

The Elders warn of threat to Israel-Palestine peace process

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The Elders strongly oppose Israel's newly announced construction plans for East Jerusalem, warning that they seriously undermine the current peace negotiations.

Speaking on behalf of the group, the Chair of The Elders, Nobel Peace Laureate Kofi Annan stated:

"Continued settlement building is deeply unhelpful at this critical moment in the Israeli-Palestinian peace process. Such settlements are illegal under international law and pose a serious threat to the realisation of the two-state solution to the conflict, based on a viable and contiguous Palestinian territory".

About The Elders

The Elders are independent leaders using their collective experience and influence for peace, justice and human rights worldwide. The group was founded by Nelson Mandela in 2007.

The Elders were in Cape Town, South Africa, in October 2013 for their biannual board meeting.

The Elders are <u>Martti Ahtisaari</u>, <u>Kofi Annan</u> (Chair), <u>Ela Bhatt</u>, <u>Lakhdar Brahimi</u>, <u>Gro Harlem</u> <u>Brundtland</u> (Deputy Chair), <u>Fernando Henrique Cardoso</u>, <u>Jimmy Carter</u>, <u>Hina Jilani</u>, <u>Graça Machel</u>, <u>Mary Robinson</u> and <u>Ernesto Zedillo</u>.

Nelson Mandela and Desmond Tutu are honorary Elders.

For biographies of the Elders, blogs, photos, videos and more information about their work please go to www.theElders.org.

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