

Further readings, as suggested by panellists and organisers

For those in attendance who would like to inform themselves further, this page suggests some books, online articles, and podcasts. Please be advised, however, that any such list is always necessary incomplete – and hence skewed. No depoliticised history or interpretation of a conflict as fraught as the situation in Israel and Palestine is ever possible. As such, the list below is also just one entry point. Many of the references below were either written or suggested by the experts on our panel, and as such reflect their expertise.

The aim of this list, then, was not to provide a perfectly balanced overview of the available material, but rather to help attendees better place and understand the perspectives discussed in our dialogue.

For those completely at a loss with the situation, a good place to start is here:

A timeline of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict to be found on the UU website:

<https://www.uu.nl/en/background/the-israeli-palestinian-conflict-explained-this-preceded-the-gaza-war>

Books to read (and interviews/excerpts):

Pankaj Mishra. 2025. [*The World After Gaza*](#).

In his most recent book, the famed essayist Pankaj Mishra traces the emergence of many different positions on the situation in Palestine and Israel. Writing as an Indian author, Mishra is particularly concerned with the ways in which different communities globally experience and view the issues at hand, especially its relationship with shifting ideas about justice and about colonialism.

The book is an elongated and diversified expansion of the essay ‘The Shoah after Gaza’, published in the *London Review of Books*.

A good review of the book can be found here:

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2025/feb/08/the-world-after-gaza-by-pankaj-mishra-review-legacies-of-violence>

Peter Beinart. 2025. [*Being Jewish after the Destruction of Gaza*](#).

For a long time, Peter Beinart was one of the most prominent American Zionist voices. Viewing the state of Israel as paramount to the safety of the Jewish people, Beinart was a key proponent of a two-state solution. In the past fifteen years, however, Beinart has become a vocal critic of Israeli state policy. In his most recent book, he tries to piece together how to move forward from here.

An interview with Beinart can be read here: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/ng-interactive/2025/jan/27/israel-gaza-us-jews-peter-beinart>

Rashid Khalidi. 2020. [*The Hundred Years’ War on Palestine*](#)

A history of the Israeli state from a Palestinian perspective, this book presents the conflict as the outflow of a history of settler-colonialism. Though his is a controversial view, Khalidi makes a compelling argument for also visiting this history from a Palestinian perspective, rather than from a predominantly Western and Israeli canon.

Differing reviews of the book can be found here:

A sympathetic one in *The Guardian*: <https://www.theguardian.com/books/2020/may/07/the-hundred-years-war-on-palestine-by-rashid-khalidi-review-conquest-and-resistance>

A mixed review in *The New York Times*: <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/28/books/review/the-hundred-years-war-on-palestine-rashid-khalidi.html>

A highly critical one in *The Jewish Review of Books*:

<https://jewishreviewofbooks.com/articles/7210/the-war-on-history/#>

Gil Troy. 2018. *The Zionist Ideas: Visions for the Jewish Homeland. Then, Now, Tomorrow.*

Notable Zionist scholar Gil Troy maps and chronicles Zionist ideas over the past century. No understanding of the issues at hand could be complete without engaging seriously with Zionist ideas.

An interview with Gil Troy can be found here: <https://fathomjournal.org/the-zionist-ideas-an-interview-with-gil-troy/>

A critical perspective on 'the collapse of Zionism' by famed Israeli historian Ilan Pappé can be read here: <https://newleftreview.org/sidecar/posts/the-collapse-of-zionism>

Maya Wind. 2024. *Towers of Ivory and Steel: How Israeli Universities deny Palestinian Freedom.*

Over the past year, Maya Wind's book on the entanglements between the Israeli state and its universities has been a topic of serious debate within our university. For many, the book provides an undeniable atlas of the complicity of Israeli universities in an apartheid regime. For others, the book is too biased, providing insufficient and controversial evidence to stake its claims. Nonetheless, for those interested in what these conversations mean for our university, this book remains essential reading – make up your own mind after reading.

Op-eds and essays written by panellists

Beyond the opportunity to read more widely, some of our panellists have also provided some reading that may help you understand their perspective better. Links provided below, in no particular order.

A Dutch and English version of the same article on the longer history of European engagements with the Israeli state, by Hilla Dayan and Yolande Jansen:

<https://www.nederlandseboekengids.com/20230424-hilla-dayan-yolande-jansen/>

Hilla Dayan & Yolande Jansen | de Nederlandse Boekengids

The Dutch Review of Books

<https://www.eurozine.com/antisemitism-anti-palestinian-racism-and-europe/>

Antisemitism, anti-Palestinian racism and Europe | Eurozine

An op-ed by Laura Almagor on territorialism, an alternative to mainstream Zionism, that she thinks might help unlock the breadth and depth of political imagination that came before the current impasse: <https://newlinesmag.com/essays/the-movement-that-imagined-a-jewish-homeland-without-the-state-of-israel/>

A historical analysis of the Dutch relationship with Israel, by Peter Malcontent:

https://brill.com/view/journals/eris/9/2/article-p270_004.xml

A (Dutch) article by Arnon Grünberg suggested by Peter Malcontent:

<https://www.groene.nl/artikel/wat-maakt-de-jood>