OTHER COUNTRIES

There are almost a million Palestinians in **Israel**, including the 'internal refugees', who remained in the country after fleeing their homes in 1948, and the tiny number of refugees who have been allowed to return to places in Israel other than their original homes, on condition that it is made clear that the decision to grant these permits does not constitute a recognition of a 'right of return'. Palestinians in Israel are treated as second-class citizens.

In **Egypt**, Palestinians enjoyed socioeconomic and civil rights until the mid-1970s, but since then have been treated just like other foreigners. They have had difficulties obtaining travel documents and, consequently, work permits as well. Those several thousand Palestinians who live (again) in **Kuwait**, are under strict surveillance and enjoy only very limited rights; the same goes in general for the Palestinians in **Saudi Arabia**. In **Iraq**, Palestinians have social, but no political rights and naturalization is provided.

Over the past decades almost half a million Palestinian refugees have, individually, been granted asylum in the **US**, **Canada** and **Europe**, where they are generally treated in the same way as any other refugees.