Foreign & Commonwealth Office

FCO Press Release: Minister for the Middle East statement on settlement units in the West Bank

British Minister for the Middle East, Tobias Ellwood, condemned the Israeli Government's announcement to build 3,000 settlement units in the West Bank. Minister for the Middle East Tobias Ellwood said:

> *"The announcement of further settlement units in the West Bank is part of a growing trend which we condemn. We have consistently been clear that settlements are illegal under international law, and not conducive to peace. This spike in settlement activity undermines trust and makes a two state solution – with an Israel that is safe from terrorism and a Palestinian state that is viable and sovereign - much harder to achieve."*

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