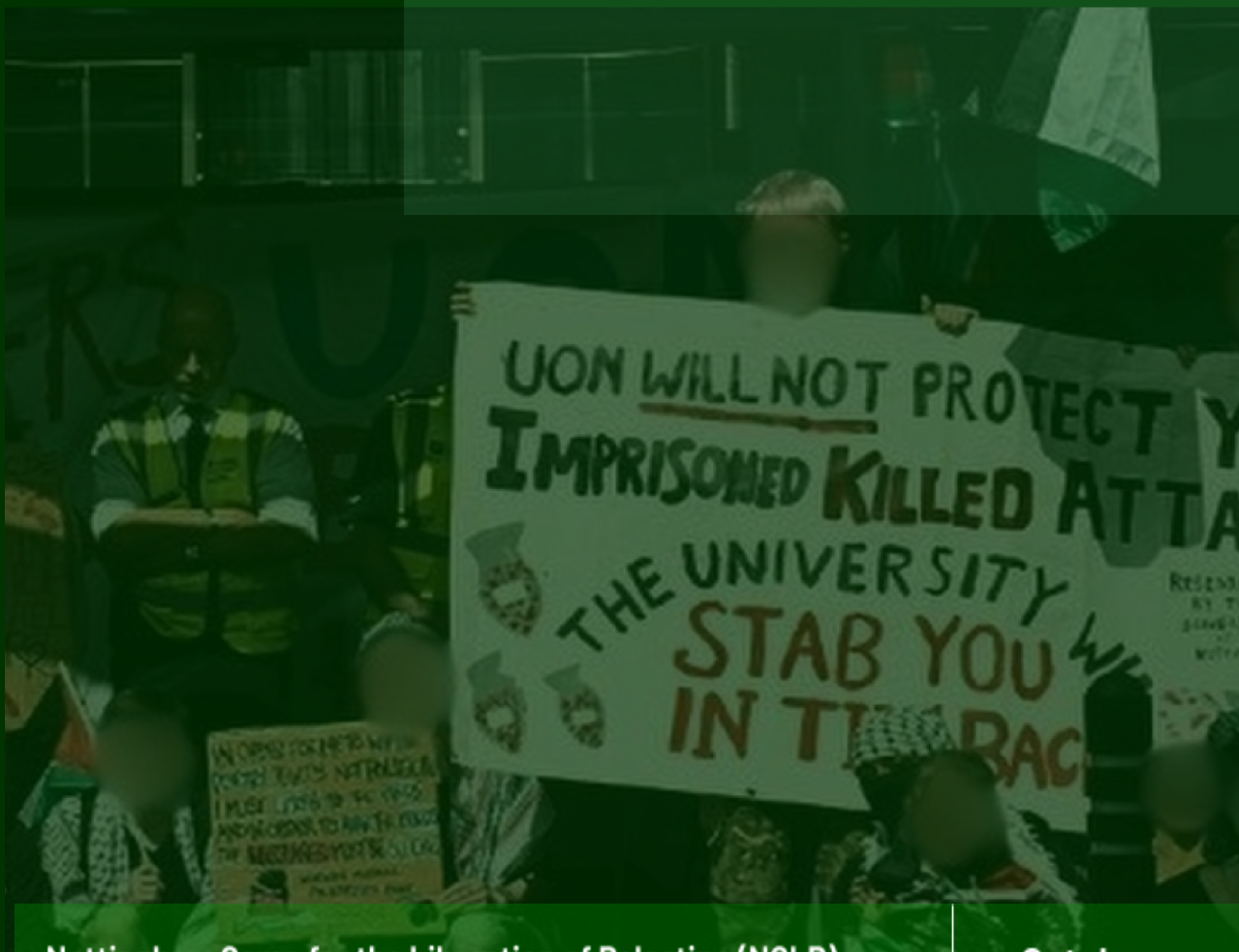




The University Of Nottingham's Complicity In The Illegal Occupation And Genocide Of The Palestinian People - UPDATED 2025 Report



Nottingham Camp for the Liberation of Palestine (NCLP)

@nottspalestinecamp

October
2025

The original report was endorsed by the following:

University of Nottingham Student Societies

Brown Girl Link Up Society
Friends of Medics San Frontiers
Islamic Society
Jordanian Society
LGBT Society
Malaysian Society

POC in Engineering
Punk Society
Revolutionary Communist Party (Nottingham branch)
Sudanese Society
Young Socialist Students

External Groups and Organisations

Cage International

Campaign Against Arms Trade (CAAT)

Friends of Al-Aqsa (FOA)

Aberdeen University Palestine Solidarity Society
Aston for Palestine
Birmingham Liberated Zone
Glasgow University Justice for Palestine
Lincoln Students for a Free Palestine
Loughborough Action for Palestine
LSE Liberated Zone

SOAS Liberated Zone for Gaza
Students for Justice in Palestine Amsterdam
Open University Friends of Palestine
Texas for Palestine
Universitat de València
University of Leicester Palestine Society
Young Musicians for Palestine
York Palestine Encampment

Authorship

This report was authored by student members of the Nottingham Camp for the Liberation of Palestine (NCLP) at the University of Nottingham.

Acknowledgements

The authors of this report thank the staff, students and individuals from external organisations who reviewed and commented on initial drafts of this report. The authors would also like to extend their special gratitude to the authors of the 'Assets in Apartheid' report from LSESU Palestine Society, who have supported the NCLP team prior to the publication of this work.

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This report is dedicated to Dr Said Al-Zebda and Ikram Ghanem, who are alumni of the University of Nottingham. The Palestinian couple raised their three young children, Izzedine, Intisar, and Summuyah, in the heart of Nottingham before returning to Gaza to continue building their lives in their homeland. Dr. Al-Zebda, Mrs. Ghanem and their three children were all tragically killed on New Year's Eve 2023 in an Israeli airstrike targeting their home.

We also wanted to dedicate the updated version of the report to Sara Yahya Shehab and her family who were killed by Israel in May of 2025. Last year Sara reached out to the University of Nottingham and asked to be allowed to continue her education in a safe environment. She was a bright student who wanted to continue her studies in English and Translation but was killed before her dream could be made true.

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Executive Summary

Since 2008, the student movement for Palestine in Nottingham has been actively campaigning against various issues relating to the illegality of Israel's ongoing occupation of Palestine, as well as the stakes that the University of Nottingham (University of Nottingham, UoN, or the University hereafter) hold in this apartheid regime.

In recent years, there has been a considerable focus on divestment from companies and termination of partnerships with arms manufacturers and distributors which are complicit in this apartheid regime. Protest activity has intensified since the start of the ongoing Genocide in Gaza, which has spread to other parts of Palestine and more recently Lebanon, Syria, Iran and Yemen. This intensification is a response to the countless war crimes committed by the settler colony of Israel. By the time that the Nottingham Camp for the Liberation of Palestine (NCLP) first assembled and set up its encampment on 10 May 2024, seven months after Israel's offensive began, approximately 35,000 Palestinians had been killed in Gaza by the IOF (the majority being women and children), tens of thousands more had been maimed and injured, and over 9,000 were detained, in many cases arbitrarily.

NCLP forms part of a global student movement, calling on universities across the world to support Palestinian students and professors whose educational infrastructure has been decimated by indiscriminate Israeli bombardments, and cut their ties with Israel and complicit arms companies responsible for this destruction, as well as any institutions complicit in the apartheid regime. NCLP has demanded four actions by the University, namely, to disclose its financial and industrial relationships, to divest from and terminate partnerships with companies that have upheld the apartheid system and spurred on the ongoing genocide, to support Palestinian students through grants and scholarships, and finally to invest in the rebuilding of Gaza's educational infrastructure once these massacres cease.



There has been an ever increasing amount of evidence showcasing Israel's crimes against the Palestinian people. Legal actions, including the International Court of Justice (ICJ) case brought by the Republic of South Africa, have showcased the urgent need for international accountability over Israel's actions. South Africa filed its memorial - a 750-page submission backed by thousands of pages of evidence - back in October 2024. Ireland has also intervened in support earlier in 2025 to broaden the legal interpretation of genocide under the Genocide Convention.

The ongoing genocide in Palestine, being perpetuated by both military and civilians of the settler colony of Israel, includes systematic killing, inflicting serious harm, and creating conditions that threaten the physical existence of the Palestinian people. There is a long history of violence against Palestinians, starting with attacks by Zionist militias in the late 1930s and culminating in the 1948 Nakba, which resulted in the death and ethnic cleansing of hundreds of thousands of Palestinians. Over the last 2 years, there have been severe escalations in violence, ethnic cleansing and human rights abuses being perpetuated by Israel. Right now, conditions in Gaza have reached catastrophic levels. A U.N.-backed analysis in August 2025 has confirmed that famine is no longer a looming threat but the reality in several governorates across the Gaza Strip. Over half a million Gazans, nearly one in three, face catastrophic hunger with agricultural collapse being widespread due to more than 80% of Gaza's cropland being damaged, and nearly all greenhouses and wells are no longer accessible. Humanitarian access remains severely disrupted with an ongoing siege over Gaza continuing despite international calls to allow aid. The World Food Programme (WFP) reports rampant malnutrition and starvation. Meanwhile, Israeli forces have continued to declare Gaza City a combat zone, halting pauses that previously allowed emergency humanitarian aid. These developments underscore a systemic breakdown of protections guaranteed under international law and continuing violations of basic human rights of the Palestinian people. The historical trajectory, which Israeli historian Ilan Pappé has termed "incremental genocide," continues with little global intervention.

In July 2025, Francesca Albanese, the UN Special Rapporteur on human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967, published a report titled *"From the Economy of Occupation to the Economy of Genocide"*. The report highlights how Israel's long-standing settler-colonial project is sustained and enabled through corporate and financial backing, which has allowed the occupation to evolve into structured mass violence. Following intensified attacks in Gaza after October 2023, the occupation has shifted into full-scale genocide, broadcasted for all to see, with corporations and financial institutions directly facilitating apartheid and human rights violations.

Israel has continued to intensify its attacks, conducting extensive airstrikes and endorsing settler-violence despite international calls for a ceasefire. This ongoing assault is part of a broader strategy of settler colonialism, which seeks to establish control over Palestinian territories through illegal settlements and violent displacement. Israel's military actions have been bolstered by a lack of accountability from the international community, allowing for unchecked expansion of military aggression into neighbouring regions like Lebanon, Syria and Yemen. There have been serious concerns raised by international bodies about Israel's lack of respect for international law, as well as concern about companies and institutions who are continuing to support Israel's actions. Albanese's report identifies specific companies complicit in perpetuating these abuses, demonstrating the role of capitalism in enabling systematic violations of Palestinian rights and reflecting growing public concern over corporate responsibility in conflict zones.



In September 2024, the UK government, under Foreign Secretary David Lammy, suspended approximately 30 out of 350 arms export licences to Israel. This decision followed a review indicating a "clear risk" that certain military exports might be used in violations of international humanitarian law during the ongoing conflict in Gaza. The suspended licences pertained to components for fighter aircraft, drones, naval systems, and targeting equipment. However, the suspension has faced criticism for its limited scope. Human rights organizations, including Amnesty International, have argued that the measure is insufficient given the scale of the alleged violations. The UK government's decision to exempt F-35 jet parts from the broader suspension has prompted criticism while the profits have risen.

In contrast, the Scottish government has taken a more assertive approach. In early September 2025, Scotland announced a ban on providing financial aid to arms companies that supply the Israel Defense Forces (IDF). This policy halts trade support and freezes financial aid to companies involved in military deals with Israel, including firms like Raytheon, Thales, and Leonardo, which have received over £2.75 million from Scottish Enterprise since 2022.

Given these realities, the University of Nottingham has a responsibility to act proactively—far beyond passive adherence to international law or performative support. In alignment with the gravity of the unfolding events, the University needs to take a concrete stand, divest from complicit companies, embed a binding ethical investment framework, and put programmes or funding in place to meaningfully support Palestinian students and academics. The University of Nottingham (UoN) has previously demonstrated its ability to swiftly take action in response to global crises through divestment. A notable example is UoN's decision to sever formal links with Russia following the 2022 invasion of Ukraine. Within three months, the University introduced the Ukrainian Scholars at Risk programme, providing comprehensive support for Ukrainian students, allowing them to continue their studies at UoN. Despite these decisive actions, no equivalent steps have been taken to divest from Israeli institutions or companies involved in activities related to the ongoing genocide against Palestinians.

UoN's current ethical investment framework is governed by its *Policy on Investment, Acquisitions and Disposals*, introduced in 2013, is insufficient. This document outlines the University's commitment to incorporating ethical and social responsibilities into its investment decisions. The policy specifically states that UoN will avoid investments in companies where the core of their business involves activities such as the "manufacture and sale of armaments to military regimes" or participation in "institutional violations of human rights." These ethical considerations guide how the University makes financial decisions, although this commitment has not led to divestment from entities involved in human rights abuses, including Israel.

UoN's investment portfolio has been managed by Cazenove Capital, a subsidiary of Schroders, since 2021. The portfolio is split between a Permanent Endowment Fund and a Medium Term Fund. Cazenove Capital is required to implement the University's responsible investment policy and uphold ESG standards. The Cazenove Capital Report, which provides a high-level summary of how UoN's investments are managed and allocated, should be published annually, offering transparency into the University's financial practices. The University of Nottingham draws on the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to both guide its investments, as well as to measure the ESG impact of its investments. The University's commitment to promote and contribute to the UN SDGs is also part of its wider strategy, which theoretically applies to its partnerships and research areas, as well as its investments.



One of the methods by which the University purports to maintain these standards is through the implementation of their own Code of Research Conduct and Research Ethics. Under this Code, the University's core key principles for ethical research are "maximising benefit"; "minimising harm"; "respecting autonomy"; "fairness and accountability"; and "integrity and transparency". On a broader scale, another structure that the University has developed to hold itself to the "highest standards" is its Ethical Framework. This Framework was developed in 2012 *"in part as a response to the findings of Lord Woolf's investigation into the LSE's links with Libya"*. In this inquiry, Lord Woolf identified "shortcomings in the governance, structure and management at the LSE".

This *"comprehensive set of principles, structures, policies and procedures"* forms an integral part of the University's wider governance strategy. By its own declaration, this Framework gives "the assurance that the University of Nottingham behaves ethically across its activities". The University has established a Research and Knowledge Exchange Committee, tasked with implementing the University's strategies for research and knowledge exchange, ensuring alignment with institutional goals and managing related risks. This strategy centres around partnerships that include collaborations with the public and policymakers to enhance societal benefits

For this report, we have used a reduced form of the comprehensive criteria developed by the LSESU Palestine Society in their May 2024 *Assets in Apartheid: LSE's Complicity in Genocide of the Palestinian People, Arms Trade, and Climate Breakdown* report, to assess the egregious activities, including illegal settlement activity, supported by the University's investments, as well as its industry partnerships. The LSESU Palestine Society's criteria highlighted four egregious activities, namely regarding crimes against Palestinian people, extraction and/or distribution of fossil fuels, proliferation and/or manufacture of arms, and the financing of fossil fuel companies and/or nuclear weapons producers. We have chosen to focus our examination on two of these activities, alongside an adapted version of LSESU Palestine Society's fourth:

1. Crimes against the Palestinian people, including through supporting illegal Israeli settlements; and/or supporting the Israeli military; and/or sustaining apartheid.

2. Proliferation and/or manufacture of arms.

3. Financing crimes against the Palestinian people and/or financing the arms trade.



Key Findings

The key findings of this report indicate that the University's policies are insufficient and have failed to prevent investments in and partnerships with firms and institutions involved in the above activities.

1. Complicity Through Investments

The University's investment portfolio, as of June 31st 2025, was worth £52,900,753 with £46,387,422 in the Permanent Endowment Fund and £6,513,332 in the Medium Term Fund. These figures are based on the total values on investments listed in the portfolios released by the Freedom of Information request [3607479](#). The updated report will discuss the companies mentioned in these funds (which account for approximately 60% of UoN's investments). Compared to last year, with a permanent endowment fund worth £68,752,984.72, with a medium-term fund of £9,912,540.38, it appears the University two funds have a lower total value. However, compared to last year's £16,974,399.98 held in 28 complicit companies, the university has invested a total of **£17,042,807** worth of holdings in 27 companies which are contributing to the ongoing violence against the Palestinian people. This includes companies that are either conducting or enabling crimes against the Palestinian people (including through supporting illegal Israeli settlements; and/or supporting the Israeli military; and/or sustaining apartheid); and/or financing crimes against the Palestinian people and/or financing the arms trade.

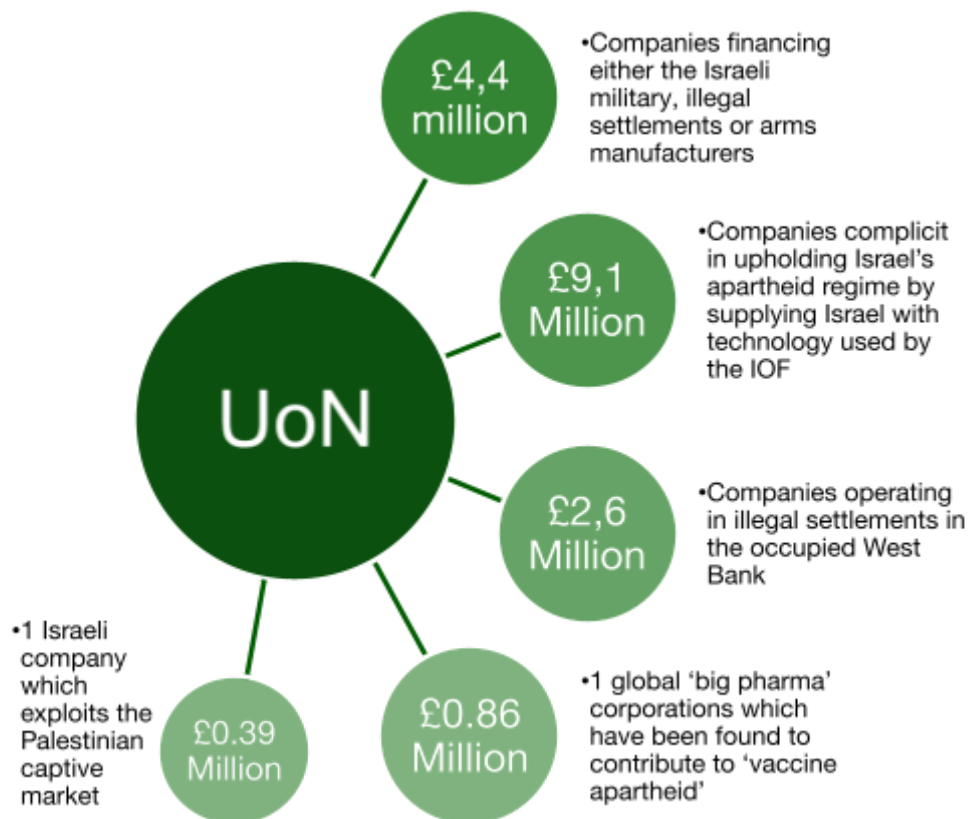


Figure 1 UoN Combined Permanent Endowment and Medium Term funds

Divestments from Previous Holdings

- The University of Nottingham (UoN) no longer holds investments in six companies that were listed in last year's report, including: **First Solar, LG Chem Limited, SMA Solar Technology, Pfizer Inc, and IBM.**

Investments in Companies Operating in Illegal Settlements

- UoN holds **£2,614,162** in four companies operating in illegal settlements, including in the occupied West Bank: **Booking Holdings Inc:** £1,399,673, **Carrefour S.A.:** £97,380, **Adidas AG:** £738, **Unilever PLC:** £1,116,371

Investments in Companies Complicit in Upholding Israel's Apartheid Regime

- UoN holds **£9,108,924** in ten companies that supply Israel with technology used by the Israeli Occupation Forces against Palestinians in the occupied Palestinian Territory: **Microsoft:** £3,254,564, **Alphabet Inc:** £2,201,258, **Intel Corp:** £122,960, **HP Inc:** £79,730, **Adobe Inc:** £553,551, **Salesforce Inc:** £843,918, **Palantir Technologies Inc:** £7,381, **HD Hyundai:** £43,327, **Hitachi Limited:** £1,043,721, **ASML Holdings NV:** £958,514

Investments in Companies Financing Military, Arms, or Settlements

- UoN holds **£4,413,649** in twelve companies involved in financing the Israeli military, illegal settlements, or arms manufacturers: **Walt Disney:** £121,283, **Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria SA:** £1,307,403, **Standard Chartered Plc:** £90,397, **NatWest Group Plc:** £68,338, **Aviva Plc:** £67,048, **BNP Paribas SA:** £82,257, **AXA SA:** £62,511, **Eli Lilly:** £64,121, **Toronto-Dominion Bank:** £1,475, **Hewlett Packard Enterprise:** £109,738, **Mastercard Inc:** £1,209,894, **Visa Inc:** £1,229,184

Investments in Big Pharma Contributing to 'Vaccine Apartheid'

- UoN holds **£866,499** in **AstraZeneca Plc**, which has been implicated in supporting Israel's regime of apartheid during the COVID-19 pandemic by contributing to global vaccine inequities.

Investments in Israeli Pharmaceutical Industry

- UoN holds **£39,573** in **Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd**, Israel's largest generic drug manufacturer.

We did not find that the University invests in any arms manufacturer, nor arms distributor.

A detailed summary of these investments and supporting evidence can be found in Appendix B (this also includes companies featured in last year's report).



2. Partnerships with Arms Manufacturers and Companies Complicit in Human Rights Violations

UoN's collaborations with arms manufacturers are seen as tacit support for industries linked to conflict and human rights abuses, conflicting with its commitment to social responsibility. UoN's Career Services promotes opportunities with companies complicit in human rights violations, particularly against the Palestinian people, including Caterpillar, Rolls-Royce and BAE systems. Many of these companies are key industrial partners to the University, and are featured at careers fairs, among other events.

By examining announcements, press releases, and projects conducted primarily within the University's Institute for Aerospace Technology and Power Electronics and Machines Centre, we found University of Nottingham (UoN) still collaborates, in some way, with at least 13 of the largest global arms manufacturers, as follows:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boeing • General Dynamics • BAE Systems • Leonardo • Airbus • Thales | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dassault • Rolls-Royce • Honeywell • General Electric • MBDA • Safran |
|---|--|

The University of Nottingham (UoN) is a key partner in the Clean Sky programme, funded by the European Commission and focused on developing eco-friendly aviation technologies. UoN delivered 25 Clean Sky projects worth a total of €49m, working with partners including Airbus, Leonardo, Rolls-Royce, Safran, and Siemens. The University was the only European university to be an Associate Partner in the initial €1.6bn programme and is now a core research partner on the €4bn Clean Sky 2 programme, delivering 25 projects. More recently, UoN has also been an Associate Partner on the Clean Aviation programme, contributing to 4 projects including HECATE, NEWBORN, HERA, and HEAVEN.

Notably, several of these partner companies have been warned in the June 2024 UN report to stop exporting arms to Israel due to potential involvement in serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law. While the Clean Sky initiative is presented as a climate action and net zero programme, 93% of UoN's €42m contribution to Clean Sky projects has directly benefited defence contractors, including Rolls-Royce, Airbus, Leonardo, Safran, Dassault, Liebherr, and Thales. This raises concerns about potential greenwashing, as UoN's climate and sustainability initiatives appear inconsistent with other Sustainable Development Goals, such as Peace and Justice, due to partnerships with companies linked to human rights violations.



3. Partnerships with Israeli Academic Institutions

The University of Nottingham has worked with over half of Israel's universities (six of ten), reflecting a long-standing history of academic engagement with Israeli institutions. Despite ongoing calls to boycott Israeli universities, such as Technion and Tel Aviv University, UoN has not made any public commitment to suspend partnerships or projects.

- **Tel Aviv University (TAU):**

- Former Pro-Vice Chancellor Saul Tendler participated in long-term collaborations with Professor Ehud Gazit.
- Ongoing projects include seminars hosted by UoN faculty, such as Professor Daniele Nosenzo, and hosting Dr. Ori Weisel from TAU at UoN's Centre for Decision Research and Experimental Economics (CeDEx).
- In 2024, Dr. Ran Spiegler co-hosted a seminar at UoN as part of the UNET series. Dr. Spiegler also holds the Aaron Rubinstein professorship at TAU and has received funding from the Israel Science Foundation, which opposes academic boycotts.
- UoN is also collaborating with TAU on a Hydrosensing Project, funded by the European Union.

- **University of Haifa:**

- Between 2021 and 2024, UoN produced a total of 11 research outputs in collaboration with the University of Haifa.
- The University of Nottingham Ningbo China (UNNC) contributed two additional research outputs with Haifa.

- **Weizmann Institute & Weizmann Institute of Science**

- UoN's Dynamic Nuclear Polarization (DNP) Magic Angle Spinning (MAS) Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) Facility continues to collaborate with the DNP research groups led by Shimon Vega and Michal Leskes from the Weizmann Institute of Science.

- **Ben-Gurion University**

- UoN and Ben-Gurion University have produced a total of 82 shared research outputs, including projects as recently as 2025.
- Two academics from Ben-Gurion, Ro'i Zultan (2014) and Ofer H. Azar (2017), has been invited by CeDEx to host events on UoN's campus.

UoN's continued academic partnerships with Israeli institutions, including those implicated in supporting military and settlement activities, contradict calls for ethical consistency and alignment with international human rights standards, particularly in the context of the ongoing occupation and reports of genocide in Gaza.

Note: The findings in this report are updated as of September 2025. See the original report launched in November 2024 for original findings and further context.



Introduction

Over the 2 years, the Israeli army has announced, enacted and celebrated their campaign of ethnic cleansing across Gaza, the West Bank and various other parts of the region. Through carpet bombing, attacking “safe-zones”, psychological warfare, torture and sexual assault, alongside ground invasions, with snipers targeting children and tanks targeting civilian infrastructure - the relentless attacks and continuous siege on the Gaza Strip have resulted in millions of people being left without a home, starving to death and not being able to escape. The aggression has not stopped, despite news coverage, international bodies calling for a ceasefire, and various countries calling for a stop to the violence.

Over the last 2 years, there have been severe escalations in violence, ethnic cleansing and human rights abuses being perpetuated by Israel. Currently, the conditions in Gaza have reached catastrophic levels. A U.N analysis from August 2025 has confirmed that famine is no longer a looming threat but the reality in several governorates across the Gaza Strip. Over half a million Gazans face catastrophic hunger with agricultural collapse being widespread due to more than 80% of Gaza's cropland being damaged, and nearly all greenhouses and wells being no longer accessible. Humanitarian access remains severely disrupted with an ongoing siege over Gaza continuing despite international calls to allow aid. The World Food Programme (WFP) reports rampant malnutrition and starvation.

Despite the recommendations of UN experts to cease the airstrikes to reduce civilian harm and allow access to humanitarian aid, Israel has made no meaningful efforts committed to a lasting ceasefire in Gaza nor de-escalation in the wider region. The impunity with which it has been allowed to behave has led Israel to expand its ever-escalating violence to surrounding countries, including Syria and Lebanon.

The Nottingham Camp for the Liberation of Palestine (NCLP) was created after countless protests to stop the University of Nottingham's complicity in the apartheid, occupation and genocide of the Palestinian people by the colonial state of Israel. NCLP forms part of a global student movement, calling on universities across the world to boycott Israel and support Palestinian students, whose educational infrastructure has been decimated by indiscriminate Israeli attacks. Different student groups within the movement have different demands based on the context of their university's contribution to the oppression of Palestinians. NCLP has four demands, which are as follows:



NCLP Demands

 Disclose	 Divest	 Support	 Invest
Publish all details of financial relationships, partnerships and investments with external companies, in particular companies dealing in the manufacture and distribution of arms.	End partnerships with all arms companies and companies complicit in the Israeli occupation of Palestine, apartheid regime, and ongoing genocide of Palestinians, including removing these companies from careers fairs and committing to forming no new partnerships with companies complicit in warfare. Commit to transitioning to sustainable and ethical alternative partnerships. End any academic collaborations with Israeli institutions and commit to forming no new academic partnerships.	Provide bursaries, scholarships and hardship funds for Palestinian students. Commit to protecting students' and staff's right to protest on campus and freedom of speech to express solidarity with Palestine. Put out a meaningful statement of solidarity with Palestine that is supported by effective action	Commit to contributing to the reconstruction of universities and educational infrastructure in Gaza, by sending funding and resources.

The demands have been shared with the University and countless attempts at working together to reach these goals have been ignored by University management. Throughout the 2 years, we have focused on more targeted campaigns to showcase to the University the reasons for ending ties with complicit businesses and institutions. This report will further highlight the University's continued links to genocide and apartheid and how the University does not respect international law, ethics or their students.

The University of Nottingham, established in 1881 as University College Nottingham, initially offered education to local residents before being granted its Royal Charter in 1948, officially becoming a university. It has grown into a globally recognised institution, known for its strong emphasis on research and international outreach. Today, the university is a member of the prestigious Russell Group, which includes leading research-intensive universities in the UK. It boasts a diverse community spanning across three campuses in the UK, as well as international campuses in Ningbo, China, and Semenyih, Malaysia. The University of Nottingham consistently ranks among the top universities in the UK and has a strong reputation in areas such as medicine, engineering, and social sciences. It is also known for its innovative research centres, interdisciplinary projects, and partnerships with institutions worldwide.

As a 'global University', UoN has been vocal about world issues and geopolitical conflict in the past. Most notably, it was incredibly quick to condemn Russia's unlawful invasion of Ukraine in 2022, and it pledged to grant support for Ukrainian students, as well as to effectively boycott Russia. In stark contrast to this, the University of Nottingham has given no meaningful statement of support for



Palestinian students, no pledge to provide any scholarships or aid and no commitment to cutting ties with the Israeli settler-colonial state.

This **updated report** will focus on the recent developments in international law, changes in public perception, the actions that other UK universities have done to cut ties with the state of Israel and complicit companies and what links the University of Nottingham continues to have with the genocide, apartheid and ethnic cleansing of the Palestinian people. It will be an updated version of the report published in November 2024 (see original report [here](#)). Due to the current and past content of what is happening in Palestine, we will continue to focus on the realities of the ethnic cleansing of Palestinians from their land, the genocide that is being perpetuated and how the Israeli military has been avoiding consequences for their human rights violations. It will discuss the arms trade and how companies profit from war and conflict, the historical and contemporary importance of boycott and divestment campaigns, and how universities have played, and are still playing, a key role in divestment. It will highlight the University's own ethical frameworks and public commitments to Sustainable Development goals - as well as their most recent assurances in improving their policies - as well as showcase the lack of action that the institution has taken despite being presented with the facts. We will once again highlight the links between the University of Nottingham and complicit companies, drawing on Franscea Albenese's recent [report](#) "From economy of occupation to economy of genocide". We will also discuss the ties that UoN continues to have with Israeli universities and why these should be boycotted, drawing comparisons to how the University divested from institutions in Russia when they invaded Ukraine. Lastly, we will discuss the University's response to the student movement, what other UK universities have done, and what UoN has to do to avoid complicity in apartheid, illegal occupation and genocide. The report will conclude with actions that staff and students can take to continue applying pressure to push for divestment from complicit companies and institutions and create a safe place to speak up for Palestine and human rights. This updated report was created to publicly highlight The University of Nottingham's continued Complicity in the Illegal Occupation and Genocide of the Palestinian People and to urge them to divest from companies and institutions that uphold the settler-colony of Israel.

Importance of Language

In this updated report, like the previous one, we will use specific language such as "Israeli Occupation Forces" (IOF) to accurately reflect the realities on the ground and to challenge the narratives that obscure the impact of military occupation. We will use IOF and Israeli military/army interchangeably throughout this report depending on the source information. We refer to Israel as an "apartheid regime" to highlight the systemic discrimination and violence faced by Palestinians, aligning with international definitions of apartheid. Additionally, we state and highlight Israel as a "settler colony" due to its colonial actions of displacement and dispossession against the Palestinian people. We will define the word "genocide" as based on the Geneva Convention definition and will be using this term to describe the ongoing attacks that Israel is perpetuating.

The focus of this report is to highlight the University of Nottingham's role in the ongoing ethnic cleansing, human rights violations and genocide being perpetuated by Israel and using appropriate and accurate language to describe what is happening is imperative for accurate chronicling of the events. We firmly reject the normalisation of Israel as a state without acknowledging these realities. Normalisation ignores the ongoing violations of human rights and legitimises a "state" that is a product of ethnic cleansing, colonialism and illegal occupation.



1. The Occupation of Palestine

1.1 Settler Colonialism, Apartheid, & Ethnic Cleansing

The 77 years long occupation of Palestine by the settler-colonial state of Israel is a direct product of western colonialism, with the act of settler colonialism in the region finding its roots in the British Mandate over Palestine. Initially the Palestine population consisted of a variety of religions. They were predominantly Christianity, Judaism and Islam but featuring notable Sikh and Hindu populations as well – with all citizens, regardless of religion, categorised as Palestinian. However, as a result of widespread European antisemitism and racist British colonial views, British officials encouraged the migration of European Jews to British occupied Palestine in order to “transform the territory in line with contemporary notions of European modernity and progress”. This process began in the early 1920s under British Mandate and has continued into the Zionist occupation.

This process of settler-colonialism – a form of colonialism in which an external power occupies and settles on indigenous land, displacing the native population – has been central to Israel's expansionist policies since its founding in 1948, marked by the establishment of Israeli settlements in the West Bank and East Jerusalem. These settlements, considered illegal under international law, are part of a broader strategy to create “facts on the ground” that entrench Israeli control over Palestinian territories (S/RES/338(1973)/S/RES/242(1967)/A/RES/194(III)/A/RES/3236(XXIX)/IHL). Settler colonialism and the control that it offers is fostered off of destruction and replacement, accelerating the progression of the ten stages of genocide outlined by the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust. Two Israeli officials, Theodor Herzl and Meron Benvenisti – Herzl being the founder of Zionism – both blatantly admitted to using these methods. Herzl compared the process of settler-colonialism and ethnic cleansing to constructing buildings, stating he must ‘demolish’ in order to ‘construct’, while Benvenisti claims he “made the desert bloom” by uprooting the ancient olive trees of al-Bassa to clear the ground for a non-native banana grove.

The European Commission defines ethnic cleansing as the deliberate and systematic use of force or intimidation to remove individuals of a particular ethnic or religious group from a specific area to achieve ethnic homogeneity – an act that blatantly violates international law. According to the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the ongoing situation in Palestine has been explicitly identified as a clear case of ethnic cleansing, further underscoring the severity of the violations being committed. The UN has stated ethnic cleansing is rendering an area ethnically homogeneous by using force or intimidation to remove from a given area persons of another ethnic or religious group, and is contrary to international law.

It is this policy of erasure and replacement – destroying native wildlife, historic buildings and landmarks, and the lives of Palestinians – that forms the foundation of Zionism and enabled the ethnic cleansing of Palestinian cities to make way for Israeli settlers. This violent displacement was performed through a variety of tactics including the “military occupation of Palestinian cities (Lydda for instance) ... confiscation of Palestinian properties, demolition of cultural, political and religious centres, populating of now emptied houses with Jewish settlers, and re-inscription of Palestinian landscapes as Jewish-Israeli.”

This approach is accompanied by policies that critics and human rights organisations describe as apartheid, wherein two separate legal systems exist: one for Israeli settlers and another for



Palestinians. This dual system manifests in widespread discrimination, including restricted movement, limited access to resources, and the demolition of Palestinian homes. Such restrictions are intended to limit and criminalise the daily actions – therefore the existence – of native Palestinians, to the benefit of the occupying Israeli settlers and government.

1.2. Genocide

For the purpose of this section – and throughout this paper – we will be referring to the army of the settler colonial state of Israel, generally referred to as the Israel Defense Forces (IDF), as the Israel Occupation Forces (IOF), acknowledging their current and historic role in enforcing ethnic cleansing and occupation across Palestine and Lebanon. We will be using the term ‘genocide’ in accordance with the definition supplied by the United Nations in Article II of the *Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide*. This reads as follows:

“Genocide means any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such:

- (a) Killing members of the group;
- (b) Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group;
- (c) Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part;
- (d) Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group;
- (e) Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.”

It is on this basis that, on the 29th of December 2023, the Republic of South Africa initiated legal proceedings against the Israeli occupation’s presence and conduct in the Gaza strip. In the following months Nicaragua, Colombia, Libya, Mexico, Palestine, Spain, Türkiye, Chile, the Maldives and Bolivia have each submitted a declaration of intervention – as well as the ICJ issuing provisional measures which Israel has continually ignored.

Prior to October 7th, 2023 had already been deemed the deadliest year on record for Palestinians since 1948. Since October 2023, over 61,000 Palestinians in Gaza have been murdered, this number only including “confirmed” deaths and is likely much higher. This underestimated statistic, detailing the people who have had their identities confirmed; a more accurate, albeit still extremely conservative, estimate was provided by the Lancet medical journal estimating over 186,000 Palestinians have been killed directly or indirectly as a result of the assault on Gaza. October 2024 marked the beginning of the targeted ethnic cleansing of North Gaza. Men and boys were separated from their families and lined up while a hole was dug next to them. Israel has committed crime after crime, with full impunity and lack of action from international bodies and states. Some recent examples include an Israeli airstrike which killed Al Jazeera correspondent Anas al-Sharif and three of their colleagues near Al-Shifa Hospital (Al Jazeera, Guardian). UN investigations have also concluded that Israel has obliterated Gaza’s education system, destroyed over half of its cultural and religious sites, and used starvation as a weapon of war, amounting to war crimes and crimes against humanity (OHCHR, UN News).



While discussing the attacks that Israel is carrying out, It is of the utmost importance that the scale of Israel's aggression and continued ethnic cleansing across the entirety of Palestine are not overlooked. According to Al Jazeera, these attacks span back to 1938 when the armed Zionist militia, Irgun, carried out a series of violent attacks on Palestinians. Just 8 years later, the same group bombed the King David hotel in Jerusalem, killing 91 people. Only a decade after Irgun's first attack on Palestinians, the 1948 Nakba took place, killing 15,000 Palestinians and displacing two thirds of the Palestinian population. Israel's attacks on Palestine have continued at increasing rates over the last 70 years, with many of them carried out not by the IOF but by the settlers themselves, with nearly 3000 attacks taking place over just nine years in the West Bank alone. In July 2025, the UN reported that the Israel military as well as Israeli settlers have killed civilians, carried out home demolitions, and forced displacement in the West Bank. Permanently displacing the civilian population within occupied territory amounts to unlawful transfer, a grave breach of the Fourth Geneva Convention.

This process has been described by Israeli historian Ilan Pappé as an "incremental genocide", in which the crime is committed in "waves". Facing little to no international backlash to these 'waves' has enabled both the expansion and refinement of Israel's crimes against Palestine: refinement in the form of practice – with the committing and defence of the ethnic cleansing of Palestine becoming routine – and expansion in terms of tactics. Since October 7th 2023, Israel has cut almost all access to food, water, electricity, fuel, internet and telecommunication services in Gaza, rendering healthcare services inoperable. On top of this Palestinians, who have been illegally and indefinitely detained without trial at large, are refused family visits – an act which is also in violation of international humanitarian laws'. Additionally, Israel has blocked access to humanitarian aid, and denied access to international journalists into Gaza. In November 2024, the UN Special Committee have Israel's warfare methods in Gaza consistent with genocide, including use of starvation as weapon of war. Since then, over 100 organizations have been demanding an end to Israel's manipulation of humanitarian aid. While Israeli authorities insist there are no restrictions on aid entering Gaza, the reality is that most major international NGOs have not been able to deliver vital humanitarian aid since 2 March 2025.

1.3. Israeli Military & Impunity

The unofficial exemption of the IOF from the legal consequences of their crimes is not confined to their treatment of Palestinian hostages or murder of Palestinians civilians. From early on in its assault on Gaza, the IOF has employed various technologies to exacerbate its onslaught. The use of artificial intelligence and surveillance technology not only further dehumanises Israel's victims but – according to Human Rights Watch – may even 'be increasing the risk of civilian harm' through 'tools not fit for purpose to help make life and death decisions in Gaza'. As noted by the British Medical Journal, these technologies have since been used to carry out Israel's newest protocol-divergent strategies, including 'the foregoing of warning shots along with strikes on residential buildings with no active military targets' – actions which are in complete violation of international humanitarian law. Israel's undeniable confidence in their exemption from these laws has only been bolstered by the international community's lack of action, who have failed to condemn Israel's latest targeting of Gaza's health industry in addition to maintaining silence on the equally horrific attacks – in which hospitals were flattened and paramedics and doctors were targeted – of 2014 and 2009.

International and legal bodies, such as the International Court of Justice (ICJ), the International Criminal Court (ICC) and the United Nations (UN) have put out a number of statements.



The following shows a timeline of public statements made by lawyers, the ICJ, ICC, and the UN since January 2024, regarding the human rights violations being perpetuated by the Israeli military against Palestinians and the illegality of the Israeli settlements.

- **January 2024** - The ICJ ruled that claims accusing Israel of committing genocide against the Palestinian people were "plausible."
- **March 2024** - A UN report titled "Anatomy of a Genocide" concluded that "there are reasonable grounds to believe that the threshold of genocide is met" in the context of Israel's actions toward Palestinians.
- **May 2024** - The ICC prosecutor sought arrest warrants for the Israeli Prime Minister and Minister of Defense on multiple counts of war crimes and crimes against humanity.
- **June 12, 2024** - Another UN report found that Israel had committed war crimes, crimes against humanity, violations of international humanitarian law, and violations of international human rights law in Gaza.
- **June 20, 2024** - UN experts issued a warning that States and companies should immediately cease transferring weapons and ammunition to Israel, cautioning that such actions could lead to complicity in international crimes, including potential genocide.
- **June 25, 2024** - A UN Special Committee labelled Israel's assault on Gaza as "indiscriminate, disproportionate, and callous in nature." The Committee urged all States and businesses supporting the occupation to halt their involvement or risk complicity in serious violations of international human rights, humanitarian, and criminal law, including possible genocide. The Committee also emphasised that a lasting peace between Israelis and Palestinians depends on ending the occupation of Palestine and the apartheid system of injustice that sustains it.
- **July 19, 2024** - The ICJ provided an advisory opinion on the Legal Consequences Arising from the Policies and Practices of Israel in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. The ICJ determined that Israel's continued presence in the occupied Palestinian territory is unlawful and stressed that Israel must end this presence as quickly as possible. Furthermore, it stated that all States have a duty not to recognise the legality of the situation arising from Israel's actions and must refrain from aiding or assisting in maintaining Israel's ongoing occupation.
- **September 2024** - The United Nations General Assembly on Wednesday voted overwhelmingly to adopt a resolution that demands that Israel "brings to an end without delay its unlawful presence" in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.
- **19 December 2024** - The UN General Assembly overwhelmingly adopted Resolution A/RES/79/232 - The resolution underscores Israel's duty to respect *UN Charter, international humanitarian and human rights law*, and its obligations not to obstruct the Palestinian right to self-determination, including through halting measures that impede aid and services United NationsUN Watch.
- **May 26, 2025** - UK Judges' and Lawyers' Open Letter Concerning the Occupied Palestinian Territory. This includes calling for sanctions on Israel due to its violations of international law.
- **August 12, 2025** - 146 states recognise the state of Palestine as a sovereign state, nine of which have done so post October 7th. Six countries: Australia, Portugal, Canada, Malta, Britain and France are planning to announce recognition in September, with Britain awaiting a ceasefire deal between Israel and Hamas for a final decision.



Despite the numerous rulings, legal opinions and warnings from various international organisations, the Israeli army has only escalated their attacks against Palestine, now replicating its previous attacks and attempted occupation in other countries such as Lebanon. These actions remain unimpeded by governments and institutions across the world who maintain partnerships with and invest in arms and technology companies, directly work with Israeli businesses and universities, and financially and socially support the Israeli government and their crimes. This sits in stark contrast to the rightful global condemnation of the Russian government and military. The clear impunity with which the Israeli military has been allowed to operate highlights how these institutions value profits, which they receive from the sale of arms to Israel, over human rights and international law. The intricacies of the arms trade, the profit-generating machine of war and the resulting human rights violations will be further explored below.

1.4 Francesca Albanese report

In July 2025, Francesca Albanese, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967 has published a report titled “From the economy of occupation to the economy of genocide”. Albanese highlights how Israel’s long-standing settler-colonial project is sustained through corporate backing and how its continued support through economic backing has allowed it to evolve. Following the intensification of military operations in Gaza after October 2023, this occupation has shifted into full scale genocide. It’s no longer just territorial control, but a structured system of mass violence with corporate and financial facilitation. The report names several companies and corporations that directly aid Israel in continuing to perpetuate apartheid and genocide against the Palestinian people. The report is a direct reflection of how public opinions are evolving and how capitalism plays a crucial role perpetuating human rights violations.

Throughout this updated report, we will cite the companies mentioned and highlight UoN’s links to them to showcase why the University should cut its ties with these companies.

1.5 Humanising the victims of Israeli aggression

Dehumanisation is identified as the fourth stage of genocide in Stanton’s *The Ten Stages of Genocide*. The University of Nottingham appear to have fallen for the widespread campaigns of dehumanisation against the Palestinian people, and have become accustomed to their massacre, losing the normal revulsion one would experience when discovering they are connected to ethnic cleansing, illegal occupation and genocide. Countering dehumanisation involves actively choosing to ensure we do not allow murdered Palestinians to become mere statistics. Statistics are important to record and cite, however the importance of maintaining the humanity of victims cannot be understated. This necessarily entails acknowledging the reality of their suffering and taking swift action to end any and all connections to their oppression.

Since October 2023, organisations have diligently been working to gather and publish statistics about the ongoing genocide in an attempt to share the severity of massacres and move the international community to take action. A reputable organisation called Let’s Talk Palestine has meticulously combed through this information and compiled a fully sourced document titled “One Year of Genocide: Factsheet” detailing the information from October 2023 to October 2024 . They have also



reported on all the latest developments, from most recent attacks to changes in international perceptions.

In order to counter the internalised biases, we are encouraged to hold - consciously or otherwise - and to re-humanise and commemorate the Palestinian people, we have taken the time to gather four individual cases where Palestinians have been heinously killed by the settler colony of Israel across this past year. It is important to remember that these four people are drops in a sea of millions of Palestinians killed, orphaned, injured, displaced, tortured, amputated, raped and traumatised as a result of Israel's 77 years long campaign of ethnic cleansing.

Hind Rajab, aged 6: Murdered alongside her family and 2 paramedics travelling along 'safe routes'

Hind was a child. Her family did everything they had been ordered to, notifying the IOF of their intent to travel along the safe route, and sticking to the safe roads. Nonetheless, the Israelis targeted the car, ultimately killing all the family members Hind was travelling with, including her 15-year-old cousin, Layan. Hind was trapped in the car, surrounded by the dead bodies of her family members, and remained on the phone to the Red Crescent for three hours. The paramedics sent by the Red Crescent were killed when they tried to rescue her, and the IOF proceeded to block access to the area, preventing the recovery of their remains for twelve days. When the military left, the ambulance was found burnt to pieces, and Hind's body was found decomposing in the car her family were killed in. Forensic evidence has revealed that the car was hit with 335 bullets and analysts have concluded that it is 'not plausible' that the Israeli forces in the tank could not see children inside the car. This six-year-old witnessed her family killed around her, called for help herself only to be murdered in cold-blood.

Sha'baan Al-Dalou, aged 19: Burnt alive with his family in the ruins of Al-Asqa Hospital (Gaza)

Sha'baan was studying software engineering and had just survived an airstrike attack carried out against people sheltering in a mosque in Gaza a week before he was martyred. He was being treated alongside his family in makeshift tents in the ruins of Al-Aqsa hospital, which has also been bombed previously. An Israeli airstrike on these hospital tents left Sha'baan burning alive in his hospital bed, still connected to an IV drip. His father recounts being thrown out of his bed by the bomb blast, faced with the decision of choosing which of his three children to attempt saving from the flames. Sha'baan's 10-year-old brother, who was rescued from the fire, later died from his wounds. Sha'baan did not live to see his 20th birthday, due to bombs dropped on hospital tents used to treat refugees who had survived a previous bombing.

Hassan Hamad, aged 19: Assassinated by Israeli aerial attacks for reporting on the Gaza genocide

Hassan was a teenager who took on the responsibility of becoming a journalist to report on the crimes being committed by the IOF in Gaza. He had shared with his colleagues online that the Israeli army had been threatening him, ordering him to either stop sharing news about the massacres or face death. Although it is a crime under international law, it is common practice for Israel to target Palestinian journalists. As such, Hassan had already been forced to make the decision to stay away from his family to protect them from being targeted. Hassan was on the phone to a fellow journalist before he was killed, saying "There they are, there they are, it's done". The attack dismembered his body so severely that his remains were given to his father in two shoe boxes. Hassan was a child who was forced to document the murder of his people and the destruction of his land for a year only to be targeted and killed for it.



Ziad Abu Helaiel, aged 66: Beaten to death by IOF soldiers during a house raid in the occupied West Bank

Ziad Abu Helaiel was a renowned Palestinian activist, known for peacefully confronting the IOF during their attacks in Al-Khalil (Hebron). Across his many years of living under illegal occupation and Israeli war crimes, Ziad was often found standing (supported by his walking stick) between heavily armed soldiers and peaceful protesters, trying to protect the youth of his town from being murdered. He was a highly respected man, killed for trying to peacefully protect his people and land.

Countering dehumanisation involves actively choosing to ensure we do not allow murdered Palestinians to become mere statistics. In the UK, we must rediscover the natural reaction to genocide that we have been taught to ignore. Unlearning the normalisation of genocide and rejecting the dehumanisation of Palestinians will allow us all to feel repulsed by the mass murder and displacement of millions and moved to do all we can to stop it. The University of Nottingham must acknowledge the reality of the role it plays in supporting and enabling this genocide and take instantaneous action to rectify its wrongs. The settler colony of Israel has been given permission to act with impunity, but as an academic institution, the University must take swift action to ensure international law and human rights taught on our campuses are upheld. The University of Nottingham has demonstrated it is possible to do this in response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine, it is imperative we see action from our institution - now more than ever.



2. The Arms Trade

2.1. The Profit-Generating Machine of War

The Arms Trade is one of the most lucrative industries globally, with the financial value of the global arms trade estimated at *at least* US\$111.6 billion in 2024. With the combined revenue of the world’s top 100 arms-producing and military services companies equating to US\$597.2 billion in 2022, according to data from the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. In a similar trend, the value of all arms trade into Israel reached US\$14.8 billion in 2024 according to the Israeli media themselves.

The market is dominated by a small number of key players, namely the following companies:

COMPANY NAME	2024 REVENUE
<u>LOCKHEED MARTIN</u>	\$71.0 billion (▲ 5.1% 2023)
<u>BOEING</u>	\$66.5 billion (▼ 2.4% 2023)
<u>BAE SYSTEMS</u>	\$26.3 billion (▲ 14% 2023)
<u>NORTHROP GRUMMAN</u>	\$41.0 billion (▲ 4% 2023)
<u>RAYTHEON</u>	\$80.8 billion (▲ 8% 2023)

Table 1 Arms-producing and military services companies

These companies manufacture a wide range of military equipment, from advanced fighter jets such as the F-35 to missile systems and small arms, with a significant proportion of their revenue derived from government defence contracts. The arms trade is intertwined with geopolitical instability, as conflicts increase arms demand, leading to increased production and profit. This dynamic reinforces a cycle of conflict where profits incentivise further arms proliferation, often to unstable regions, exacerbating conflicts rather than resolving them.

The arms trade raises significant moral and ethical concerns. Weapons sold to oppressive regimes or conflict zones contribute to human rights abuses and the deaths of civilians. Previous examples include arms supplied to Syria in 2011, Saudi Arabia/UAE - involved in the Yemen conflict - and in the present day - Israel. These have all sparked international outcry due to civilian casualties, humanitarian crises and human rights violations.

While some regulations like the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) and the Geneva conventions attempt to ethically control the flow of weapons, enforcement is often weak. Powerful nations and companies, who are also the largest arms suppliers, can bypass or ignore such regulations, driven by profit and strategic interests rather than international human rights laws and national safety.

Countries heavily reliant on arms exports can see their economies tied to global military spending, creating a "war machine" that sustains itself with conflict. This not only includes arms manufacturers but also smaller contractors and supply chains, leading to a broad dependence on the defence sector for economic stability.



2.2. Human Rights Violations

The global arms trade has significant implications for human rights, often exacerbating conflicts and contributing to civilian suffering. International treaties such as the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), which came into force in 2014, aim to regulate the international trade in conventional arms and prevent their diversion to illicit markets. The ATT requires states to assess the risk that exported arms could be used to commit or facilitate serious violations of international humanitarian law or human rights abuses.

Several companies have faced scrutiny for their involvement in arms sales to conflict zones. For instance, BAE Systems, Lockheed Martin, and Raytheon have been criticised for supplying weapons to Saudi Arabia, which have been used in the Yemen conflict, resulting in significant civilian casualties and alleged war crimes. The Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Amnesty International and other human rights organisations have highlighted the failure of these companies to adequately address the human rights risks associated with their business operations.

The UK government has acknowledged a “clear risk” that UK-supplied weapons and components may be involved in serious violations of international humanitarian law, prompting Foreign Secretary, David Lammy, to announce the suspension of around 30 out of 350 export licences to Israel. However, it's important to note that this suspension does not apply to UK-made components for the multinational F-35 Joint Strike Fighter programme, except in instances where they are sent directly to Israel. This exclusion raises serious concerns given the established connections between UK-made F-35 components and civilian casualties in Gaza.

The UK Chief Executive of Amnesty International stated this exclusion is “a catastrophically bad decision for future arms control and misses a clear obligation to hold Israel accountable for its extensive war crimes and other violations”. This situation suggests that the measures taken may be more reactive than proactive, failing to adequately address the potential for British-made arms to contribute to human rights abuses abroad. This year, 2025, Britain is set to finalise a \$2 billion deal with Israel's largest arms manufacturer, Elbit Systems, to train 60,000 British soldiers annually. Since the beginning of the conflict in 2023, Britain has only sought closer ties with Israel as a ‘strategic partner’.

The situation in Palestine underscores the ongoing issues with the arms trade. Weapons supplied to Israel have been used in operations that have resulted in significant civilian casualties and destruction in Gaza. Israeli own-intelligence confirms that military operations since 2023, as of August 2025, have incurred 83% civilian casualties - the IDF admits that of the 53,000 dead they have recorded, less than 9,000 of them were identified as militant casualties. The international community's failure to effectively regulate arms transfers to such conflict zones highlights the need for stronger enforcement of international treaties and greater accountability for both states and corporations involved in the arms trade.

2.3. Environmental Degradation

The environmental degradation caused by the arms trade is significant, though it often receives less attention than the human toll of conflict since its impacts on population devastation are not nearly as



immediate, but equally as deadly. The production, transportation, testing, and deployment of military equipment contribute heavily to carbon emissions, pollution, and habitat destruction.

In 2019, the global military sector accounted for approximately 6% of the world's total carbon emissions, with defence-related activities contributing nearly 1.8 billion tonnes of CO2 annually. Between the years 2006-2019, the total aviation fuel used for UK's defence activities equated to an average of 1.8 billion tonnes of CO2 annually. In 2022 into 2023 the total defence greenhouse gases emissions cleared 3 million tonnes, roughly 50% of the entire UK Central Government emissions. From the manufacture of weapons to the aftermath of their use, the arms trade has a profound and lasting impact on ecosystems and biodiversity.

The production of arms is resource-intensive, relying on vast amounts of raw materials like steel, aluminium, and rare earth metals. Arms manufacturing is energy-heavy, often requiring fossil fuels, which leads to the emission of large amounts of greenhouse gases. Factories producing military equipment can also generate significant amounts of toxic waste. Hazardous chemicals used in processes such as metal plating, coating, and assembly can leach into the soil and local water systems if not properly managed. For instance, military production facilities in the United States alone produce over 400,000 tonnes of hazardous waste annually. When improperly disposed of, these pollutants can cause long-term environmental damage, contaminating ecosystems and harming human populations living nearby.

The environmental impacts of arms do not end with production; their deployment in conflict zones also causes widespread environmental degradation. The use of high-explosive weapons in warfare results in the destruction of natural landscapes, contaminating soil and water sources with hazardous materials like lead, mercury, and unexploded ordnance. These chemicals persist in the environment long after conflicts have ended, contributing to long-term health issues and preventing the land from being repurposed for agriculture or habitation. For example, research suggests that conflicts across Africa, particularly in countries such as Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, have left behind large areas of land contaminated by unexploded ordnance, leading to loss of farmland and biodiversity.

The arms trade is also responsible for significant carbon emissions due to the transportation and deployment of military equipment. Fighter jets, tanks, and naval vessels are among the most energy-intensive vehicles, consuming vast quantities of fuel. A single F-35 fighter jet, for instance, burns around 5,600 litres of fuel per hour, contributing significantly to atmospheric pollution. Additionally, military activities involving the detonation of explosives release harmful particulates into the air, further degrading air quality in conflict zones. This not only has an immediate effect on human health but also contributes to long-term environmental damage.

Military operations and conflicts lead to significant deforestation, soil erosion, and habitat destruction, particularly in areas rich in biodiversity. A case study of the Vietnam War highlights how defoliants like Agent Orange, used to remove forest cover, destroyed approximately 1.8 million hectares of forest, leaving large swaths of land barren and uninhabitable. 300,000 US Soldiers and 400,000 Vietnamese are estimated to have died of exposure to Agent Orange. Similarly, modern conflicts in regions such as the Middle East have caused severe damage to natural ecosystems, as bombs and heavy artillery have disrupted critical habitats and biodiversity. The conflict in Yemen, for



example, has led to the destruction of over 100,000 hectares of agricultural land due to aerial bombardment and landmines, drastically reducing biodiversity and food production.

2.4 Case Study: Palestine

Environmental degradation in Palestine, particularly in Gaza and the West Bank, has been exacerbated by military conflict and infrastructure damage. Gaza's sole aquifer has been severely contaminated and deliberately targeted by Israeli military operations, leaving over two million people without safe drinking water due to over-extraction, as well as pollutants from explosives and waste generated by conflict. Restrictions on importing materials needed to repair water and sewage systems have worsened water scarcity, contributing to environmental stress and public health risks. Furthermore, damage to Gaza's wastewater treatment plants has resulted in raw sewage flowing into the Mediterranean Sea, causing pollution that affects not only Gaza's coastline but also neighbouring territories, such as the Israeli occupied areas of Palestine and Egypt.

Agriculture, a critical part of Palestine's economy, has also been severely impacted. Thousands of acres of farmland have been destroyed due to military operations, bulldozers, and artillery. In the 2014 Gaza massacres, large areas of agricultural land were ruined, threatening long-term food security. In the West Bank, Israeli settler activity has resulted in the destruction of olive trees, which are economically and culturally vital for Palestinian farmers. Unexploded ordnance and munitions residues pose ongoing risks in densely populated regions like Gaza. As of April of 2025, the arable land that still stood in 2014 has been so depleted that just 4.6% (688 hectares) are available for cultivation - this total decimation means that today Gaza qualifies for Acute Food Insecurity, with one in five people (500,000) on the brink of starvation.

The destruction of Gaza's natural ecosystems, especially its coastal and marine environments, has had severe repercussions on marine biodiversity and the local fishing industry. The collapse of systems for managing sewage, wastewater, and solid waste has led to major environmental impacts and adverse effects on communities. Various international organisations, including the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), have highlighted these environmental crises, noting that over a decade of blockade, conflict, and infrastructure collapse have rendered the situation unsustainable. Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International have also documented how the destruction of key infrastructure, including water and sanitation facilities, intensifies both humanitarian and environmental crises.

Although international laws, such as Article 55 of the 1977 Protocol I of the Geneva Conventions and Article 8(2)(b)(iv) of the Rome Statute aim to prevent severe, long-term environmental damage during warfare, enforcement remains weak. As a result, the degradation of Palestine's natural resources continues with minimal accountability. Reports from UNEP and the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) underscore the environmental toll of military activities and arms production, calling for stronger regulations to curb military carbon emissions and prevent further environmental harm. This complex crisis highlights the urgent need for more effective legal mechanisms to hold actors accountable for environmental damage in conflict zones and to promote sustainable recovery efforts in regions like Palestine.



In the coming decades there will be a massive shift in opinion regarding the Israeli military operation into Gaza, the occupation and ongoing genocide, that will undoubtedly reveal to the western audience the crimes of Israel and their collaborators across the world. No where is this more evident than the changing perception of the movement in the 1960s-90s to end Apartheid in South Africa - we stress that the companies and institutions that made the decision earlier rather than later to cut ties with the National Party regime were all the better for it.

Divestment campaigns are one of the strategies to highlight to governments that they cannot act with impunity and must operate within the framework of international law.



3. The Importance of University Boycott and Divestment Campaigns

3.1 South African Apartheid & Divestment

The student-led divestment campaigns against South African apartheid in the 1970s and 1980s were pivotal in applying international pressure to dismantle the racist regime. These campaigns focused on encouraging universities, governments, and corporations to withdraw their investments from companies operating in or supporting apartheid South Africa to weaken its economic base and international legitimacy.

Despite the end of Britain's formal colonisation of South Africa by the early 1960s, its economic influence and control persisted and between 1972 and 1976, British banks provided over \$2.7 billion in loans to South Africa, which rose to \$3.16 billion by 1977. The anti-apartheid movement specifically targeted Barclays Bank, one of Britain's largest financial institutions and the most prominent street bank operating in South Africa, as well as Shell, which continued to supply oil to South Africa even after major oil-exporting nations imposed an embargo. After the movement gained momentum in 1976 it was revealed that Barclays National had invested an additional £6.5 million in South African Defence Bonds.

The divestment movement gained significant momentum in the United States and Europe, with university students playing a crucial role. Protests and sit-ins were organised on campuses, demanding that universities divest from companies complicit in apartheid. The success of these campaigns was marked by several high-profile divestment decisions, including those by large institutions like the University of California system, which divested \$3.1 billion from South Africa-related investments in 1986. These actions contributed to the broader global pressure that ultimately led to the end of apartheid legislation. Presently, Pro-Palestinian activists and organisations mirror many of the same demands and actions to ensure that governments, institutions and organisations do not invest in apartheid, illegal occupation as well as the genocide being carried by the Israeli government.

3.2 The Historical and Contemporary Involvement of Universities in Divestment Campaigns

Universities have historically been at the forefront of divestment campaigns, acting as moral and intellectual leaders in global social justice movements. The anti-apartheid protests in Nottingham, especially at the University of Nottingham, demonstrate a longstanding commitment from students to push universities and governments toward anti-apartheid actions. From the 1960s onward, student-led campaigns sought to pressure the university to divest from companies supporting South Africa's apartheid regime and urged the UK government to take stronger stances against it. This activism reflects a persistent call for institutions to align their policies with global human rights values, particularly in opposition to racial injustice. The anti-apartheid divestment campaigns were often driven by the belief that universities, as centres of learning and progress, had a moral obligation to align their investments with their values of equality and justice. The success of the anti-apartheid divestment movement set a precedent for future campaigns.



Present Push for Universities' Divestment

In more recent years, universities have been involved in divestment campaigns targeting fossil fuels, private prisons, and companies involved in human rights violations, such as what is currently happening in Palestine. Although opponents of divestment argue that divesting fails to significantly reduce the amount of money sent to arms and fossil fuel companies, activists and social scientists argue that this overlooks the main impact of divestment, which is to stigmatise these industries, undermine their social licence to operate, and ultimately help shape policy decisions. These highlight the continued role of universities in shaping ethical investment practices and contributing to global social justice movements.

Within the last year, many universities worldwide, including Columbia University and London School of Economics have seen student protests and demands for them to divest from Israel by cutting ties with companies that work with and in the apartheid state.

In May 2024, Goldsmiths University of London agreed to review investments with Israeli companies. They additionally said they would support renaming a building in honour of Shireen Abu Akleh, who was a longtime correspondent with Al Jazeera, and was killed two years ago by an Israeli soldier while covering a raid in the West Bank. In the same month, Columbia Union Theological Seminary announced it will divest its \$110 million endowment from all "companies substantially and intractably benefiting from the war in Palestine". In April of 2024, Brown University made a public agreement to vote on divestment from "companies that facilitate the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian Territory." in their October meeting. Similar commitments have been made by the University of Cambridge, Trinity College, the University of York, and Trinity College Dublin. This demonstrates that universities have the ability to review their investments, divest from unethical companies and honour those who were murdered by the Israeli military.

As the continued pressure on UK academic institutions has increased over the last 2 years, several universities have taken significant steps to divest from companies and institutions linked to the arms trade, the Israeli military, and unethical banking practices.

SOAS, University of London has divested £1 million from Barclays, Albemarle, and FANUC, companies complicit in Israeli arms manufacturing and military activity. This was shared by SOAS BDS in November 2024. Additionally, per an update shared by the SOAS Executive Board, SOAS has "ring-fenced and created a minimum of seven new scholarships" that will benefit incoming Palestinian students in the academic year 2024-2025.

In April 2024, Swansea University has also committed to divest from Barclays Bank, which is complicit in the genocide in Gaza. University administration also committed to changing their scholarship policy to make it more accessible for Palestinian students.

Queen's University Belfast has pledged to cut ties with companies on the UN blacklist, and in June 2024, began the process to divest from companies listed by the UN Human Rights Council, amounting to a divestment of around £800,000.

Goldsmiths, University of London in 2024, implemented a Sustainable Careers Policy, which will restrict advertising vacancies in environmentally unsustainable companies, including arms companies. They will also no longer invite these companies to their career fairs.



As recently as April 2025, the Student Union at York St. John University has shared that the university, in line with their Ethical Framework for Financial Transactions (EFFT), has committed to “ethical and responsible banking.” They plan to avoid investment in “fossil fuel industries, arms manufacturers, exploitative lenders, or any entities involved in human rights violations, modern slavery, or environmental harm.”

Additionally, in May 2025, King’s College Cambridge became the first Oxbridge institution to divest from arms industries, and more specifically companies complicit in Palestine’s occupation. They have voted to adopt a “responsible investment” policy excluding companies involved in illegal occupations and military weapons production. These changes are meant to come into effect by the end of this calendar year.

It is also worth noting that while many universities are taking action now in order to align themselves with global ethical principles and international law, many UK universities have divested and cut ties many years prior as well. For instance, SOAS sold off its arms shares in 2005. Bangor University in 2006, adopted an ethical investment policy, prioritising sustainability, and St. Andrews University did the same in 2007.

Most of these actions outlined above have come up as a result of sustained pressure from students and staff at universities, culminating in universities aligning their financial and investment practices with ethical and social responsibility principles.

University of Nottingham also has seen sustained pressure from students. Additionally, the UoN UCU has created and signed onto a BDS pledge in November 2024. Despite this, the University of Nottingham is still one among the many universities that have investments and partnerships with companies and institutions that are operating in the settler colony of Israel.

The facts about Israel’s human rights violations are widely known at this point. There are also growing legal opinions that urge states and international organisations to stop aiding the apartheid regime. However, the University of Nottingham has still not made any commitments to divest from arms companies that are at risk of complicity in these actions.

In 2023, The University of Nottingham advertised and hosted a talk about the crime of apartheid in South Africa. This included speakers and guests such as Francesca Albanese, Noura Erakat, Russell Rickford, Omar Shakir and Daniel Levy, who have all shown public criticism of Israel’s actions and support for the liberation of Palestine. This highlights the University’s position in regard to past apartheid regimes, yet despite the ICJ advisory ruling that what Israel is presently doing is apartheid, the University is not following their past approach in addressing apartheid. This performative support for Palestine through the invitation of prominent Pro-Palestine activists whilst not taking any action to divest from Israel highlights that the University does not stand by its own principles and past actions. Students and staff have been advocating for UoN to take meaningful action to divest from companies that perpetuate war crimes and apartheid – but despite the appearance of being an institution led by ethics there have been no significant steps taken.

3.3 The Double Standard

The involvement of universities in divestment campaigns is also intertwined with broader questions about institutional racism. Historically, many universities, both in the UK and globally have been complicit in systems of racial oppression, whether through investments, policies, or practices that perpetuate inequality. The anti-apartheid divestment campaign not only addressed the issue of South



African racism but should have also sparked internal reflections on racism, colonial mindsets and imperialistic practices within the universities themselves. The recent actions of many UK universities, including UoN, highlight that these reflections have not taken place.

In 2022, The University of Nottingham put out a public statement about their decision to cut all formal ties with Russia in response to the invasion of Ukraine, aligning its actions with a commitment to support Ukrainian students and uphold human rights. This decision included ending partnerships and collaborations with Russian institutions, reflecting the university's stance against the conflict and its implications for global justice.

Within 3 months of Russia invading Ukraine, the University introduced the Ukrainian Scholars at Risk programme, offering a "full package of support enabling eligible Ukrainian students displaced by the Russian invasion of their country to continue their studies at UoN".

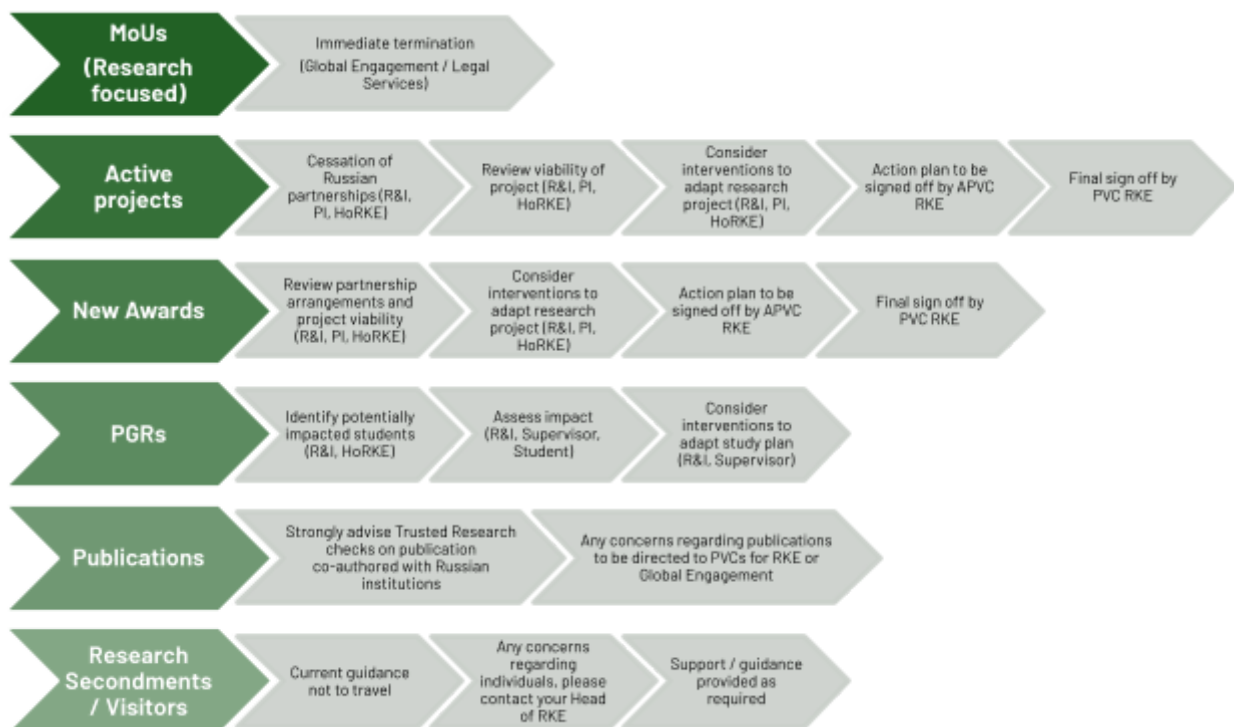


Figure 3 Cutting ties with Russian Unis, update 2022 - information taken from Research and Knowledge Exchange Guidance: Collaborations with Ukraine and Russia

The University has approved five awards for postdoctoral and established researchers, as well as three awards for PhD students displaced by the war in Ukraine. These initiatives are funded through Universities UK International's UK-Ukraine R&I Twinning Grants Scheme. The key areas of research that the grants are afforded to are:

- War and Resilience
- Religion and War
- Moral and Legal Considerations of Wartime Actors
- Integral Human Development and Sustainable Reconstruction

Grants of £5,000 and £15,000 are available per application, with a total of £100,000 available. The disparity between the approach they have taken in regard to Ukraine and the ongoing genocide in Palestine is evident. In the 12 months since Israel's ongoing genocidal assault on Gaza began, which has systematically targeted and destroyed every single Gazan university and 80% of schools, no such

programme has been put in place by UoN for Palestinian students who have been affected by this scholasticide. This is all while additionally the escalations in the West Bank and Lebanon have resulted in school closures in 2024, further impacting education. The University of Nottingham has not made any public commitment to improve the level of financial support available to students affected by the Israeli attacks.

Despite UoN claiming its contribution to the Quality Education SDG, they have not provided adequate support to students affected by Israel's assaults on Palestine and, generally, current financial support for Palestinian students at UoN is inadequate and severely disproportionate. The Middle East and Turkey Undergraduate Excellence Award, offered to students from 16 countries including Israel, is the only undergraduate scholarship available to Palestinians. It grants £2,000 for the first academic year; meanwhile European scholarship students receive triple the sum (£6,000). The University also offers one Saïd Foundation Masters Scholarship for students from Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine and Syria. Furthermore, there is no country-specific information page for Palestinian international students who wish to study at UoN. Aside from these two programmes, the University provides no substantial financial nor welfare support for Palestinian students, despite the context of the past 2 years.

The double standard between the approaches that the University of Nottingham has taken with regards to Ukraine and Palestine is evident both in the support they provide for students and their investments in companies, institutions and organisations that continue to support the apartheid regime of Israel and enable the genocide that is being committed by the settler-colonial state of Israel.

3.4 Lack of Action from UoN

For over two years, the University of Nottingham has ignored repeated calls from students and staff to divest from companies and institutions complicit in Israel's apartheid system and ongoing assault on Palestinians. Despite Student Union motions, staff petitions, and direct communication with management, the university has taken no meaningful steps to review or end its investments, even as other UK institutions have made commitments to divest.

Instead, UoN has engaged in performative gestures, such as hosting events on apartheid, while refusing to apply the same standards it once championed during the anti-apartheid struggle in South Africa. The university has censored and ignored student voices, refusing genuine engagement and even resorting to the use of security force against students during peaceful demonstrations. This, coupled with its continued inaction in the face of an ever-worsening situation—sustained by companies and institutions with which UoN still maintains ties—reveals a deep contradiction. In failing to act, UoN not only undermines its own legacy of ethical leadership but also signals that **Palestinian lives, voices, and rights are treated as less worthy of protection and solidarity.**



4. Investments

4.1. The University of Nottingham's Ethical Investment Policy

The University of Nottingham first introduced its investment policy, 'Policy on investment, acquisitions and disposals', in 2013. This is the single document which outlines how the University incorporates ethical considerations when making investment decisions. These considerations are also reiterated in the Cazenove Capital Report, a high-level summary of how the University's portfolio is managed and allocated, which should be published every fiscal year. Cazenove Capital, a Schroders subsidiary, has managed Nottingham's investments since 2021, in a Permanent Endowment Fund and a Medium Term Fund. It is required to implement the University's responsible investment policy and uphold ESG standards as highlighted in the Cazenove Capital report:

"The intention is for the Fund to have a positive impact on people and the planet. The managers will invest to avoid harm through ESG integration and exclusions, benefit society through responsible business activities and contribute to solutions through influence and investing for impact."

The University's investments are therefore subject to several exclusionary criteria, namely the University's fund manager is responsible for ensuring that investments are not held in "organisations where the primary part of their business clearly demonstrates the following characteristics:

- explicit environmental damage;
- manufacture and sale of armaments to military regimes;
- institutional violations of human rights, including modern slavery and the exploitation of the workforce;
- discrimination against the individual;
- the manufacture and sale of tobacco products;
- the extraction of thermal coal and tar sands or oil shale;
- oil and gas producers.

As this is particularly relevant for the purposes of this report, it is worth noting that two of the above exclusion commitments stated in the University's investment policy do not feature in the 2023 Cazenove Capital Report. Namely, the commitment to screen out institutional violations of human rights and discrimination against the individual are both not referenced within the Report's exclusion criteria.

The 2025 Cazenove Capital Annual Report reiterates the application of negative screening and exclusionary practices, particularly around fossil fuels, tobacco, controversial weapons, and businesses causing severe environmental harm. It also details how these policies are put into practice, listing active decisions to reallocate away from certain holdings and towards others with stronger sustainability credentials. For example, holdings such as *Intel*, *Reckitt Benckiser*, *Lonza*, and *Vestas Wind Systems* were sold, while new investments were made in companies like *GlaxoSmithKline*, *UnitedHealth Group*, *ServiceNow*, and *Trane Technologies*, alongside ESG-aligned funds such as the *UBS S&P 500 ESG Elite ETF* and the *Schroder Sustainable Sovereign Bond Fund*. These actions



illustrate how the University's "policy commitments" are operationalised through the fund manager's buy/sell decisions, with the emphasis to, in theory, focus on long-term sustainability outcomes and compliance with the University's responsible investment framework.

However, the 2025 report continues to omit explicit reference to the exclusion of institutional violations of human rights and discrimination against the individual. This demonstrates a persistent gap between the University's formal investment policy and the way exclusions are described in their fund manager's annual reporting.

To demonstrate differences in how different UK universities approach their investments and transparency regarding their fund managers, QMUL has released a report which ranked different UK universities. UoN scored 4/8, placing it below several Russell Group universities: Birmingham and Liverpool (7/8), LSE (6/8), Sheffield, UCL, and Imperial (5/8). UoN discloses its fund manager but lacks clear public access to its holdings, a structured policy on arms exclusions, or consistent student involvement in reviewing investment practices. Other universities have adopted more rigorous standards. For example, Goldsmiths University introduced detailed investment screening criteria in 2021 following student and staff advocacy. These exclusions extend beyond general ESG categories to cover construction in illegal settlements, use of forced labour, exploitation of natural resources, and activities breaching international law. This demonstrates that institutions can embed highly specific, values-based investment criteria—something UoN has yet to pursue. Policy review frequency is another area where UoN falls behind. While universities such as Birmingham, Durham, and Liverpool review their investment policies annually, and Imperial, Manchester, and UCL do so biennially, UoN is not listed among universities with regular review processes. Annual reviews create opportunities for student unions and staff to influence how ethical principles are embedded into investment practices. Additionally, several universities have aligned themselves with the UN Principles for Responsible Investment (UNPRI), either as direct signatories (e.g., Birmingham, LSE, Edinburgh, Imperial, Leeds, UAL) or by requiring fund managers to sign (e.g., Sheffield, Newcastle, UCL, York). UoN is not currently a signatory, nor does it require its fund manager to be. Becoming a UNPRI signatory would strengthen institutional accountability through biennial compliance reviews and formal reporting endorsed by senior management.

The University of Nottingham also draws on the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to both guide its investments, as well as to measure the ESG impact of its investments. The University's commitment to promote and contribute to the UN SDGs is also part of its wider strategy. A primary means by which businesses and organisations can contribute to the UN SDGs, which act as a "shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet", is through responsible investments. The University of Nottingham claims that 32% of its fund directly contributes to goals 9, 3, 8, 7 which respectively concern Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, Good Health and Wellbeing, Decent Work and Economic Growth, and Affordable and Clean Energy. In the following sections, we will scrutinise these claims and consider how the University's investments might undermine these particular SDGs, alongside Goal 16, which concerns the promotion of peace and justice.



4.2. Defining Ethical Investment

Although there exists a multitude of frameworks and guidelines outlining the financial responsibilities of institutions, the University of Nottingham does not draw on any of these in its investment policy, but rather focuses on the UN SDGs as an impact indicator. However, SDGs, which are very broad in scope and do not outline any specific responsibilities, cannot be said to constitute a comprehensive metric against which the ethics and sustainability of University investments may be quantified. This issue is particularly aggravated when they are interpreted in isolation because, although they may serve as a (somewhat) adequate indicator of the University's positive-impact investments, they provide no real basis for developing robust exclusion criteria. Indeed, the weaknesses of the University's investment policy are clearly reflected in its choice of investments, which will be examined more closely in the following section.

Developing a robust investment policy necessarily requires consideration and implementation of more concrete guidelines, a key example being the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. The Guiding Principles framework is the key document outlining businesses' responsibilities in upholding human rights, and it will be of particular importance when discussing the University's industrial partners in the following chapter (Chapter 5). It is important to note that universities, regardless of whether they are created as statutory bodies, charities, or otherwise, are business enterprises for the purposes of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. Therefore, Universities have the corporate responsibility to respect human rights.

The responsibilities of business enterprises and private bodies with respect to illegal Israeli settlements has been laid out very clearly by a UN fact-finding mission, as early as 2013:

"116. The mission calls upon all Member States to comply with their obligations under international law and to assume their responsibilities in their relations with a State breaching peremptory norms of international law, and specifically not to recognize an unlawful situation resulting from Israel's violations.

117. Private companies must assess the human rights impact of their activities and take all necessary steps – including by terminating their business interests in the settlements – to ensure that they do not have an adverse impact on the human rights of the Palestinian people, in conformity with international law as well as the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. The mission calls upon all Member States to take appropriate measures to ensure that business enterprises domiciled in their territory and/or under their jurisdiction, including those owned or controlled by them, that conduct activities in or related to the settlements respect human rights throughout their operations. The mission recommends that the Working Group on Business and Human Rights be seized of this matter."

Despite the recommendations of the mission over 10 years ago, Israel has continued to expand its settlements with practically no consequence nor pressure from other States, nor private bodies. In light of this, the ICJ revisited this issue in July 2024 to provide an official ruling clarifying the legality of the settlements and Israel's continued presence in the occupied Palestinian territory. The world court concluded, for the first time, that:

"279. ... in view of the character and importance of the rights and obligations involved, all States are under an obligation not to recognize as legal the situation arising from the unlawful presence of Israel in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. They are also under an obligation not to render aid or assistance in maintaining the situation created by Israel's illegal presence in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. It is for all States, while respecting the Charter of the United Nations and international law, to ensure that any impediment resulting from the illegal presence of Israel in the Occupied Palestinian Territory to the exercise of the Palestinian people of its right to self-determination is brought to an end. In addition, all the States parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention have the obligation, while respecting the Charter of the United Nations and international law, to ensure compliance by Israel with international humanitarian law as embodied in that Convention."

We have used a reduced form of the comprehensive criteria developed by the LSESU Palestine Society in their May 2024 *Assets in Apartheid: LSE's Complicity in Genocide of the Palestinian People, Arms Trade, and Climate Breakdown* report, to assess the egregious activities, including illegal settlement activity, which the University's investments, as well as its industry partnerships, are complicit in supporting. The LSESU Palestine Society's criteria highlighted four egregious activities, namely regarding crimes against Palestinian people, extraction and/or distribution of fossil fuels, proliferation and/or manufacture of arms, and the financing of fossil fuel companies and/or nuclear weapons producers. We have chosen to focus our examination on two of these activities, alongside an adapted version of LSESU Palestine Society's fourth:

1. Crimes against the Palestinian people, including through supporting illegal Israeli settlements; and/or supporting the Israeli military; and/or sustaining apartheid.
2. Proliferation and/or manufacture of arms.
3. Financing crimes against the Palestinian people and/or financing the arms trade.

Alongside this criteria, we were guided by the BDS movement which includes companies that are linked to the Israeli military, aid in the ethnic cleansing of Palestinians and enable Israel to commit war crimes. We have also utilised the OHCHR database of all business enterprises involved in the activities detailed in paragraph 96 of the report of the independent international fact-finding mission to investigate the implications of the Israeli settlements on the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of the Palestinian people throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. Additionally, we have used the Francesca Albanese report detailing companies that have been involved in aiding the genocide and apartheid of Palestine. Using this extensive inclusion criteria, we have combined a list of companies that the University of Nottingham has links with in order to showcase their complicity in the ongoing genocide and ethnic cleansing of the Palestinian people.



4.3. Overview of Investments

The Cazenove Capital Fund is monitored by an independent Advisory Committee, therefore University does not independently curate its investment portfolios. This makes it even more imperative that the University has a robust policy for ethical investment.

Although the University of Nottingham claims to have no direct investments in the arms trade, its assets are still being managed by Cazenove Capital, a Schroders subsidiary. Schroders and other financial institutions currently financing the genocide against Palestinians also sponsor several of the funds in which the University's short-term assets are invested. The 2023 funds include Schroder Global Sustainable Growth Fund, Schroder Global Energy Transition and HSBC ESG Liquidity Fund. In December 2023, HSBC was named the second largest European creditor to companies operating in Israeli settlements in the West Bank between 2020-2023, providing them \$14.201bn in loans and underwriting services. HSBC invested \$2.652bn in such companies, and Schroders invested a larger sum, at \$3.535bn. Previous figures from 2017 also indicate investments of £831.5m in arms and technology companies equipping the Israeli military by HSBC, and £917.6m by Schroders. HSBC also maintains their headquarters in Israel. Additionally, investments shown in the 2025 Cazenove report support the Israeli economy in different ways. Namely, GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) maintains an Israel subsidiary and office in Petah Tikva. ServiceNow actively recruits for roles in Israel.

The University's portfolio as of June 31st 2025, was worth £52,900,753 with £46,387,422 in the Permanent Endowment Fund and £6,513,332 in the Medium Term Fund. These figures are based on the total values on investments listed in the portfolios released by the Freedom of Information request 3607479. The updated report will discuss the companies mentioned in these funds (which account for approximately 60% of UoN's investments). The following analysis will draw primarily on the University's equity holdings in FY24/25 but will be referring to FY23/24 for comparison and any changes / divestments from complicit companies.



4.4. Key Findings

Through Freedom of Information requests and analysis of the University's financial statements, we have obtained details of the University's global equity holdings. Our updated research did not reveal any direct investments in arms manufacturers, nor arms distributors – however, we did find that out of the 356 companies listed in the FY24/25 Portfolio, the UoN has a total of **£17,042,807** worth of holdings in 27 companies which are contributing to the ongoing violence against the Palestinian people. This includes companies that are either conducting or enabling crimes against the Palestinian people (including through supporting illegal Israeli settlements; and/or supporting the Israeli military; and/or sustaining apartheid); and/or financing crimes against the Palestinian people and/or financing the arms trade.

UoN seems to no longer have holdings in either fund in 6 companies that were listed in last year's report, these include; First Solar, LG Chem Limited, SMA Solar Technology, Pfizer inc, and IBM.

We found that the University has **£2,614,162** worth of investments in 4 companies operating in illegal settlements, including in the occupied West Bank. These include Booking Holdings Inc (£1,399,673.00), Carrefour S.A. (£97,380.00), Adidas AG (£738.00), and Unilever PLC (£1,116,371.00).

The University also invests **£9,108,924** in 10 companies complicit in upholding Israel's apartheid regime by supplying Israel with technology used by the IOF against Palestinians in the occupied Palestinian Territory. These companies include Microsoft (£3,254,564.00), Alphabet Inc (£2,201,258), Intel Corp (£122,960.00), HP Inc (£79,730.00), Adobe Inc (£553,551.00), Salesforce Inc (£843,918.00), and Palantir Technologies Inc (£7,381.00), HD HYUNDAI (£43,327) and Hitachi Limited (£1,043,721). The University also invests in **ASML Holdings NV (£958,514)** financial and technology corporations with documented complicity in enabling and financing Israeli apartheid.

The University of Nottingham has **£4,413,649** worth of holdings in 8 companies which are involved in financing either the Israeli military, illegal settlements, or arms manufacturers complicit in the genocide against Palestinians. These companies include Walt Disney (£121,283), Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria SA (£1,307,403.00), Standard Chartered Plc (£90,397.00), NatWest Group Plc (£68,338.00), Aviva Plc (£67,048.00), BNP Paribas SA (£82,257.00), AXA SA (£62,511.00), Eli Lilly (£64,121), Toronto-Dominion Bank (£1,475.00), Hewlett Packard Enterprise (£109,738), Mastercard Inc (£1,209,894.00) and Visa Inc (£1,229,184.00),

UoN invests a total of **£866,499.00** in AstraZeneca Plc, a global 'big pharma' corporation which has been found to contribute to 'vaccine apartheid' in various countries, particularly supporting Israel in its regime of apartheid during the COVID-19 pandemic. Israel has shown to be participating in medical apartheid, most notably through denying access to Covid-19 vaccines to Palestinians and denial of medical referrals for more advanced healthcare.

Additionally, the University has **£39,573** worth of holdings in Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd, the world's largest generic drug manufacturer and Israel's biggest commercial company. It dominates the Israeli pharmaceutical sector and benefits directly from the Israeli occupation. Through the Paris Protocol, Palestinians remain dependent on Israeli trade and customs policies, which impose heavy costs on the Palestinian pharmaceutical industry and block its development. Teva, by contrast, faces little competition and enjoys captive access to the Palestinian market without needing to adapt its



products. In this way, Teva profits from systemic economic restrictions on Palestinians while reinforcing their dependency on Israeli companies.

4.5. Individual Case Studies

4.5.1 Alphabet Inc.

Alphabet's subsidiary, Google, alongside Amazon, is delivering a \$1.2bn project to the Israeli military and government. Project Nimbus weaponises cloud computing and AI to facilitate the expansion of Israel's illegal settlements, and the unlawful surveillance of Palestinians. It has been opposed by hundreds of Google and Amazon employees for this. In the FY24/25, the University held equities in Alphabet totalling **£2,073,234** in their Medium Term and Permanent Endowment Funds. Despite the links with the Israeli military and illegal settlements in Palestine, the University of Nottingham actively invests in Alphabet Inc.

4.5.2 Booking Holdings

In 2020, the UN's Human Rights Council named Booking.com as a company complicit in human rights infringements, due to its support for illegal Israeli settlements in Palestine. In December 2023, a report found that Booking.com continues to offer accommodation in at least 21 Israeli settlements. Despite the evidence of Booking.com profiting off illegal settlements, the University currently holds **£1,399,673** worth of equities in their medium term and permanent endowment funds. Despite the constant calls for divestment - UoN still holds equities in this company.

4.5.3 Intel Corp.

Intel Corp has strong ties with Israel, with major investments in its technology sector, including R&D centres and manufacturing plants. Notably, Intel's \$25 billion investment in a new factory has been linked to Israel's economy, contributing to its technology infrastructure. Its plant at "Qiryat Gat" is built on Palestinian land within the boundaries of the Palestinian village of Iraq al Manshiya, which was ethnically cleansed and razed to the ground and then replaced by the Israeli settlement of Qiryat Gat. Intel's involvement has sparked debates on ethical responsibility and political implications related to its operations in the region. The University's current equity portfolio invests **£122,960** in Intel Corp which highlights their lack of due diligence when screening for ethical investments.

4.5.4 Palantir

Palantir links to the Israeli military long predates October 2023, and has entered into a contract with the Israeli Ministry of Defence in 2024. It provides advanced AI tools to the Israeli military, enabling Israel's attacks on Palestinians. The company has close ties with Israeli intelligence and supplies technology that facilitates mass surveillance and targeting of Palestinians. The company was named in Francesca Albanese's report, including information such as Palantir's CEO response to accusations that Palantir had killed Palestinians in Gaza by saying, "mostly terrorists, that's true". The company's attitude is indicative of executive-level knowledge and purpose vis-à-vis Israel's unlawful use of force, and failure to prevent such acts or withdraw involvement. Despite this, UoN holds a combined total of **£7,381** in the unethical tech company.



4.5.5 Microsoft Corp.

Microsoft, which makes up **£3,254,564** of the University's equity portfolio, has been supporting Israeli operations through its technology and services and has strong ties to the Israeli military. It provides cloud solutions and software to the Israeli government and military, while also investing in tech companies that develop surveillance tools used against Palestinians. They also have a cloud system Azure which Elbit systems and the Israeli military utilises. According to Francesca Albanese's report, when the Israeli internal military cloud overloaded in October 2023, Microsoft stepped in with critical cloud and artificial intelligence infrastructure. The company also offers Israel favourable contracts offering minimal restrictions or oversight by providing them with servers that are located in Israel. Microsoft's operation in illegal Israeli settlements and support for Israel's military operations, raises serious ethical concerns regarding its complicity in the occupation and human rights violations. There are also ongoing investigations into how the cloud computing technologies, provided by companies like Microsoft, have aided the Israeli military during their attacks on Gaza.

4.6 Summary

The current Investment Policy allows for investments in companies that have shown clear links with the Israeli military and are complicit in crimes against the Palestinian people. Although the University claims to not invest in the arms trade directly, they are complicit through their investments in companies that have links to the military and the arms trade as well as illegal and activities such as apartheid, illegal occupation and the genocide due to the companies operating in Israel and aiding their apartheid regime. We urge the university to take on a full investigation of the current investment portfolios to ensure that the companies that they invest in do not have links with unethical and illegal activities.

Additionally, there is talk of a Due Diligence framework which is aimed at reviewing new investments and partnerships to ensure that these are in line with ethical guidelines and regulations- however a public version of this policy has not been made available despite being announced to be reviewed by UoNs committees in March 2025. Despite the ever urgent and worsening situation in Palestine, UoN has made no significant steps to address their own complicity and ongoing support for the genocide.

Investments, however, are only a portion of the companies that make the University of Nottingham complicit. Past and active partnerships with companies which have links to the arms trade and the Israeli military which is currently perpetuating human rights violations and upholding an apartheid regime showcases how the University does not care for following their ethics framework or international law. The University is also not transparent with all the partnerships that they take on and therefore the following findings are based on the limited accessible information that could be found. The following section will highlight companies named by the UN, Francesca Albanese and other human rights organisations as aiding Israel in perpetuating apartheid and genocide.



5. Ethical Partnerships

5.1 The University of Nottingham's Ethical Research & Partnership Policies

The University of Nottingham has publicly declared its "commitment to maintaining the highest standards of integrity, rigour, and excellence" with regards to research integrity, ethics and partnerships. This ties into the University's values of Inclusivity, Ambition, Openness, Fairness and Respect, with particular reference to the penultimate value listed. Under "Fairness", the University specifies that its "decisions and actions are consistent, impartial and ethical."

5.1.1 The Code of Research Conduct and Research Ethics

One of the methods by which the University purports to maintain these standards is through the implementation of their own Code of Research Conduct and Research Ethics. This is a "comprehensive framework" that "all staff and students involved in research are expected to be familiar with". Under this Code, the University's core key principles for ethical research are "maximising benefit"; "minimising harm"; "respecting autonomy"; "fairness and accountability"; and "integrity and transparency". The Code also draws particular attention to considerations of the impact on "anyone involved in or affected by the research", "welfare of animals", "cultural sensitivities", and "the environment".

While the Responsible Investment, Acquisitions and Disposals Policy precludes investments in organisations where the primary part of their business involves "manufacture and sale of armaments to military regimes" to "reflect its ethical values", the Code of Research Conduct and Research Ethics includes no explicit restrictions of this kind. It does however emphasise that UK-based researchers are responsible for ensuring that "research being undertaken in the UK abides to applicable UK law" in the context of international research collaborations. This difference in standards allows research partnerships to be formed with companies heavily involved in the sale of arms to the Israeli military. Israeli operations in Gaza have killed over 62,000 Palestinians, wreaked environmental devastation, threatened hundreds of animal species, and attempted to eradicate Palestinian culture. Therefore, we would challenge the University as to whether working with organisations that are key beneficiaries of this genocide constitutes "minimising harm".

5.1.2 The Ethical Framework

On a broader scale, another structure that the University has developed to hold itself to the "highest standards" is its Ethical Framework. This *"comprehensive set of principles, structures, policies and procedures"* forms an integral part of the University's wider governance strategy. By its own declaration, this Framework gives "the assurance that the University of Nottingham behaves ethically across its activities".

It is worth noting that this Framework was developed in 2012 *"in part as a response to the findings of Lord Woolf's investigation into the LSE's links with Libya."* In this inquiry, Lord Woolf identified "shortcomings in the governance, structure and management at the LSE". These shortcomings allowed for the development of financial ties and research partnerships between the UK university and the Gaddafi regime at the heart of the Libyan Civil War. In 2011, the ICC charged Gaddafi with two



counts of crimes against humanity for violence enacted while the LSE developed its links to the brutal regime.

Lord Woolf's inquiry exposed the poor practice of LSE management, including the Director, Sir Howard Davies, who resigned over this scandal. It also proposed recommendations on how the university might have prevented this unethical conduct. Many of these were adopted by the University of Nottingham's Executive Board when developing their Ethical Framework, although UoN admits it *"does not follow all of Lord Woolf's recommendations"*.

Given the ICJ's ruling that the occupying state of Israel is plausibly committing a genocide against Palestinians people and, more specifically, its July ruling that Israel's presence in the Occupied Palestinian territories has been considered unlawful, there are arguably parallels to be drawn with the LSE-Gaddafi scandal that prompted the introduction of this Framework. We would call on the University to review their Ethical Framework to cease all partnerships that link the University to the crimes against humanity and war crimes that are being displayed in Palestine. We have been informed there is talk of a Due Diligence Framework which is meant to outline the process for entering into partnerships, investments and donations to ensure they comply with the universities Strategic Values. Since February 2025, NCLP has received no further updates on the implementation of this Framework and no public version being made available.

5.1.3 The Research and Knowledge Exchange Strategy

The University has established a Research and Knowledge Exchange Committee, tasked with implementing the University's strategies for research and knowledge exchange, ensuring alignment with institutional goals and managing related risks. This strategy centres around partnerships that include collaborations with the public and policymakers to enhance societal benefits. The committee oversees all research activities, including those of staff and postgraduate students, and promotes key initiatives such as interdisciplinary collaboration, strategic industry partnerships, and knowledge exchange. It also ensures compliance with regulatory obligations and supports the development of research policies. The committee operates under Senate's authority, has a delegated budget of £2 million, and meets quarterly to review progress, address risks, and drive performance in line with the University's objectives. Its membership includes senior academic leaders, professional staff, and student representation, with effectiveness reviewed every three years. While the RKE framework emphasises collaboration, societal benefit, and compliance with ethical standards, it may fall short in ensuring that all research aligns with values of human rights and global justice. This failure lies in not sufficiently scrutinising the broader consequences of research activities, thereby undermining the ethical foundation of the RKE strategy and its commitment to societal benefit.

5.1.4 Dual-Use Export Control Loopholes

The University also avoids accountability by utilising the dual-use export control loophole. 'Export' means the physical removal of goods or the transfer (by any means) of technology or software and/or knowledge from the UK to a destination outside the UK, incl. via email, fax, video conferences and shared data environments. Technology means 'specific information' necessary for the 'development', 'production' or 'use' of goods or software that is not in the public domain. Export Control regulates the international transfer of certain goods, technology, and information, particularly those related to military equipment and "dual-use" items, which can be used for both civilian and military purposes. At the University, researchers must ensure their projects comply with these regulations, particularly if they involve controlled items or technologies. This includes obtaining the necessary licences, ensuring all team members follow export control laws, and preventing unauthorised transfers. While



the University holds Principal Investigators responsible for understanding and following these rules to avoid severe legal repercussions, this framework does not prevent potential misuse of research outputs.

By partnering with defence contractors like BAE Systems and Boeing, the University can sell small components developed in collaboration, often intended for military applications, without retaining oversight of their end use. Projects such as TEMPEST and FLAVIIR, both undertaken in collaboration with BAE Systems, highlight this issue, as these programs explicitly focus on military objectives. Although the exported components may receive legal approval, the subsequent privatisation of research limits accountability and obscures the actual applications of the technology. Additionally, the UK's violations of domestic arms export laws further diminish the effectiveness of these controls, especially regarding human rights concerns in conflict zones like Palestine, ultimately allowing the University to distance itself from the implications of its research partnerships.

Dual-use items are "goods, software and technology that can be used for both civilian and military applications". Export Control involves regulation of cross border transfers of certain types of goods, technology and information. Export controls apply to controlled items such as military equipment, so called "dual-use goods" and to the technology related to them. As a researcher you must understand how to comply with any export licences that apply to the projects you are working on. Failure to comply with this law can result in fines, legal costs or prison sentences of up to 10 years. The Export Control Joint Unit can, and will, hold individuals accountable.

5.1.5 The Concordat to Support Research Integrity

The current framework in place allows for the University to partner with companies that have direct links with the arms trade and the Israeli military and that have been warned to cut ties with the Israeli military. The University of Nottingham is a signatory to the Concordat to Support Research Integrity which states that the core elements of research integrity are as follows:

- o **"honesty** in all aspects of research, including in the presentation of research goals, intentions and findings...
- o **rigour**, in line with prevailing disciplinary norms and standards, and in performing research and using appropriate methods...
- o **transparency and open communication** in declaring potential competing interests; in the reporting of research data collection methods...
- o **care and respect** for all participants in research, and for the subjects, users and beneficiaries of research, including humans, animals, the environment and cultural objects...
- o **accountability** of funders, employers and researchers to collectively create a research environment in which individuals and organisations are empowered and enabled to own the research process. Those engaged with research must also ensure that individuals and organisations are held to account when behaviour falls short of the standards set by this concordat..."

Continuing to partner with and endorse companies that are complicit in human rights violations falls below the standard outlined in the Concordat as it actively ignores the effect that these partnerships have on the environment, people and wider society. Several core elements of the concordat are challenged when considering instances where the end use of research findings is not disclosed and where research is funded by companies that are not held accountable for their potential complicity in human rights violations.



Furthermore, the University's Code of Research Conduct and Research Ethics stresses the need for research to comply with evolving ethical, legal, and professional standards, including new international rulings. This includes responsibility for addressing human rights issues in partnerships, which are linked to the arms trade and supply weapons to conflict zones. The code also highlights reputational damage defined as "Protection, money laundering, and working or co-partnering with countries that have human rights issues or less rigorous research ethics standards" which is direct contradiction with the partnerships to Israeli institutions that have ties to the Israeli military with numerous reports of human rights violations against the Palestinian people. UN rulings warn that companies continuing business with Israel risk complicity in human rights violations. By maintaining ties with such companies, the University contradicts its own ethical values of integrity, accountability, and fairness. Through partnerships with companies like BAE Systems and other known arms manufacturers, the University sends the message that they do not consider the impact that these companies have on the wider society, namely their direct involvement in the ongoing occupation and genocide against the Palestinian people.

Conducting research in partnership with companies that are in clear violation of human rights through their aid to the Israeli military showcases that the University is not committed to their own principles and policies of "ensuring that research is conducted according to appropriate ethical, legal and professional frameworks, obligations and standards".

The Research Ethics Committee (REC) is tasked with protecting the dignity and welfare of human participants, and this should extend to the ethical implications of the University's partnerships. Collaborating with companies profiting from conflict undermines the University's stated commitment to ethical research. Additionally, as the University Research Integrity and Research Ethics Committee (URIEC) reviews the Code to align with new legal obligations, the University should sever ties with arms-trade companies involved in conflicts like Gaza, ensuring that its actions reflect its ethical and legal responsibilities.

5.2. Defining Ethical Partnership

To effectively identify ethical research partnerships, we propose a refined framework that aligns with the Sustainable Development Goals and incorporates the principles of the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement.

Our Criteria for Ethical Research Partnerships include the following:

1. Alignment with Values, Policies, and Ethics:

Partnerships must reflect the core values of the University and uphold ethical standards. Misalignment or lack of due diligence can lead to complicity in unethical practices.

As a public research university, the University of Nottingham has an obligation to adhere to their established policies. Violating these policies can lead to legal repercussions, damage to the university's reputation, and a loss of trust among stakeholders, including students, faculty, and the community.

Furthermore, public universities are often subject to state regulations and oversight, which further enforces the need to follow their policies.

2. Legal Compliance:



Partnerships must adhere to both domestic and international legal standards. This includes the legal implications of operating in conflict-affected areas, where partnerships could contribute to gross human rights abuses.

Note that universities, regardless of whether they are created as statutory bodies, charities, or otherwise, are business enterprises for the purposes of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. Therefore, Universities have the corporate responsibility to respect human rights.

Some operating environments, such as conflict-affected areas, may increase the risks of enterprises being complicit in gross human rights abuses committed by other actors (security forces, for example). Business enterprises should treat this risk as a legal compliance issue, given the expanding web of potential corporate legal liability arising from extraterritorial civil claims, and from the incorporation of the provisions of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court in jurisdictions that provide for corporate criminal responsibility. In addition, corporate directors, officers and employees may be subject to individual liability for acts that amount to gross human rights abuses.

3. Transparency:

A lack of transparency in partnership agreements can conceal unethical practices and potential human rights violations. In order to uphold their own values, we recommend the University be transparent with their partnerships and publicly disclose the active partnerships, especially with companies in the engineering, manufacturing and aerospace department that are at higher risk of having links with the arms trade.

4. Impact of policy:

For example, a report highlights that universities are not effectively reviewing ethical considerations in research funding. As stated by the Cambridge UCU, "The University should revise processes of ethical review for research funding to include assessment of risks of complicity in violations of international humanitarian law." This gap allows partnerships that facilitate complicity in war crimes, violations of international law and uphold illegal occupation. Furthermore, these weak policies inadvertently support militarisation by promoting arms manufacturers as viable career paths, funnelling students into these careers while obscuring both the moral and legal intricacies, an indirect affront to their duty of care.

Through the University of Nottingham's promotion of companies with direct links to the arms trade, they highlight their position on the activities carried out by these companies. This undermines their responsibility to protect stakeholders from complicity in activities such as illegal occupation and genocide. The ICJ emphasises the need for private companies, including universities, to assess the human rights impact of their operations, advocating for the termination of partnerships with companies that may be violating human rights.

We call on the University to protect itself and key stakeholders from complicity in war crimes, international law violations and genocide by ceasing to advertise arms manufacturers and other such companies as viable career paths for UoN students, who reject the militarisation of their education.

5.3. Key Findings

Of the largest 50 arms manufacturers in the world, UoN partners with at least 13 (see Table 2 below).



Table 2: Arms / “defence” revenue of University of Nottingham partners in 2023 ([SIPRI report](#)) with reported 2024 revenues

Company Name	2024 Total Revenue (USD \$bn)	SIPRI reported Arms revenue (USD \$bn)	Arms revenue as share of total revenue (%)
<u>MBDA</u>		4.76 ^	99
<u>BAE Systems</u>		29.81 ^	98
<u>Leonardo</u>		12.39	75
General Dynamics		30.20 ^	71
<u>Dassault Aviation Group</u>		3.22	62
<u>Raytheon</u>		40.66	59
<u>Thales</u>		10.35	52
<u>Boeing</u>		31.10 ^	40
<u>Rolls-Royce</u>		6.29 ^	33
<u>Safran</u>		4.51	18
<u>Airbus</u>		12.89	18
<u>Honeywell</u>		4.99 ^	14
<u>General Electric</u>		4.71 ^	6.9

Note: ^ indicates an increase from the previous 2022 SIPRI report. Full details of different projects and partnerships between UoN and the companies listed can be found in Appendix C

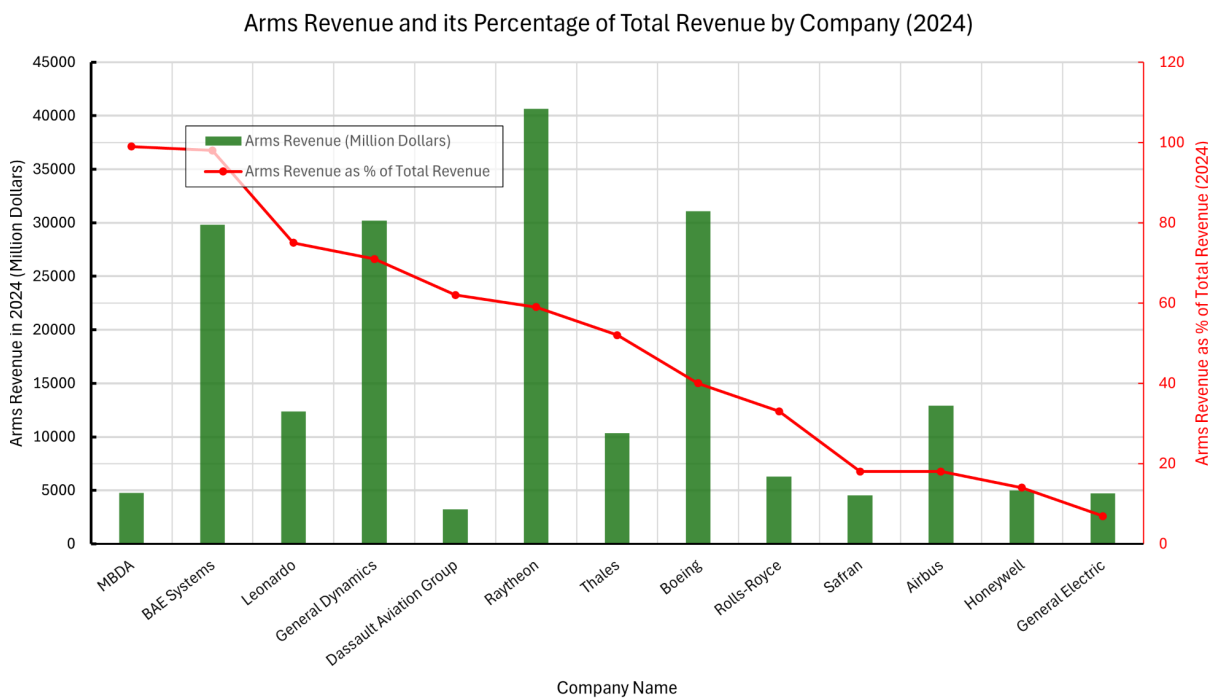


Figure 4 UoN partners per arms revenue in 2024

Many of these partnerships are advertised as 'green' initiatives working to take climate action and achieve net zero goals. The Clean Sky programme, funded by the European Commission, is an EU initiative focused on developing innovative technologies to reduce aircraft emissions and noise. In theory, it supports R&D to create more efficient, eco-friendly aviation technologies. UoN delivered 25 Clean Sky projects, worth a total of €49m, delivering to partners including: Airbus, Leonardo, Rolls-Royce, Safran, and Siemens. UoN was a core research partner on the €4bn Clean Sky 2 programme, delivering 25 projects and most recently has also been the first associate partner on the Clean Aviation programme, working on 4 Clean Aviation Projects including HECATE, NEWBORN, HERA and HEAVEN. Several of these companies have been warned by the June 2024 UN report to stop exporting arms to Israel as they risk being responsible for serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian laws.

The University's Career Service website advertises several defence contractors, weapons manufacturers, and other military companies, including Rolls-Royce, BAE Systems, Atomic Weapons Establishment, MBDA, Safran, Honeywell Malaysia, Smiths Detection, Eurofighter fighter aircraft GmbH, Boneham and Turner LTD, Chelton, Goodrich Control Systems, Precision Castparts Corporation, and Rapiscan Systems. The 2024 Engineering and Science Fair also included several companies linked with the arms trade and other unethical practices. Defence contractors included GE Aerospace UK, Collins Aerospace, Frazer-Nash Consultancy, Airbus, Kratos Defense and Sellafeld Ltd. There were also Airbus and JCB which have links with the arms trade. Other companies include Nestlé which has extensive links with unethical practices and controversies and has been a target of multiple boycott campaigns. The 2025 Engineering, Science and Technology fair still includes companies like Caterpillar, JCB, Nestle, Unilever, despite calls for boycott of these companies.

The Centre for Aerospace Manufacturing (CAM) is sponsored by Airbus, a company named by the Francesca Albanese report as being aiding the ongoing genocide and occupation of Palestine. Promoting and getting funding from companies that have defence contracts suggests not only a tacit endorsement of the arms industry, often associated with conflict and human rights violations, but a disregard for ethics. These connections undermine the university's commitment to social responsibility and sustainability, prompting critical discussions about the moral implications of supporting industries that contribute to violence and warfare.

According to Francesca Albanese's report, Caterpillar has been supplying Israel with equipment used to demolish Palestinian homes and infrastructure for decades. Caterpillar benefited greatly from the current genocide in Gaza as their equipment was used over the past two years for the demolition of homes, schools and hospitals in Gaza. They also entered a \$295 million sale contract to provide D9 armoured bulldozers and other related equipment to the Israeli government in February 2025. Israel has evolved Caterpillar's D9 bulldozer through partnerships with companies such as Elbit Systems and Leonardo into automated, remote-commanded core weaponry of the military. Advertising and promoting companies complicit in upholding Israel's war crimes and illegal occupation of Palestine further showcase the University's lack of principles and respect for international law.

Ultimately, with regards to the University's interests in tackling global challenges, it is unproductive, unsustainable and inconsistent to prioritise Climate Action at the expense of other Sustainable Development Goals, such as Peace, Justice, Zero Hunger, and Clean Water and Sanitation. While the University of Nottingham may publicly champion its commitment to addressing climate change through initiatives like reducing emissions and promoting renewable energy, this singular focus can mask deeper contradictions in its overall approach to global challenges. If the university fails to align



its investments, partnerships, and broader institutional policies with the full spectrum of SDGs, it risks being accused of greenwashing. Greenwashing, in this context, would refer to the practice of emphasising climate action but ignoring other critical areas of social responsibility, thus creating a misleading image of comprehensive commitment to sustainability.

Moreover, the university's focus on climate action might involve symbolic or surface-level initiatives that generate positive publicity but do little to address the root causes of climate change or other interconnected global issues. Involvement in environmental campaigns while continuing to engage in practices that undermine Peace, Justice, and strong institutions—such as partnering with companies known for human rights violations or environmental degradation in other parts of the world undermines the University's initiatives. To have a holistic approach to meeting their SDGs the University must steer clear of companies complicit in weapons manufacturing, apartheid regimes, and war crimes. The UN has now expressly concluded that Israel has “committed war crimes, crimes against humanity and violations of IHL and IHRL” since 7 October, meaning any companies that provide weapons and resources to Israel may also be held responsible for these crimes. It is critical that the University of Nottingham takes urgent steps towards phasing such partnerships out and developing long-term solutions which uphold University values and democracy, sustainable development goals and international law to the highest standard.

The University of Nottingham, in 2023, claimed to have divested from all fossil fuel investment and cut emissions by over 36%. Through its exclusive emphasis of their efforts to cut ties with fossil fuels, the University diverts attention from ethically questionable relationships with arms companies, creating a misleading image of social responsibility. Such partnerships, especially with companies linked to the arms industry which have been highlighted to be at risk of complicity in human rights violations, conflict with the University's ethical values and raise concerns about the integrity of its sustainability efforts.

Francesca Albanese report names several cooperations that have supported Israel in it is illegal apartheid and that are complicit in the ongoing genocide of the Palestinians in Gaza; many of which the University of Nottingham has current and past ties with.

BlackRock directly finances Israel's genocide by purchasing israeli goverment bonds; they purchased bonds worth \$68 million since October 2023. Furthermore, BlackRock ranks among the largest investor in arms companies fueling Israel's genocide, with a protofolio that include investments in: Palantir (8.6 per cent), Microsoft (7.8 per cent), Amazon.com (6.6 per cent), Alphabet (6.6 per cent) and IBM (8.6 per cent), Lockheed Martin (7.2 per cent) and Caterpillar (7.5 per cent). The University of Nottingham Contributory Pension and Assurance Scheme (CPAS) aims to have 67.5% of assets allocated to investing in BlackRock as for March 2024 despite claiming to follow ethical investment policies. The UoN CPAS annual engagement and policy implementation statement hold that BlackRock “prioritizes specific UN Sustainable Development Goals Company Impacts on People” including employees, suppliers, customers, and the “communities in which companies operate”; however, BlackRock seems to ignore the United Nations Guiding Principles On Business and Human Rights which highlights the legal responsibility arising from complicity in human rights abuses.

Lockheed Martin leads the manufacturing of F35 fighter jets, the largest-ever defence procurement programme, alongside at least 1,650 other companies worldwide, including Leonardo, who construct components and parts of the jet. Lockheed Martin F-35 and F-16 fighter jets have significant carrying and fire capacity, and could carry over 18,000 pounds of bombs. Post-October 2023, F-35s and F-16s



enabled Israel to drop an estimated 85,000 tons of bombs to kill and injure more than 179,411 Palestinians and obliterate Gaza. The university has a current project partnership with Leonardo as shown in Appendix C. Over the past 5 years, the Institute for Occupational Ergonomics (IOE) at the UoN carried out research with and for many institutions, some of which are BAE Systems, BBC, Lockheed Martin and IBM.

Allianz's asset management subsidiary PIMCO holds \$960 million worth of Israeli treasury bonds; and they hold at least \$7.3 billion in shares and bonds implicated in the occupation and genocide. The Jubilee Campus Landscape Management Plan for 2025-32 states that tractor lifting equipment (LOLER inspection) is checked and tested annually by Allianz. In addition, the UoN has a contract with Allianz for a property Insurance that is set to expire on 31 July 2026. For the reasons provided, we urge the UoN to end these contracts and switch to a more ethical alternative.

On 23 July 2025, A group of researchers from UoN and Google DeepMind launched 'Aeneas', a world-first AI model that can contextualise ancient inscriptions. The irony in creating AI tools by working alongside Google, an institution which provides the Israeli military access to enhanced artificial intelligence, advanced surveillance technology and unlimited cloud storage which are used to oppress Palestinians, shows the university's lack of integrity when claiming to commit to choosing ethical partnerships.

The Swedish company Volvo Group has long been linked to the destruction of Palestinian property by supplying equipment through exclusively licensed Israeli dealers. Since at least 2007, Volvo machinery has been used to raze Palestinian cities, and after October 2023, Israel extended the use of the equipment in the urban destruction of Gaza, after which the military obscured their logos. The university had partnered with Volvo for 3 projects: Innovative continuous upgrades of high investment product-services (Use-It-Wisely) 2016-2019, VISTRA 2011-2014, Computerized Automotive Technology Reconfiguration System for mass customization (CATER) 2006-2009. While it appears that the UoN does not have current partnerships with Volvo, it is important to address their past relationship in order to establish an ethical partnerships framework for the UoN.

In addition to these companies, we want to draw attention to other major boycott targets of the BDS movement that the University of Nottingham continues to partner with and profit from—namely Costa Coffee and Starbucks. Although the University ended its official contract with Starbucks in April 2025, Starbucks products are still sold across campuses. This is particularly troubling given the [petition](#) calling for an end to ties with Starbucks, as well as the company's record of human rights violations, tax evasion scandals, and disregard for labour laws.

We also urge the University to cut ties with companies that support the illegal occupation of Palestine. This includes Costa Coffee, a subsidiary of Coca-Cola. UoN currently has a [contract](#) with Costa Ltd valued at £7.9 million, running until January 17, 2026. Coca-Cola operates a factory in [Atarot](#), an [illegal Israeli settlement](#) built on stolen Palestinian land. Such settlements are considered [illegal](#) under international law and often result in the forced displacement of Palestinian communities.

We will draw on some more key partnerships with arms manufacturers below.



5.4. Individual Case Studies

The University of Nottingham has received considerable funding in the past years (2017-2021) for research funding, industrial consultancy fees, and industrial research fees from BAE systems, Rolls Royce and the Ministry of Defence. They have been limited in disclosing further financial contributions from these companies despite several Freedom of Information requests for this information.

Financial Year	BAE systems	Rolls Royce	MOD
2017	£388,000.00	£6,262,289.82	£0.00
2018	£101,556.00	£1,401,824.00	£0.00
2019	£344,518.61	£2,157,244.94	£0.00
2020	£207,668.32	£1,896,513.96	£1,051,025.04
2021	£147,655.94	£428,176.53	£147,134.07

Table 3 Total value of Awards per Financial Year

The following outlines some of the companies that the University of Nottingham has partnerships with and the projects they have taken on as well as the links these companies have with the arms trade and the Israeli military:

5.4.1 BAE Systems

BAE Systems is the world's 6th largest arms manufacturer. It provides the Israeli military with M109 155mm Howitzer shells, some of which are white phosphorus bombs. It also manufactures components for Israel's F-15, F-16 and F-35 fighter jets. Note that the indiscriminate use of heavy weaponry and the use of white phosphorus in densely populated regions like Gaza constitutes a war crime. At least 15 percent of the value of each US-made F-35 combat aircraft is produced by the UK, according to research by the UK-based Campaign Against Arms Trade (CAAT). Despite Israel and its military committing war crimes, and international law violations, BAE systems entered into a \$130 million contract with Elbit Systems, an Israeli arms manufacturer, for a 5.5 year project in August 2024. In March 2024, BAE Systems CEO made almost £1m extra in share sale since the attacks on Gaza. The company has also seen an increase in its revenue, with an expected \$30bn prediction for 2026. Continuing to work with a company that profits off war, human rights violations and the suffering of civilians fundamentally undermines the University's ethical commitments and risks making it complicit in these crimes.

UoN's Institute for Advanced Manufacturing commits to helping the UK's defence industry "compete in this global market and maintain a sovereign strategic production capability". Collaborating with BAE Systems at its Warton site, the University's research team is working on an Integrated Autonomous Assembly Demonstrator to sponsor "the cost-effective production of aircraft in single assembly stations". This project is designed to support the development of BAE Systems' Tempest Future Combat Air System, a sixth-generation fighter jet due to be completed by 2035.



The University of Nottingham collaborated with BAE Systems on the 5-year FLAVIIR (Flapless Air Vehicle Integrated Industrial Research) programme, which aimed to advance the development of autonomous, flapless unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs). The project focused on designing innovative wing technologies, using sensors and fluidic controls to replace traditional mechanical systems for manoeuvring. This programme contributed to making the DEMON.

The defence contractor, BAE Systems, confirm that they are "leveraging relationships with leading universities" including UoN in the Tempest programme, suggesting that these collaborations "will contribute to improving the human capital and capabilities of academic institutes and attract further investment into academia". The fact that BAE specifically commended the University of Nottingham for its "world-class Industry 4.0 knowledge and research capabilities [which] can be applied to other areas of our business" is particularly concerning to the students of the University, who have been strongly opposed to this partnership since the outset, as reflected in the passing of the 'Ban BAE' motion in 2022.

5.4.2 Rolls-Royce

Rolls-Royce manufactures multiple parts for F-35 jets that Israel has used in its onslaught in Gaza. It also manufactures MT883 engines for the Israeli Merkava 4 and 5 tanks, and 6V980 engines for the Israeli Eitan Armored Fighting Vehicle. The Merkava battle tanks were used to carry out the attacks which decimated both the Al Shifa Hospital and the Indonesian Hospital in late 2023. Note that hospitals are protected spaces under international humanitarian law, and attacks on hospitals constitute war crimes.

Nonetheless, the University of Nottingham prides itself on its "technical discoveries and innovations" which "have been both very satisfying and valuable to Rolls-Royce", and has maintained a partnership with Rolls-Royce for over 25 years, even hosting the defence contractor at two University Technology Centres. In April 2023, the Cornerstone Prosperity Partnership, led by UoN and Rolls-Royce alongside other universities, received £13.5 million in funding for mechanical engineering initiatives in 6 areas. These advancements can – and have – been leveraged by arms manufacturers like UoN's industrial partner, Rolls-Royce. Rolls-Royce also sponsors Aerospace PhD students at UoN, paying over £19,237 per year per student.

The Rolls-Royce University Technology Centre (UTC), which is hosted by UoN's Mechanical and Aerospace Systems Research Group, has been developing robots to maintain and repair wing engines, thereby "improving operational efficiency for Rolls-Royce and minimising disruption for air passengers".

5.4.3 Boeing

In 2022, Boeing was the world's 4th largest defence contractor. In 2023, Boeing's Defence, Space & Security segment generated \$24.933 billion in revenue. This represented an 8% increase from the previous year, 2022, where the revenue was \$23.162 billion. It directly supplies Israel with JDAMs, Apache AH-64 attack helicopters, F-15 fighter jets, and missiles used to execute the current assault on Gaza.

The University of Nottingham has neglected Boeing's, and thereby its own, complicity in warfare and mass destruction. Having worked with Boeing since 2006, UoN established a strategic research collaboration with them, benefitting from an investment regime where Boeing provide \$1m per annum to fund research on the recycling of carbon fibre composites. In November 2023, Aerospace Engineering students from the University of Nottingham Ningbo China took part in the Boeing Global



Education Outreach program. According to the trip leader, they will continue visiting “both Boeing campuses and other industrial partners regularly to further enhance university-industry engagement”.

5.4.4 Leonardo

Leonardo is in partnership with the University of Nottingham through their collaboration in the ASPIRE project. They are also a part of other projects including HECATE and HERA. However, the University of Nottingham is not the only institution Leonardo are collaborating with as they have also announced a joint partnership with established Israeli higher education institutions: Israeli Innovation Authority and Ramot Tel Aviv University. The partnership between Leonardo and the Israeli education institutions focuses on developing start-ups in defence and cybersecurity. These collaborations seek to leverage Israel's advanced military technology ecosystem, which has been pivotal in ongoing conflicts.

Furthermore, it was reported that on the 12th of January 2024, Pope Francis rejected a €1.5 million donation from Leonardo to the Bambin Gesù Children's Hospital in Rome. The Pope's decision aligns with his peace advocacy, as Leonardo is the largest arms producer in the EU, generating 83% of its revenue from defence contracts. Although the company claims its weapons are not used in active conflicts, the arms watchdog *The Weapon Watch* refuted this, revealing that Leonardo's systems, including Oto Melara naval guns and other military equipment, have been used by the Israeli military in operations in Gaza. Additionally, Leonardo has been named both by UN experts and highlighted in Francesca Alabense's report as aiding the economy of genocide.

These ties raise significant ethical concerns, especially given the humanitarian crises in Gaza, where the use of advanced weaponry has inflicted severe suffering on civilians. Engaging in such partnerships may further entrench the cycle of violence and contribute to ongoing human rights violations. Thus, the University of Nottingham's compliance with Leonardo helps the innovation of technologies which contributes to the destruction caused by Israel.

5.4.5 Safran

The University of Nottingham has several collaborations with Safran, a French defence company through projects such as ORCHESTRA, INSTEP, HECATE, HERA. The company has collaborated with Israel's leading arms manufacturer, Elbit Systems, through joint ventures such as the development of tactical drones. Additionally, Safran has supplied critical electronic components for Israel's Arrow 3 anti-missile system, which plays a role in the Israeli military's operations. Other collaborations include Israel's use of Rafeals FIRE WEAVER in conjunction with Safran's MOSKITO TI system to arm the Israeli military. These defence systems and technologies are used by the Israeli army in its ongoing military offensives, including the current attacks on Gaza, which have resulted in thousands of Palestinian civilian deaths. Safran's continued arms sales and support for Israel's military infrastructure contribute to the violence and destruction in Gaza, reinforcing accusations of genocide.

5.5.6 Other Notable Partners

The Midlands Centre for Data-Driven Metrology (MCDDM) was a project set up by UoN amongst other universities to aid “high-value manufacturing companies seeking to incorporate Industry 4.0 within their operations”. One MCDDM's key partners is Hexagon Manufacturing Intelligence, which relies on MCDDM's research to enhance its metrology-assisted precision capacities. It then leverages these findings to improve its manufacture of arms and military vehicles: “From military ground vehicles, aircraft and naval vessels to communications and electronic equipment and beyond, defence



contractors face a huge challenge to meet global demand. See how [Hexagon's](#) smart manufacturing solutions are helping defence manufacturers deliver military equipment on time and within budget". Hexagon, the parent company of Hexagon Manufacturing Intelligence, reported approximately €5.4 billion in net [sales revenue in 2023](#).

The University of Nottingham has entered partnerships with companies that have ties to the arms trade, raising concerns about ethical practices and complicity in human rights violations. These collaborations include associations with companies linked to the Israeli military, which has been accused of committing [violations of international law](#). Such partnerships not only conflict with the University's stated values but also risk compromising its commitment to social responsibility and ethical research. Many of its current partnerships are not in alignment with the University values, international law and produce research and technology that can and has been used to aid the Israeli army in their crimes against the Palestinian people.



6. Academic Partnerships

6.1. Policy & Academic Freedom

At the University of Nottingham, the interplay between policy, research ethics, and academic freedom is central to fostering a scholarly environment conducive to innovation and inquiry. The university's commitment to academic freedom is underscored by its adherence to ethical guidelines that ensure research integrity and the responsible conduct of academic activities.

According to the University of Nottingham's Code of Research Conduct and Research Ethics, ethical considerations are paramount in upholding the integrity of research practices. The code has been created to maintain *"the highest standards of integrity, rigour and excellence in all aspects of our research and for all research to be conducted according to the appropriate ethical, legal and professional frameworks and standards."*

The Code lays out the key principles of ethical research, including the idea that this research must maximise benefit, minimise harm, respect autonomy, have fairness and accountability, and operate with integrity and transparency. Moreover, the Code also stipulates that ethical implications in consideration need to include anyone involved in, or impacted by the research, and the environment. The following section elucidates how with its current academic partnerships with Israel, the University may in particular be in violation of its key principle of minimising harm. Additionally, in continuing to partner with arms companies, the University fails to take into adequate consideration of the human and environmental impacts of said research.

6.2. Upholding International Norms & Law

Universities have historically been at the forefront of divestment campaigns, acting as moral and intellectual leaders in global social justice movements. These institutions therefore have a moral obligation to uphold international ethical norms.

The University rightly pledged to cut ties with Russian Universities and institutions in the wake of Russia's 2022 attack on Ukraine. They put out a public statement highlighting this along with a statement of support for Ukrainian students. This highlighted their position on unlawful invasions and their stance regarding war. We are calling on the University to take initiative in the same, fundamental interests of "human rights, democracy and international law" and terminate all active agreements with Israeli universities and institutions.

Despite numerous international organisations highlighting the situation in Palestine along with the student body urging them to divest from complicit companies and institutions, the University of Nottingham has made no public commitments to divesting from companies or institutions that operate in Israel or profit off of the ongoing attacks. They have provided inadequate support and have not shown any commitment to communicating with their own students regarding the situation.

When universities don't live up to international norms or fail to divest from controversial industries, they can face serious consequences including reputational damage which can impact student enrolment, future partnerships and funding opportunities. One example is Cambridge University, which came under fire for years over its investments in fossil fuels. Students and staff organised protests and accused the university of greenwashing—claiming it was promoting sustainability while



still backing oil and gas companies. The pressure built up, and while Cambridge eventually agreed to divest in 2020, the delay hurt its reputation. Edinburgh University also faced protests for its investments in fossil fuel companies. The university held out for a while, but ongoing pressure forced it to announce full divestment in 2018. Before that decision, it had taken a hit to its credibility as a leader in environmental research.

At an international level, Harvard University took a long time to divest from companies involved in South African apartheid back in the 1980s, and more recently, from fossil fuel investments. Protests, negative press, and high-profile campaigns put the university under scrutiny. When they finally announced they would divest from fossil fuels in 2021, many felt the decision was long overdue, and the delay had already tarnished their standing.

More recently, the University of Edinburgh has come under immense criticism for its persistent refusal to renounce the institution's contributions to the Israeli occupation. A UN report released in July of 2025 highlighted UoE's £25.5 million investment portfolio in directly complicit corporations, describing the University as one of the most "financially entangled UK institutions" in relation to the Palestinian issue. Coincidentally, over 24 graduation ceremonies carried out this year have been met with graduate walkouts and protests. UoE has made multiple attempts to save its reputation and regain any semblance of ethical standing, though they remain to be criticised as delayed, lacklustre, dishonest and ineffective. This not only clarifies the reputational risks potentially faced by UoN but also underscores the importance of UoN providing a clear, concise response in order to genuinely prevent further reputational decline.

With the increasing number of people seeing universities as a waste of time it is crucial that universities listen to their student body. Reputational damage can not only impact public perceptions of the university but can influence the partnerships that they get in the future. We recommend that the University of Nottingham takes the necessary steps to ensure that they do not suffer anymore reputational damage and divest from the arms companies along with divesting from funds and companies that are at risk of complicity in human rights violations.

6.3. Academic Partners in Israel

Unlike the stance that the University took when Russia invaded Ukraine, the University has not made any public commitment to cut ties with any Israeli institutions despite the ongoing calls to boycott Israeli academic institutions such as Technion.

In total, we found that the University of Nottingham maintains partnerships and has engaged in collaborations with over half of Israel's universities (six of ten), reflecting a significant level of international academic engagement. The University has a long history of supporting Israel and Israeli institutions through collaborations and partnerships, and simultaneously repressing Pro-Palestinian voices through claims of "extremism". Despite calls to boycott the apartheid regime and their institutions, the University continued working with them.

6.3.1 BIRAX: Technion and the Hebrew University

The University of Nottingham has received funding from Britain-Israel Research and Academic Exchange (BIRAX) on several occasions. In 2013, BIRAX funded UoN's collaboration with the Hebrew University Medical Centre on regenerative cell therapy research for Parkinson's disease. In 2015,



BIRAX also funded a pacemaker research project between UoN and Technion, the Israel Institute of Technology. To partner with an institution operating within an apartheid regime, which would necessarily deprive the Palestinian people of the benefits of this research, is deeply unethical and stands diametrically opposed to our University's values of openness and inclusivity. The partnership between UoN and Technion, which may facilitate research activities or other forms of academic cooperation, remains active. This is in spite of evidence that Technion has developed unmanned vehicles for the purposes of illegal Palestinian house demolitions by the Israeli army.

As of August 2025, the University remains actively partnered in undertaking a research project with the Hebrew University. The University of Nottingham also has collaborated with the below Israeli institutions over the years.

6.3.2 Tel Aviv University (TAU)

Former Pro-Vice Chancellor for Research at UoN, Saul Tendler, participated in a long-term scientific collaboration with Professor Ehud Gazit from TAU. When interviewed, Tendler commented on the matter of academic boycotts, stating:

"In reality, talks of boycotts are baseless; there may be academics here and there who choose not to work with Israel, just as there are those who refuse to work with China."

Additionally, in 2017, UoN Professor Daniele Nosenzo hosted a psychology, sociology, and economics seminar at TAU. Currently, UoN's Centre for Decision Research and Experimental Economics (CeDEx) is hosting Dr. Ori Weisel, an external fellow from TAU.

In 2024, Dr. Ran Spiegler of TAU co-hosted a seminar at the University of Nottingham as part of its UNET series. This partnership intrinsically highlights a lack of consistency within UoN's conduct regarding the crisis. Within a statement published in the same year, UoN reaffirmed its dedication to ensure that international academic collaborations align with its ethical standards and implemented measures of enforcement. This is undermined by its continuous normalisation of engaging with TAU, an institution that directly advances the genocide through intertwining academic research with Israeli military objectives. In March of the same year, Dr. Yotam Margalit of TAU was invited to host a NICEP seminar at UoN. And in 2023, Dr. Assaf Razin of TAU was invited to speak at a UoN Globalisation lecture.

In May of 2024, UoN began a research partnership with TAU alongside the University of Regensburg and the Norwegian University of Science and Technology. The collaboration, which will conclude in 2029, is organised around what they call *The Hydrosensing Project*, an interdisciplinary focus meant to further understand the causes of droughts and the development of drought prevention mechanisms. Despite the extensive links to the Israeli military and aiding the IOF in committing war crimes, which the senior management has been made aware of through our fact sheet, the UoN has made no public statements regarding cutting ties with this institution.

6.3.3 University of Haifa

UoN has produced a total of 11 research outputs in collaboration with the University of Haifa between 2021 and 2024. Furthermore, the University of Nottingham Ningbo China (UNNC) has contributed two research outputs with Haifa.



6.3.4 Weizmann Institute & Weizmann Institute of Science

UoN's Dynamic Nuclear Polarization (DNP) Magic Angle Spinning (MAS) Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) Facility collaborates with the DNP research groups led by Shimon Vega and Michal Leskes, both from the Weizmann Institute of Science.

6.3.5 Ben-Gurion University

UoN and Ben-Gurion University have produced a total of 82 shared research outputs, even as recently as 2025. Additionally, two academics from Ben-Gurion, Ro'i Zultan (2014) and Ofer H. Azar (2017), have been invited by CeDEx to host events on UoN's campus.

6.3.6 Open University of Israel

As of August 2025, UoN remains actively partnered in a research collaboration with the Open University of Israel



7. Student Activism & Suppression at UoN

Since 2008, the student movement in Nottingham has been actively campaigning on various issues, with divestment from arms companies being a key focus in recent years. Students have consistently pushed the University of Nottingham to divest from companies involved in the arms trade, particularly those supplying weapons to conflict zones. This intensified in the wake of protests related to the most recent attacks on Palestine by the state of Israel.

Despite the various actions taken by students demanding divestment from arms companies and protesting the University's ties to such industries, the university responded by taking legal action. The University did not follow their own principles around safeguarding, concerning specifically the "creation of a safe and supportive environment" for 'beliefs' (including philosophical beliefs), which is conveniently "non-contractual and may be amended at any time". This legal battle, which unfolded during exam season, caused significant stress for the students involved, which highlighted the University's failure to prioritise student well-being. This is not only in direct opposition to the University's duty of care to its students but also highlights their need for profit over their students and ethical obligations. Despite the protests, the University has made no public commitment to support Palestine or its Palestinian students, nor has it pledged to divest from arms companies, which prompts questions about its ethical responsibilities and stance on human rights issues.

The University of Nottingham's own Human Rights Law Centre's stance has been to uphold "the promotion and protection of human rights" as well as "strengthening the rule of law worldwide", doing so by partnering with organisations like the International Criminal Court via CJAD. However, they stand openly in contradiction of the ICC's arrest warrant for the most important men in the Israeli government, by continuing to work with the Israeli Military Complex.

Over the last year, student protestors have been tackled by security during demonstrations aimed at fostering communication with senior leaderships (namely, the new Vice Chancellor), highlighting the increasingly aggressive response to peaceful protests. Management has consistently disregarded NCLP's repeated demands for communication and accountability.

The University of Nottingham claims its commitment to fostering an environment where all staff and students may be free to "have an awareness and openness to diversity across cultures", "inherently exercise flexibility and emotional or cultural intelligence with strong intellectual ability", and "think and act across borders and not be bound by local constraints". Despite this "Global Mindset", the University has repeated attempts to repress Pro-Palestinian voices by taking legal actions against students, claiming that the protests are antisemitic, and used threats of legal fees to silence student voices. They have not engaged in open and constructive dialogue with the student body and avoid taking accountability for their complicity.

One of the University's values is "Openness" but despite numerous efforts by students to obtain detailed information on whether the university has financial ties to arms companies and organisations linked to human rights violations being perpetuated by Israel, the university has consistently withheld full disclosure. Additionally, despite motions passed by student groups and legal rulings calling for divestment from companies linked to human rights abuses, the university has made no public commitment to support students affected by the violence in Palestine or to reconsider its



controversial partnerships. This goes against the values of "Respect" and "Inclusivity" that the University claims to stand by and raises serious concerns about the University's commitment to ethical practices and student welfare.



8. A Way Forward: Actionable Steps

As students of the University of Nottingham, we expect our university to act with integrity, honesty and ethics. Based on the information we have presented we expect the appropriate actions to be taken in regard to disclosure of information, divestment from arms and complicit companies along with a revised framework for identifying new investments and partnerships, as well as public support for their Palestinian and all students and academics who stand up against illegal occupation, apartheid and genocide.

We highlight the following actions as needed to be taken by the University of Nottingham to be in line with their previous actions (i.e. Russia's invasion of Ukraine), their ethics policies and sustainable development goals, and their duty of care to their students and staff.

8.1 Public Statement of Support for Palestine

A public statement of support for Palestinian rights is crucial, particularly when aligned with international rulings and legal opinions regarding the ongoing occupation and genocide. Various United Nations resolutions and rulings from international courts emphasise the necessity of recognizing Palestinian self-determination and the illegality of settlements in occupied territories. Such a statement not only reinforces the legal and moral obligations of states and organisations but also aligns with the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement, which seeks to hold Israel accountable for its actions against Palestinians. By publicly endorsing these principles, institutions can demonstrate solidarity with international law and the Palestinian cause, creating a framework for accountability and fostering broader public discourse on justice and human rights.

8.2. Divestment from Complicit and Unethical Companies

Divestment from companies that contribute to human rights abuses is an essential strategy for promoting social justice. This is particularly relevant in the context of arms companies that supply military equipment used in the ongoing attacks. By divesting from such corporations, the University can signal their disapproval of practices that perpetuate violence and oppression. This approach not only financially impacts companies complicit in the conflict but also raises awareness among stakeholders about the ethical implications of their investments. We recommend the following:

- Disclosure of **all** of the University's investments
- Divestment from all complicit companies with links to international law violations, apartheid, illegal occupation and war crimes.
 - Namely, we urge divestment from companies named by the Francesca Albanese report as aiding the economy of genocide.
- A student-informed review of the University's Ethical Investment Policy or;
- An update on the process of developing the Due Diligence Framework with a concrete timeline for implementation.
- The establishment of an Investment Review Working Group composed of at least one NCLP-nominated UoNSU member.

UCU has also established a BDS pledge which has been shared among UoN staff - we urge the University to take this initiative under consideration and support the effort to ensure that all future



investments and partnerships are in line with this pledge. This would not only highlight the University's position on illegal occupation but reduce the risk of the University being complicit in human rights violations. It would also ensure that they are in line with all of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The University of Nottingham has been made aware of their complicit partnership and investments and we urge them to complete full investigations into their current relationships to ensure that the companies and institutions that the University is partnered with are not complicit in illegal occupation, apartheid and human rights violations. We recommend the following in regard to their research and industrial partnerships:

- Public disclosures regarding industry and academic partnerships.
- Termination of partnerships and research contracts between the University and companies risking complicity in war crimes, crimes against humanity, and/or violations of IHL and IHRL.
- Termination of all formal agreements, partnerships and research contracts with Israeli institutions.
- Review of the Research Ethics and Integrity Framework, conducted alongside a working group whose membership includes at least one NCLP-nominated UoNSU officer.

We urge the University to publicly pledge that they will divest and cut ties with companies complicit in the ongoing genocide and occupation of the Palestinian people, with a detailed and appropriate timeline for this to happen.

Several institutions have also successfully divested from controversial sectors, demonstrating that divestment is not only feasible but also financially viable. For example, universities like St Andrews, Goldsmiths, Bangor, and SOAS have set a precedent by withdrawing investments linked to the arms trade and unethical practices. Bangor University has implemented an ethical investment policy that focuses on sustainable and socially responsible ventures. Similarly, Cambridge's Trinity College has divested from arms companies, showcasing the growing trend among academic institutions to prioritise ethical investments. By following these examples, the University of Nottingham can lead the way in responsible investing and invest in an ethical and morally conscious way.

8.3 Support for Student Protest Rights

The support for student protest rights is vital in promoting an environment where voices advocating for social justice can be heard. Students play a critical role in grassroots movements, often leading initiatives that challenge institutional policies and promote awareness of pressing social issues. Upholding the right to protest not only empowers students but also enriches academic discourse by allowing diverse perspectives to emerge. Universities and colleges must safeguard these rights, in order to uphold the reputation of being places of education rather than censorship. The University of Nottingham has a past of taking legal action against their students instead of communicating with them, we urge the University to showcase that they respect their students' right to protest. In addition to this, we ask that they respect our request for a memorial plaque for the University's two alumni, Dr Said Al-Zebda and his wife Ikram Ghanem who were murdered by Israel alongside their children. The plaque should be on the Advanced Manufacturing Building so the Nottingham community never forgets the companies that enabled their murder.



8.4 Investment in Rebuilding & Supporting Palestinian Students and Academics

Investing in the reconstruction of Palestinian educational institutions and supporting Palestinian students is essential for upholding the University's values and duty of care to their students. Supporting Palestinian students ensures that they have access to quality education and opportunities, which is in line with the University's Sustainable Development Goal of Quality Education. This investment reflects a commitment to human rights and social justice, which would showcase the University's commitment to upholding international norms. We recommend the following:

- The implementation of the guidance provided by the University of Sanctuary Steering Group reported in April to support Palestinian students, teachers, academics and institutions.
- The introduction of a fully funded scholarship programme for Palestinian students who have been affected and displaced by Israel's attacks.
- Rejoining as a HESPAL (Higher Education Scholarships for Palestinians) partner and making this information more accessible on their website.
- Collaboration with Council for At Risk Academics (CARA), as was done in 2022 for Ukrainian at Risk Scholars, to offer funded fellowships for Palestinian academics, ideally starting in the 2024/2025 academic year.
- Contribution by the University to the Gaza Educate Medics (GEM) scheme delivering education to 1,906 medical students from Al-Azhar University Gaza and Islamic University of Gaza.

Investing in the education and well-being of Palestinian students not only aligns with the Sustainable Development Goals but also demonstrates a genuine commitment to human rights. As the University evaluates its future investments and partnerships, adopting strong Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) standards is essential to ensure it does not inadvertently support unethical practices.

Several UK universities have demonstrated solidarity with Palestinian students through dedicated scholarships, sanctuary programs, and academic initiatives - showing that meaningful support is possible from UoN. **Key initiatives include:**

- University of Oxford: Launched the Palestine Crisis Scholarship Scheme (2025/26) and was named a University of Sanctuary (2023).
- King's College London: Participates in the HESPAL program, offering 2 Master's and 1 PhD scholarship annually for Palestinian students.
- University of Glasgow: Established the Dima Alhaj Scholarship (2025/26) in memory of a Palestinian alumna killed in Gaza.
- SOAS, University of London: Provided a Master's Scholarship through the Centre for Palestine Studies. It also offers Dr Mai Yamani Scholarship which gives priority to Palestinian, Yemeni, and Iraqi students.
- University of St Andrews: Offers Education for Palestinian Students (STEPS) Scholarships.



Other Initiatives also include:

- Durham University is in partnership with Durham Palestine Educational Trust to provide Master's Scholarships
- Goldsmiths' Humanitarian Scholarship
- Ulster University's Salam Scholarships (for 5 Palestinian women yearly)
- University of Edinburgh's Education Beyond Borders Displaced Student Scholarships in collaboration with CARA.
- University of Manchester's Article 26 & Humanitarian Scholarships
- University of Sheffield's Gaza-Palestine Postgraduate Taught Scholarship

As institutions that are meant to encourage learning and development, universities play a key role in raising awareness for marginalised communities and supporting all students in continuing their education. We know that UoN can take meaningful steps to support Palestinian students who want to continue their education in the UK as several Russell Group universities have done already.

8.5. Other Recommendations for the University of Nottingham

Due to limited access to the University of Nottingham's finances we cannot make exact recommendations, but we do propose the following options and recommend a refinement to the University investment and partnerships policies to be more in line with the ethics and moral stance that the University claims to have, as well as not be in violation of international law. This will be an ongoing record and will be updated with new information to further highlight the University's role in the ongoing genocide and apartheid. The current limitations of this report are lack of full disclosure from the University of Nottingham, meaning information is not complete and will be subject to review once more information is obtained.

Based on the current information obtained and accessible, we have highlighted the University of Nottingham's complicity in the ongoing illegal occupation and genocide of Palestine. To rectify the situation and showcase that the University respects their students and staff, as well as international law and ethics, we have highlighted key areas for improvement.

We recommend that:

- The University of Nottingham conducts thorough ESG investigations into future investments and partnerships to ensure that these comply with Environmental, Social and Governance standards.
- One such resource for finding funds which do not invest in the arms trade is Weapon Free Funds which highlights funds that do not have large investments in the arms trade and also highlights their ratings regarding sustainability, namely fossil fuels and tobacco.
- Further due diligence is undertaken by the relevant committees and university bodies to ensure transparency regarding funds, and a thorough investigation into current assets to ensure no links with the arms trade.
- Showcase their commitment to ethical business practices and divestment through ending their ties with companies like Coca Cola, Costa, and Starbucks that continue to be sold on campus despite calls for divestment due to them operating on the illegally occupied Palestinian land (Coca Cola) as well unethical business practices (Starbucks). We urge the UoN adopts the BDS pledge signed by the UoN UCU and make a public statement on boycotting companies involved with and supporting Israel.



8.6 What can Students and Staff do at the University of Nottingham

Staff and students at the University of Nottingham can take proactive steps to encourage the University to divest from unethical companies, stop partnerships with arms companies and create more supportive structures for students and academics affected by the genocide and occupation of Palestine. Using our voices collectively is the only way forward to push for change.

1. **Participate in Demonstrations:** Engage in peaceful protests and demonstrations that advocate for divestment and solidarity with Palestine. More visible support highlights to the University that this is the stance that their students and staff have and pressures the University to take action.
2. **Organise Awareness Campaigns:** Host informational sessions, workshops, and discussions to educate people about the situation in Palestine, highlighting the realities of the occupation, human rights violations, and the implications of university investments.
3. **Support Boycott, Divestment and Sanction (BDS) campaigns:** highlight the importance of boycotting in your lectures, team meetings and wider university community. Support ongoing campaigns that call for divestment and sanctioning of Israeli institutions and companies aiding the Israeli military in their ongoing occupation and genocide. Ask your professors to sign onto the [UCU BDS pledge](#) to put pressure on UoN.
4. **Petition and Lobby:** Create petitions urging the University to commit to divestment and advocate for transparency in investment decisions. Lobbying university officials and decision-makers can help raise awareness of the demand for divestment.
5. **Join the UoN Coalition:** The coalition is a group of UoN staff, students and community who are working together to hold the institution accountable through joint events, awareness and divestment campaigns and fundraising initiatives to meet the NCLP goals of Disclose, Divest, Support and Invest. We hold power in numbers, if you're a student, part of a society or a faculty member then you can join a movement that is pushing for UoN to be held accountable for their partnerships, investments and how they treat their students. To join, speak to a member of NCLP or staff during one of our organised events.

Universities across the world have publicly agreed to vote on divestment after pressure from staff and student groups. Institutions need to be held to account for the role they play in the ongoing genocide and illegal occupation of Palestine, and it is the students and staff that can put that pressure to ensure that they act according to their values, policies, ethics and international law. The staff and students at the University of Nottingham have the ability to stand up for what is right and urge the University to take the practical steps to ensure they are not complicit in human rights violations and genocide. Collective action is the key and every single student, staff and community member is able to push for change.



Conclusion

The urgent call from the Nottingham Camp for the Liberation of Palestine for divestment, transparency, and support for Palestinian students highlights the necessity for the university to re-evaluate its commitments and take decisive action.

By prioritising socially responsible investments and partnerships, the University has the opportunity to bring its financial practices into alignment with its core values and commitments to ethical research. To genuinely uphold justice and human rights, its investments and partnerships must reflect these principles in practice, not just in policy.

The escalating attacks by Israel, and the ongoing ethnic cleansing and genocide of the Palestinian people, make clear that their intention is not peace. Despite numerous draft ceasefire agreements, the violence has only intensified, with starvation being used as a weapon against Palestinians. The calls for divestment, sanctions, and alignment with international law are therefore not only moral, but urgent and concrete demands for accountability and structural change – changes necessary to preserve and protect human rights everywhere.

Universities are centres of knowledge, development, and critical thinking, and these very skills have been applied in the creation of this report. Yet, the University has not taken meaningful steps to align itself with its own ethical policies, nor has it improved those policies to address its investments and partnerships in a way that reflects its stated commitments.

As students at the University of Nottingham, we refuse to contribute to the killing of innocent people and therefore we advocate for the University to stand with its principles, policies and ethical guidance and take action against illegal occupation and genocide of the Palestinian people and all oppressed people.

As the ethnic cleansing, occupation and genocide continues, the need for accountability and a proactive stance in adhering to international law becomes increasingly clear. The pressure needs to stay on so we can ensure that companies, organisations and academic institutions are held to account for their lack of action both morally and legally.

The time for action is now, the University has the opportunity to promote justice, peace and support the rights of marginalised communities globally by listening to their students when they call for divestment from Israel and complicit companies.

This report is a collection of information found on the University of Nottingham's complicity but is not a complete record. This information has been updated as of October 2025 and is a compilation of public records such as websites, news articles and research reports as well as freedom of information requests. This information will be updated and reviewed by NCLP as more facts are uncovered and collated in order to urge the University of Nottingham to stand by their values, policies and international law.



Appendix A: Methodology

Our approach involved a combination of formal information requests and thorough research of publicly accessible resources.

Information Gathering Techniques

1. Freedom of Information Requests (FOIs)

We utilised Freedom of Information requests to obtain detailed financial data and operational insights from the university. These requests allowed us to access specific records that are not typically available through public channels, ensuring transparency in areas of concern.

2. Publicly Available Information

We extensively reviewed the university's official website and other publicly accessible documents. This included financial reports, strategic plans, and announcements regarding partnerships and investments and information readily available to students at the University of Nottingham. These resources provided foundational data regarding the university's partnerships, investments and policies.

Method of Investigation

1. Investment Analysis

Our investigation of the university's investments involved the following steps:

- **Initial Review:** We compiled a comprehensive list of the university's investment portfolio, focusing on various asset classes and sectors.
- **Categorisation:** Each investment was evaluated against established criteria to identify those that fell into categories based on the shortened version of LSE's criteria for egregious behaviour. Namely, Crimes against the Palestinian people, including through supporting illegal Israeli settlements; and/or supporting the Israeli military; and/or sustaining apartheid, Proliferation and/or manufacture of arms and Financing crimes against the Palestinian people and/or financing the arms trade.

2. Partnership Evaluation

The assessment of partnerships followed the approach of:

- **Identification of Problematic Companies:** We started by identifying companies that have a documented history of unethical practices or negative societal impact.
- **Researching University Relations:** For each of these identified companies, we conducted in-depth research to ascertain the nature and extent of the university's relationships with them. This included examining contracts, joint ventures, sponsorships, and any collaborative projects.
- **Criteria for ethical partnerships:** alignment with values and policies, legal compliance transparency, impact of policy. We recognise that there are loopholes in current policies and recommend that these get revised after investigation and through a student-informed approach.



Appendix B: Investments

Appendix B.1. Investments as of July 2024 (from FOI - link)

Security name	Portfolio Weight	Combined PEF and MTF Nominal Value in GBP	Complicity (Key below)
MICROSOFT CORPORATION	5.74%	2,946,529.97	[A]
ALPHABET INC	4.24%	2,200,747.85	[A]
UNILEVER PLC	3.61%	£1,643,117.59	[B]
SALESFORCE INC	2.46%	1,276,601.09	[A]
ASTRAZENECA PLC	2.33%	1,209,691.89	[E]
ASML HOLDINGS NV	2.17%	1,125,116.33	[A]
MASTERCARD, INC.	2.13%	1,102,389.36	[C]
VISA INCORPORATION	2.07%	1,072,546.01	[C]
BANCO BILBAO VIZCAYA ARGENTARIA SA	2.03%	1,051,562.99	[C]
BOOKING HOLDINGS INC	1.90%	1,006,806.73	[B]
ADOBE INC	1.21%	626,629.33	[A]
STANDARD CHARTERED PLC	0.46%	237,684.97	[C]
NATWEST GROUP PLC	0.42%	218,029.30	[C]
INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	0.36%	188,308.39	[A]
AVIVA PLC	0.35%	179,540.87	[C]
PFIZER INC	0.32%	166,133.22	[B]
HP INC	0.31%	158,429.20	[A]
CARREFOUR S.A.	0.30%	157,935.44	[B]
BNP PARIBAS SA	0.25%	127,448.56	[C]
INTEL CORP	0.24%	124,884.78	[A]
AXA SA	0.22%	112,686.23	[C]
ELI LILLY AND COMPANY	0.20%	105,661.70	[C]
FIRST SOLAR, INC.	0.10%	52,754.89	[D]
LG CHEM LIMITED	0.06%	30,681.23	[D]
SMA SOLAR TECHNOLOGY AG	0.03%	15,170.75	[D]
DEME GROUP NV	0.03%	14,812.23	[D]
TORONTO-DOMINION BANK	0.00%	1,299.15	[C]
ADIDAS AG	0.00%	740.8	[B]
Total	33.54%	16,974,399.98	

Table 4 Appendix B Investments

Complicity Key

[A] Supplying Israel with technology used by the IOF against Palestinians; [B] Operating in illegal settlements in the occupied West Bank; [C] Financing either the Israeli military, illegal settlements or arms manufacturers complicit in the Genocide against Palestinians; [D] Resource operations in the Occupied Palestinian Territory; [E] Vaccine apartheid



Appendix B.2. Investments as of June 2025

Security name	Portfolio Weight	Combined PEF and MTF Investment Value in GBP	Complicity (Key below)
MICROSOFT CORPORATION	6.15%	3254564	[A]
ALPHABET INC	3.92%	2201258	[A]
UNILEVER PLC	2.11%	1116371	[B]
SALESFORCE INC	1.60%	843918	[A]
ASTRAZENECA PLC	1.64%	866499	[E]
ASML HOLDINGS NV	1.81%	958514	[A]
MASTERCARD, INC.	2.29%	1209894	[C]
VISA INCORPORATION	2.32%	1229184	[C]
BANCO BILBAO VIZCAYA ARGENTARIA SA	2.47%	1307403	[C]
BOOKING HOLDINGS INC	2.65%	1399673	[B]
ADOBE INC	1.05%	553551	[A]
STANDARD CHARTERED PLC	0.17%	90397	[C]
NATWEST GROUP PLC	0.13%	68338	[C]
AVIVA PLC	0.13%	67048	[C]
HP INC	0.15%	79730	[A]
CARREFOUR S.A.	0.18%	97380	[B]
BNP PARIBAS SA	0.16%	82257	[C]
INTEL CORP	0.23%	122960	[A]
AXA SA	0.12%	62511	[C]
ELI LILLY AND COMPANY	0.12%	64121	[C]
TORONTO-DOMINION BANK	0.00%	1475	[C]
ADIDAS AG	0.00%	738	[B]
PALANTIR TECHNOLOGIES INC	0.01%	7381	[A]
HD HYUNDAI ELECTRIC CO LTD	0.08%	43327	[C]
TEVA PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRIES LIMITED	0.07%	39573	[ISRAELI COMPANY]
HITACHI LIMITED	1.97%	1043721	[C]
WALT DISNEY	0.23%	121283	[C]
HEWLETT PACKARD ENTERPRISE CO	0.21%	109738	[C]
FIRST SOLAR, INC.	NA	NA	[D]
LG CHEM LIMITED	NA	NA	[D]
SMA SOLAR TECHNOLOGY AG	NA	NA	[D]
DEME GROUP NV	NA	NA	[D]
PFIZER INC	NA	NA	[B]
INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	NA	NA	[A]

[A] Upholding apartheid by supplying Israel with technology used by the IOF against Palestinians; [B] Operating in illegal settlements in the occupied West Bank; [C] Financing either the Israeli military, illegal settlements or arms manufacturers complicit in the Genocide against Palestinians; [D] Resource operations in the Occupied Palestinian Territory; [E] Vaccine apartheid, [ISRAELI COMPANY]



Appendix B.3: Breakdown of Complicity in University Investments

1. Upholding Apartheid by supplying Israel with technology used by the IOF against Palestinians

Microsoft Corporation

According to [No Tech for Apartheid](#), the company provides software and Azure cloud services that support Israeli military operations and surveillance systems. The American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) notes that Microsoft's products are integrated into tools used for [monitoring Palestinian movements](#) and maintaining military control. This relationship raises ethical concerns about corporate complicity in human rights violations. In November 2023, [Microsoft](#) announced that it will invest £2.5 billion into universities across the UK to expand AI safety and security measures in its next generation AI datacenter infrastructure over the next 3 years. The program includes researchers from universities including Cambridge, Oxford, Imperial College, UCL, Bath, and Nottingham.

Alphabet

Alphabet, through its Google Cloud services, is supplying technology used by the Israeli Occupation Forces (IOF) against Palestinians. Reports from [The Intercept](#) and [The Guardian](#) reveal that Google is part of Project Nimbus, a cloud computing initiative that supports Israeli military operations and intelligence. Workers at Google have protested this collaboration and even Google itself has stated it does not fully know how the technology will be used by Israel (especially concerns regarding it being used against Palestinians).

SalesForce Inc

[Salesforce](#) has been expanding its operations in Israel, recently launching a local cloud platform that could support the Israeli military and government. This expansion raises concerns among human rights advocates, who argue that Salesforce's technology could be used to reinforce systems of apartheid and oppression against Palestinians. Their [offices](#) in Israel also showcase its support for the state.

ASML HOLDINGS NV

ASML Holdings NV has been linked to supplying advanced [semiconductor technology](#) that supports Israeli military operations. [Reports](#) indicate that the company's products are crucial for Israel's tech sector, which plays a significant role in the development of military applications and surveillance technologies used by the IOF against Palestinians.

Adobe Inc

Adobe [offers](#) AI-generated images of what is happening in Palestine and Israel, through its Stock platform. While these images are labeled as AI-generated, some are marked only in the fine print, not in their titles. This subtle labeling makes it challenging for consumers to distinguish between authentic and fabricated content. Consequently, these images have been used on websites and social media without clear indication of their artificial nature, leading to the spread of misinformation, especially to [help create sympathy](#) for Israeli soldiers among the Israeli population.

IBM



The company has strong [links](#) to the Israeli apartheid regime through its provision of technology used in the management of Israel's population registry and biometric systems. [PIBA](#), that IBM has provided services to, have also created an illegal biometric database of facial images.

HP Inc (incl. Hewlett Packard Enterprise)

HP Inc. has been linked to supplying technology used by the Israeli Occupation Forces (IOF) against Palestinians. Its legal predecessor, Hewlett-Packard Company, had a longstanding contract with the Israeli Ministry of Interior Affairs to operate a central database that includes Israel's population registry, which records ethnic identity and religion. This database is used to discriminate between Israeli and Palestinian residents. Additionally, HP Inc. has operated research and development facilities in illegal settlements, such as Beitar Illit, and has provided personal computers to the Israeli military under a contract initially awarded in 2009. These activities raise serious ethical concerns regarding HP Inc.'s role in [supporting systems of oppression](#) in the occupied territories. Due to lack of transparency of the company's business practices, it is also hard to establish the dealings of HP's Israel [subsidiaries](#).

- Central Database Operations: HP's predecessor managed Israel's population registry, which is used to enforce discriminatory policies against Palestinians.
- Research Facilities in Settlements: HP operated a research and development centre in the illegal settlement of Beitar Illit, contributing to the settlements and illegal occupation.
- Military Contracts: HP was the exclusive supplier of personal computers to the Israeli military, supporting its operations in the region which highlights its direct impact on the military operations against the Palestinian people.

The UoN partners with HP, IBM, AIRBUS and several other companies in its [Cloud Manufacturing](#) project as explained in appendix C.

Intel Corp

Intel's \$25 billion [investment in a new factory](#) has been linked to Israel's economy, contributing to its technology infrastructure. Its plant at "Qiryat Gat" is built on Palestinian land within the boundaries of the Palestinian village of Iraq al Manshiya, which was ethnically cleansed and razed to the ground and then replaced by the Israeli settlement of Qiryat Gat. Intel's involvement has sparked debates on ethical responsibility and political implications related to its operations in the region.

PALANTIR TECHNOLOGIES INC

[Palantir](#) provides advanced AI tools to the Israeli military and supplies technology that facilitates mass surveillance and targeting of Palestinians. They have had a long history with the Israeli military, and they decided to expand their support for the war crimes committed in Israel following October 2023. In January 2024, they entered into a strategic partnership with the Israeli Ministry of Defense to provide advanced artificial intelligence and data analytics technology in support of "war-related missions". The [deal](#) follows a visit by Palantir's co-founders Peter Thiel and Alex Karp to Tel Aviv, where they met with Israeli defense officials. Though the specific technology involved was not disclosed, Palantir's Artificial Intelligence Platform (AIP)—capable of analyzing enemy targets and proposing battle plans—is known to be in high demand in Israel, particularly following the October 7 2023. Palantir has also held a board meeting in Tel Aviv in "solidarity with Israel". Its [increasing profits](#)



amongst the ongoing genocide showcase how the company has prioritised profit over ethical business practices.

HITACHI

Hitachi Ltd. is a Japanese multinational operating across digital systems, energy, mobility, industrial equipment, and defense. Its heavy machinery has been repeatedly used by Israeli authorities in [demolitions of Palestinian homes](#), agricultural structures, religious sites, and cemeteries in the occupied West Bank, East Jerusalem, and unrecognized Bedouin villages in the Naqab. Documented cases from 2013–2024 show Hitachi bulldozers displacing families, including minors, and destroying essential infrastructure. Hitachi equipment has also been used in settlement construction, including in Ariel (West Bank), and in military projects such as the Gaza sea barrier (2018). Beyond machinery, Hitachi's Israeli subsidiary, [Hitachi Vantara Israel](#), supplies and maintains computing storage systems for the Israel Police under multiple direct contracts, reinforcing the state's repressive apparatus. Through both its machinery and digital services, Hitachi plays a direct role in sustaining Israel's occupation, settlement expansion, and system of apartheid.

HD HYUNDAI ELECTRIC CO LTD

Hyundai (HD Hyundai Construction Equipment & Infracore) manufactures heavy machinery such as excavators and bulldozers that have been repeatedly documented in [demolitions](#) of Palestinian homes, agricultural structures, and water systems in the occupied West Bank and East Jerusalem. From 2019–2024, Hyundai equipment was used in dozens of demolitions displacing families, destroying farmland, and uprooting trees, with documented cases by Amnesty International and other monitors. Hyundai machinery has also been used in settlement construction, including the Jerusalem Light Rail project, settler-only bypass roads, and infrastructure inside West Bank settlements. Following its 2021 acquisition of Doosan Infracore, Hyundai is further implicated, as Doosan equipment has been used in demolitions (including schools) and settlement construction. Hyundai's ongoing provision of equipment directly facilitates Israel's system of occupation, displacement, and settlement expansion, contributing to violations of international law.

2. Operating in illegal settlements in the occupied West Bank

Unilever PLC

Unilever is operating in [illegal settlements](#) in the occupied West Bank through its Ben & Jerry's brand. Despite Ben & Jerry's decision to stop selling ice cream in Israeli settlements, Unilever sold the brand's rights to a local licensee in Israel, allowing continued sales in these areas. Reports from [Al Jazeera](#) and [The New Arab](#) indicate that this move undermines efforts to boycott products from illegal settlements, raising ethical concerns about Unilever's complicity in violating international law regarding occupation and settlement activities.

Booking Holdings Inc

In 2020, the [UN's Human Rights Council](#) named Booking.com as a company complicit in human rights infringements as it lists properties in illegal Israeli settlements in Palestine. In December 2023, a [report](#) found that Booking.com continues to offer accommodation in at least 21 Israeli settlements. An analysis carried out by the [Guardian](#) in February 2025, found 760 rooms being advertised in hotels, apartments and other holiday rentals in illegal Israeli settlements in the West Bank. Investing in



Booking.co, an institution that supports Israeli settlers in sustaining their illegal presence on stolen Palestinian land, is unethical as it amounts to complicity in maintaining the apartheid.

Pfizer Inc. (also applicable to vaccine apartheid)

Pfizer Inc. has been linked to operations in illegal settlements in the occupied West Bank, raising concerns about its role in the ongoing occupation. [Reports](#) indicate that Pfizer's presence in these settlements contributes to a healthcare system that is inequitable and discriminatory, particularly in terms of vaccine distribution and access to medical resources for Palestinians.

Carrefour S.A.

Carrefour S.A. has been linked to operations in illegal settlements in the occupied West Bank, raising concerns about its role in the ongoing occupation. [Reports](#) indicate that Carrefour has established stores in these settlements, which are considered illegal under international law. This presence not only supports the settlement economy but also contributes to the entrenchment of a system that discriminates against Palestinians.

Adidas AG

Adidas AG is [implicated](#) in operating within illegal settlements in the occupied West Bank through its partnership with Delta Galil Industries. Delta Galil, which is 80% owned by Adidas's subsidiary Delta Israel Brands, has established branches in settlement neighbourhoods such as Pisgat Zeev and Ramot in occupied East Jerusalem, as well as in Maale Adumim in the West Bank. These settlements are considered illegal under international law, as they are built on land occupied by Israel during the 1967 war.

Additionally, in May 2011, [Who Profits](#) documented that Delta Galil rented and operated a 1,680 m² warehouse in the Barkan industrial zone, located within another settlement in the West Bank. By supporting and maintaining operations in these areas, Adidas is complicit in the settlement expansion that contributes to the systemic oppression of Palestinians. This partnership not only raises ethical concerns regarding corporate responsibility but also highlights the impact of business practices on the ongoing illegal occupation and genocide of Palestine.

3. Financing either the Israeli military, illegal settlements or arms manufacturers complicit in the genocide against Palestinians

Aviva PLC

Aviva PLC has been implicated in financing activities that support the Israeli military, illegal settlements, and arms manufacturers involved in the oppression of Palestinians. They had [\\$833m of investments](#) in companies that operate in West Bank, that facilitate transactions benefiting entities linked to military operations and settlement expansion.

MasterCard

Mastercard Inc. has been scrutinised for its financial ties to organisations and entities linked to the Israeli military and illegal settlements in Palestine. [Reports](#) indicate that Mastercard has facilitated transactions that support these operations, raising concerns about its complicity in actions viewed as contributing to the systemic oppression of Palestinians. The company's payment processing services are key to the financial infrastructure that supports activities of arms manufacturers and others [involved in military operations](#) against Palestinian communities.



Visa Inc

Visa Inc. has been implicated in facilitating financial transactions that support the IOF through its [technology and services](#). As a [key partner of IBM](#), Visa is involved in the financial infrastructure that enables military and surveillance activities in the occupied Palestinian territories. Visa Inc. has been implicated in financing operations that support the Israeli military and illegal settlements in Palestine. Reports indicate that Visa's payment processing services facilitate transactions for entities linked to the Israeli defence sector and settlements deemed illegal under international law. This financial infrastructure is seen as enabling activities that contribute to systemic oppression and violence against Palestinians, raising ethical concerns about Visa's role in the ongoing conflict.

BANCO BILBAO VIZCAYA ARGENTARIA SA

The bank has provided [\\$5.861bn in loans and underwriting](#) to companies involved in illegal settlements. This implicates it in the ongoing campaign of ethnic cleansing and settler violence happening in the West Bank.

Standard Chartered PLC

Standard Chartered PLC has provided financial services to companies operating in the occupied Palestinian territories. They provided [£3.133bn in loans and underwriting](#) services to companies operating illegally in west bank.

Natwest

Natwest has provided [\\$3.449bn worth of loans and underwriting](#) services to companies in the West Bank which is currently experiencing an increase in settler violence, forced evictions and raids conducted by the Israeli military. This highlights the bank's willingness to uphold illegal settlements.

BNP Paribas SA

BNP Paribas SA has been identified as a major financial institution providing substantial loans and underwriting services to companies operating illegally in the West Bank. With approximately USD 22.19 billion invested, BNP Paribas stands out as the largest creditor to firms involved in activities that [support the Israeli military](#), illegal settlements, and arms manufacturers.

AXA SA

AXA SA has been implicated in financing activities that support the Israeli military, illegal settlements, and arms manufacturers involved in the oppression of Palestinians. The company holds approximately [£1.449 billion in bonds and shares across 51 businesses](#) that operate in illegal settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories (OPT). This substantial financial investment raises ethical concerns about AXA's complicity in contributing to human rights violations and the entrenchment of an unjust system affecting Palestinian communities.

Eli Lilly and Company

Eli Lilly and Company has been implicated in financing activities that support Israel through [donations](#) and partnerships with organisations like Magen David Adom, Israel's national emergency medical service. The company's contribution of mobile ICU's highlights its role in improving Israel's healthcare system, whilst Palestinian communities are left with little to no access to medical aid due to Israeli blockades and destruction of medical infrastructure.

TORONTO-DOMINION BANK



Toronto-Dominion Bank (TD Bank) has been implicated in financing activities that support the Israeli military, illegal settlements, and arms manufacturers involved in the oppression of Palestinians. According to reports, TD Bank is one of several major banks in Canada that holds investments in companies associated with the [Israeli defence sector](#). These financial ties facilitate the operations of entities that are complicit in actions against Palestinian communities.

The bank's involvement raises significant ethical concerns regarding corporate responsibility, especially in light of the ongoing conflict and the systemic injustices faced by Palestinians. By continuing to finance organisations linked to the military and settlement activities, TD Bank indirectly supports a structure that perpetuates violence and discrimination against Palestinian people.

WALT DISNEY

Disney is currently targeted by the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement due to its perceived complicity in supporting Israeli policies and actions against Palestinians. Key reasons for this boycott include: Financial Support for Israel and Casting of Israeli Actors with Pro-Israel Stances. In 2023, Disney [pledged \\$2 million](#) to support humanitarian relief in Israel following terrorist attacks. This donation did not acknowledge the suffering of Palestinians and thus aligns Disney with Israeli state actions. Gal Gadot, a former IDF soldier, stars as the Evil Queen in Disney's *Snow White*. Gadot has publicly supported the Israeli military and its actions in Gaza, leading to calls for a [boycott](#) of the film. Shira Haas appears in *Captain America: Brave New World* as Ruth Bat-Seraph, a character with connections to Israel's intelligence services. Shira Haas also [volunteered](#) for the IOF theatre and band unit, despite being exempt from the mandatory service due to health reasons. Glorifying the Israeli military whilst they are actively committing war crimes is normalising and endorsing systemic violence.

4. Resource operations in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (*these companies are no longer present in the 2025 investment portfolio*)

First Solar

A [report](#) in 2016 and 2017 found that approximately 104,000 solar panels, covering 135,000 square metres of Palestinian land, were installed in the Kalia settlement in the occupied Jordan Valley. This installation, a joint venture between Clal Sun Ltd and Kibbutz Kalia, highlights the unethical nature of profiting from renewable energy infrastructure on land taken from Palestinians under military occupation. Using occupied land for economic gain not only violates international law but also exacerbates the exploitation of Palestinian resources and rights.

LG Chem

LG Chem's water treatment division, LG Water Solutions, is playing a significant role in the Israeli desalination industry through its exclusive supply of reverse osmosis membranes for the Ashdod Rehabilitation Project. While the project demonstrates advanced technology and contributes to Israel's water security, it simultaneously underscores systemic inequities and contributes to the broader framework of apartheid by prioritising Israeli needs over Palestinian access to essential water resources.

SMA Solar Technology AG



SMA Solar Technology AG is implicated in resource operations in the Occupied Palestinian Territory through its equipment used in the SMA Solar Technology AG is implicated in resource operations in the Occupied Palestinian Territory through its equipment used in the Kalia settlement solar energy field, located in the occupied Jordan Valley. The company's STP-60 solar panel system has been documented by [Who Profits](#) as part of this project, which is a collaboration between Clal Sun Ltd and Kibbutz Kalia, an Israeli settlement.

The Kalia Solar Field stands as one of the largest commercial solar installations constructed on occupied Palestinian land, covering approximately 135,000 square metres. By participating in projects that utilise occupied land, SMA Solar Technology AG contributes to the broader dynamics of resource exploitation and inequity in the region, reinforcing the systemic disparities faced by Palestinians.

DEME Group NV

DEME Group NV is involved in [resource operations](#) in the Occupied Palestinian Territory through its participation in the Leviathan natural gas project off the coast of Israel. The company completed critical infrastructure work, including landfall construction, pre-trenching, and rock placement for a pipeline system that spans 500 kilometres. This project not only enhances Israel's natural gas capabilities but also raises significant ethical concerns due to its implications for the ongoing occupation and the impact on Palestinian rights. The involvement of [DEME Group](#) in such energy deals has been criticised by organisations advocating for Palestinian rights, highlighting that these projects violate European Union policies regarding cooperation with entities in occupied territories. By contributing to resource extraction and energy projects that benefit Israeli interests, DEME Group plays a role in perpetuating a system that marginalises Palestinian communities and exacerbates existing inequalities.

5. Vaccine Apartheid

AstraZeneca PLC

AstraZeneca PLC has been implicated in [vaccine apartheid](#) in Palestine, as access to COVID-19 vaccines has been severely limited for Palestinians compared to Israelis. Reports indicate that while Israel has achieved high vaccination rates, Palestinians in the occupied territories face significant barriers, including [restricted access to vaccines](#) and inadequate healthcare infrastructure. AstraZeneca's distribution practices and partnerships with Israeli authorities have raised concerns.

6. Israeli company

TEVA PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRIES LIMITED

Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd is the world's largest generic drug manufacturer and a leading global pharmaceutical company, operating in ~60 countries with ~45,000 employees. The company gains a strong commercial advantage from the occupation and the economic restrictions imposed on Palestinians, while local pharmaceutical development is stunted.

- **Israeli Market Role:** Teva is the largest commercial and industrial company in Israel by market value, equity, and profit, and also the country's biggest provider of healthcare products and



services. Its subsidiary, Salomon, Levin and Elstein, manages logistics and distribution within Israel, including products from multinational pharmaceutical firms.

- Operations in Palestine:
 - Teva benefits from the Paris Protocol, which ties the Palestinian economy to Israeli trade and customs policy, leaving Palestinians dependent on Israeli regulations for imports and exports.
 - This arrangement has harmed the Palestinian pharmaceutical industry by raising costs (licensing fees, shipping restrictions, back-to-back delivery requirements, and blocked exports from Gaza).
 - The result is a captive Palestinian market, where Teva faces little to no competition.
 - Teva's products are sold in Palestinian territories without needing modification (e.g., labeling in Arabic) and avoid customs barriers, unlike Palestinian or regional competitors.

Additionally, Teva Pharmaceuticals USA Inc. and Teva Neuroscience Inc. agreed to pay [\\$450 million](#) to resolve allegations of violating the Anti-Kickback Statute and the False Claims Act. The settlement covers two separate schemes:

- Copay Kickbacks for Copaxone (2006–2017): Teva is accused of illegally paying Medicare patients' copayments for its multiple sclerosis drug, Copaxone, via third-party entities such as a specialty pharmacy and independent-looking copay assistance foundations—while simultaneously raising the drug's price. This conduct led to the submission of false claims to Medicare.
- Price Fixing Scheme: Teva admitted to conspiring with other generic drug manufacturers to fix prices for pravastatin, clotrimazole, and tobramycin. It had already entered a deferred prosecution agreement, paying a \$225 million criminal penalty. Under the civil settlement, Teva accepted that the benefits from its price-fixing scheme were effectively illegal kickbacks.



Appendix C: Projects & Partners

GROUP	PROJECT & PROBLEMATIC PARTNERSHIP AND FUNDING	PROJECT (objectives)
PEMC	Projects are sponsored by a range of funders and industrialists such as: Siemens, Alstom, BAE, Cummins, TTE, EPSRC, Horizon 2020, Clean Sky EU, INNOVATE, ATI, and the Department of Business Energy and Industrial Strategy.	
	ACHIEVE Project Partner: Safran (France)	The design and manufacturing of electrical machines for aircraft Advanced Generation Systems (AGS), integrated Power Electronics (PE), advanced control systems and intelligent thermal management, in order to develop an innovative advanced mechatronic device for electrical power management system of Turboprop.
	INSTEP Project Partner: Safran	Design, develop, manufacture, test and provide qualification for flight of an innovative Power Distribution Units (PDUs) for safe control and protection of both High-Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) and Low-Voltage Direct Power (LVDC) electrical generation systems.
	Next Generation High Lift System Partner: Collins Aerospace (formerly UTC Aerospace Systems) "The lessons learnt will be transferred to other areas of the UTC Aerospace Systems global market business." Funded value: £2,803,954.	Support efficient integration into the wing through reduced parts, thus reducing aircraft build time; Reduced loads transferred to interfacing aircraft structure, thus enabling reduced structural component weight / size and corresponding reduced fuel burn; Low Weight Actuation System using innovative gearing architecture; SMART system with increased health monitoring capability to allow airline operators to predict maintenance needs; Minimise system weight through the use of new manufacturing techniques and materials.
	4MW Demonstrator Project Partners: Siemens (2017-2019), Rolls Royce (2019-2020).	PEMC developed a 4MW aerospace generator drive system demonstrator with a high speed multi-three phase generator and a modular 3kV active rectifier.
	Advanced Inlet Systems Architecture (AISA) Partners: GKN Aerospace Funded value: £2,420,865.	Advances the development of advanced active inlet systems , primarily focussed on the delivery of a smart, ice protected environmental control system scoop intake and actuated front flap FOD protection system.

	<u>Efficient Lightweight Integrated Traction Solution (ELITS)</u> Partner: Cummins Ltd "Cummins Limited (Research and Technology) with University of Nottingham's Power Electronics, Machines and Control Group are developing a highly integrated high-power BEV powertrain for medium-duty vehicles, which doesn't use rare-earth permanent magnets. By realising a disruptive electric machine and transmission topology, Cummins aim to deliver a step change in the power density by targeting a high-speed solution, developed alongside integrated power electronics for intelligent control." Funded value: £1,860,090.	Developing a highly integrated high-power BEV powertrain for medium-duty vehicles, which doesn't use rare-earth permanent magnets. The project aims to deliver a step change in the power density by targeting a high-speed solution, developed alongside integrated power electronics for intelligent control.
Energy Institute	<u>Ocean REFuel</u> Partners: BP	<u>Investigating harnessing marine renewable energy and offshore wind for conversion to both zero carbon fuels such as hydrogen.</u>
	<u>MariNH3</u> Partners: BMT, BP, Cummins, Ricardo, Rolls Royce. Funded value: <u>£5.5m</u>	Aims to develop new and disruptive engine technology that will one day cut pollution emitted by today's diesel-powered marine vessels.
Institute for Aerospace Technology	<u>ORCHESTRA Project</u> Partners: Leonardo, Safran.	Investigate all the relevant technical aspects including electrical architectures, machines, power management and control, harness solutions, thermal management, electric energy storage, experimental and virtual testing, as well as systems integration, to develop and deliver a holistic framework of innovative modular scalable "building blocks" that incorporate emerging technologies and breakthrough design ideas.
	<u>AERIS Project</u> Partner: Rolls-Royce.	Developing, optimising and validating the detailed computational models of fuel and airflow in aeroengine bearing chambers and internal gearboxes.
	<u>ASPIRE Project</u> Partner: Leonardo Aircraft.	Design, develop and manufacture an innovative DC/DC resonant cellular converter with automatic inversion functionality. This will be a key component in the creation and demonstration of an advanced Electrical Power Distribution System (EPDS) with Enhanced Electrical Energy Management (E²-EM) capability.

	<u>MARQUESS Project</u> Partner: Airbus.	MARQUESS has been specifically designed to address the challenges outlined in the Topic Description reference JTI-CS2-2016-CFP04-LPA-02-15 to fit into the activities of WP2.4.3 in the LPA IADP in Clean Sky 2. MARQUESS will serve as a valuable precursor to the above as it will enable comprehensive modelling and simulation studies to optimise decision making regarding the structural design of aircraft platforms.
Mechanical and Aerospace Systems Research Group	<u>Aerospace Technology Institute Programme</u> Key partners: Rolls-Royce University Technology Centre in as Turbine Transmission Systems. ATI Project Partners: Airbus, BAE Systems, Boeing, Bombardier Aerospace, Cobham, Collins Aerospace, Curtiss-Wright, Dassault, Dunlop Aircraft Tyres, Eaton Aerospace, Element, ESI, GE Aviation Systems, General Dynamics, GKN Aerospace, Hexagon Metrology, Honeywell Aerospace, IBM, Leonardo, LISI Aerospace, Magellan Aerospace, MBDA UK, Meggit Aerospace, Moog, Parker Hannifin, QinetiQ, Raytheon Systems UK, Ricardo, Roke Manor Research, Rolls-Royce, Safran, Shell Research, Sigma, Spirit AeroSystems, Teledyne, Thales, Toolroom Technology, Triumph Group, TT Electronics, Tyco Electronics, Ultra Electronics, Viasat.	The ATI has generated an extensive portfolio of cutting-edge projects which encompass the breadth of the UK. Project partners include SMEs, large companies, research centres and academia, reinforcing the UK's capabilities in aerospace R&T through fostering collaboration.
CLEAN AVIATION	<u>HECATE:</u> Key partners include: Leonardo, Airbus, Safran, Thales, Collins Aerospace	HECATE aims to deliver transformative technologies considering HVD for the electrical distribution of hybrid electric regional aircraft.
	<u>NEWBORN:</u> Key Partners include: Honeywell, Siemens, Powercell Group, Pipistrel	The NEWBORN project contributes to the Hydrogen Powered Aircraft pillar of Clean Aviation Joint Undertaking (H2 powered aircraft Clean Aviation (clean-aviation.eu)). A new fuel cell powertrain project has launched with the goal of creating a more sustainable and efficient alternative to traditional engines. This project has the potential to revolutionize the way we power aircrafts and reduce harmful emissions.
	<u>HERA:</u> Coordinator: Leonardo Beneficiaries include: Airbus, Hollywell, Collins Aerospace, Rolls Royce, Siemens, Safran, Thales, Avio Aero	1. Definition of the potential hybrid-electric regional aircraft concept targeting 2035 EIS including key performance, architectures, features at aircraft level and those concerning hybrid-electric propulsion and related or complementary systems enabling such new propulsion and power sources. 2. Feasibility of the real-scale demonstrators -in-flight and on-ground- to be performed after 2025 in Clean Aviation supporting the hybrid-electric validation at high TRL of the widest set of solutions useful to support the next development of an actual regional aircraft.

	<u>HEAVEN:</u> Industrial partners: Rolls Royce	Building on the success of its Trent family of engines, engine manufacturer Rolls-Royce has developed UltraFan, the largest aircraft engine in the world. This geared design with a variable pitch fan system is expected to power both narrow- and wide-body aircraft and improve fuel efficiency by 25 %. The EU-funded HEAVEN project will significantly develop Rolls-Royce scalable UltraFan architecture and suite of technologies for future civil aviation, providing a platform for hydrogen and hybrid-electric technologies. Numerous innovative enabling technologies already developed as proof of concept (TRL3) will be incorporated into this new architecture to improve gas turbine efficiency. HEAVEN is linked to other Clean Aviation projects such as ACAP, CAVENDISH, HE-ART & CONCERTO, to achieve the high-level objectives of the Clean Aviation programme.
Human Factors Research Group	Cloud Manufacturing Key Partners include: AIRBUS, Hewlett-Packard Limited (HP), IBM	This research programme focuses on developing the manufacturing sector using sophisticated technologies, relevant industrial knowledge and a sustainable manufacturing framework to create products faster, cheaper and more efficiently.