations. The UN established a committee to propose a solution. After extensive investigations, UNSCOP recommended partitioning the land into separate Jewish and Arab states, with Jerusalem placed under international supervision to preserve its religious significance.



The proposal sparked heated debate. Jewish leaders accepted the plan as a step toward statehood, though not all were satisfied with the borders. Arab leaders and neighboring Arab states rejected the plan, arguing it unfairly allocated land to the Jewish minority.

Despite this, on November 29, 1947, the UN General Assembly approved Resolution 181 by a vote of 33-13, with 10 abstentions. Support came from Western nations, Soviet bloc, and Latin America, while Arab and Muslim-majority states opposed.

The resolution marked a turning point in history, paving the way for the establishment of the State of Israel. It was celebrated by Jews worldwide but condemned by Arab leaders, who vowed to resist its implementation. The UN's approval of the partition plan set the stage for war.