

G4S and Child Detention

Group 4 Securicor (G4S) is a multinational security company in more than 120 countries with over 650,000 employees. In the US they contract with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), run numerous US juvenile detention facilities, provide external building security for thousands of US Bank of America banking locations, provide campus security services, provide security for US residential and commercial buildings, and much more.

G4S in Israel/Palestine: G4S provides security systems for the Ofer, Megiddo, Ketziot, Damon, Al-Jalame (Kishon), and Al Moskobyeh (Russian Compound) prisons and detention facilities. Around half of Israel's Palestinian child prisoners are held in in G4S-equipped prisons within the 1948 boundaries of Israel¹ in violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention, which prohibits the transfer of prisoners from occupied territories. Given Israel's restrictive permit system, this means very few family members are able to visit their detained children².

- **Megiddo and Ketziot prisons**

- Under Israeli military law, 16-year-old Palestinians are defined as adults and detained in adult prisons, such as G4S serviced Megiddo and Ketziot, where they have no right to continue their education.
- Megiddo and Ketziot prisoners are not held in regular prison cells. They are held in tents that are open to the elements. The tents fill with water during the winter and are extremely hot in summer. Bedding consists of wooden pallets covered by a thin mattress. In Ketziot, there are four toilets and two showers for every section in which some 120 detainees are held³.

- **Ofer Prison**

- G4S installed and operates a central command room in Ofer that controls the entire facility and a perimeter defence systems for the walls surrounding the prison.
- Children as young as 12-years-old are detained in Ofer prison where they are tried in a juvenile military court, unlike their Israeli West Bank settler counterparts, who are tried in civil court.
- Ofer Prison is located in what the Israeli military refers to as the 'Seam Zone', which means access to visit is highly restricted.

Al Jalame (Kishon) and Al Moskobyeh (Russian Compound) Detention Centers

- Al Moskobyeh and Al Jalameh detention facilities, serviced by G4S, are renowned for their use of torture, including torture of children⁴.
- Under Israeli military law, child detainees do not have the right to have their parents present at their interrogations.
- Children can be held in solitary confinement with their only escape being when they are taken for interrogation.



For more information and to find G4S locations go to fosna.org/stopg4s



¹ <http://www.dci-palestine.org/documents/urgent-appeal-ua-212-forcible-transfer-children-6>

² <http://www.addameer.org/files/Reports/administrative-detention-analysis-report-final.pdf>, p. 36

³ <http://www.dci-pal.org/english/PrinterF.cfm?DocId=151&CategoryID=10>

⁴ <http://www.whoprofits.org/articlefiles/WhoProfits-PrivateSecurity-G4S.pdf>, p. 14-15