Is your Pension funding Israeli War Crimes?

Divest for Palestine Now!

Israel can only carry out its grave breaches of international law and Palestinian human rights because of products, equipment and services it receives from companies and financial institutions. These companies: produce weapons and military technology used by Israel in its attacks on Palestinians; provide technology and equipment for Israel's infrastructure of military occupation; or are active in illegal Israeli settlements based on stolen Palestinian land.

LGPS funds invest in two ways: directly by holding shares in companies; and indirectly through putting money into investment funds which holds shares on their behalf. We are unable to list the complicit investments of every LGPS fund. This is because some councils do not provide adequate information in response to Freedom of Information Requests. However, the investments listed are indicative of the complicity of all LGPS funds.

Local Government Pension Scheme funds invest billions in companies complicit in Israel's grave violations of Palestinian human rights.

This includes companies supplying Israel with weapons and military technology it uses to carry out its attacks on Palestinians; companies providing infrastructure for Israel's unlawful military occupation; and companies conducting business activity in, or with, Israel's illegal settlements on stolen Palestinian land.

Israel and Palestine: The Basic Facts

Israel is engaged in unprecedented atrocities against the Palestinian people. Tens of thousands of Palestinians have been killed in Israel's assault on Gaza, while at least 90% of Gaza's population has been displaced. UN experts report that "Israel's intentional and targeted starvation campaign against the Palestinian people is a form of genocidal violence and has resulted in famine across all of Gaza."

The International Court of Justice, the world court, has ruled that it is plausible that Israel is committing genocidal acts in its assault, while the chief prosecutor of the International Criminal Court has applied for arrest warrants against senior Israeli leaders for war crimes and crimes against humanity.

These war crimes are built on the foundations of decades of Israel's oppression of Palestinians.

Since its foundation in 1948 Israel has established a body of laws, policies, and practices that has systematically oppressed Palestinians. This political and legal system impacts Palestinians in different ways.

In the West Bank including East Jerusalem Palestinians face an unlawful military occupation, which severely restricts their fundamental human rights. They face forced dispossession, unjust military law and restrictions on their freedom of movement.

In Gaza, 2.2 million Palestinians live under a brutal siege, deemed <u>illegal and inhumane by the</u> <u>United Nations</u>, and have been subjected to numerous military assaults, including Israel's genocidal assault launched in October 2023.

1.7 million Palestinians live as second class citizens within the state of Israel. They are subject to over <u>65 laws that discriminate against them</u> because they are Palestinian.

The largest group of Palestinians, over 7 million, live as refugees, or in exile from Israel's forced displacement. They are unable to return to the homes from which they, or their family, were expelled.

LGPS Complicity

Israel is only able to maintain its oppression of the Palestinian people because of products, equipment and technology it receives from a range of complicit companies. As Palestine Solidarity Campaign research has uncovered, many local authority pension funds invest in these companies.

This includes investing in companies supplying Israel with weapons and military technology it uses to carry out its attacks on Palestinians.

It also includes companies which do business with or in Israel's settlements built on occupied Palestinian land in the West Bank and East Jerusalem. The illegality of Israel's settlements has been repeatedly stated by the international community.

As affirmed by <u>Amnesty International</u>, and the <u>UN Working Group on Business and Human</u> <u>Rights in applying the UN Guiding Principles to the occupied territory</u>, conducting business on occupied land unavoidably contributes to sustaining an illegal situation, where Palestinians are denied their land and basic human rights.

Other companies provide the infrastructure for Israel's occupation of Palestinian land. For example, building Israel's apartheid wall, deemed illegal by the United Nations in 2004, or constructing and maintaining Israeli checkpoints in the occupied territory.

Internationally, several pension funds have taken steps to divest from companies complicit in Israel's violations of international law.

To give a few examples, in 2012 <u>Norway's finance ministry</u> excluded Shikun & Binui from its pension fund over its role in the construction of Israeli settlements. In 2018 <u>Falkirk Pension</u> <u>Fund divested</u> from Bank Hapoalim after challenging the bank regarding its activities in illegal settlements. In 2019 the <u>United Nations staff pension fund</u> confirmed it had divested from two investment funds holding shares in companies operating in illegal settlements, and in 2020 the <u>largest Dutch pension fund ABP announced</u> it had stopped investing in two Israeli banks funding Israel's illegal settlements. In **2024, Waltham Forest Pension Fund** committed to divest from arms companies producing weapons and military technology used by Israel in its attacks on Palestinians.

The Campaign

Led by scheme members and their representative trade unions, LGPS Divest is campaigning for an end to LGPS funds' complicity in Israel's human rights abuses. We are demanding administering authorities ensure adequate screening and due diligence procedures are in place to guarantee that pension holders' deferred wages are not being used to support Israel's violations of international law.

Isle of Wight Pension Fund

Complicit investments: £31,856,457

Company	Value of investment
ABB Ltd ABB is a Swiss-Swedish multinational corporation headquartered in Zurich, Switzerland, operating mainly in robotics, power, heavy electrical equipment and automation technology areas. Its equipment has been used at solar energy fields in the occupied Palestinian territory. WhoProfits has <u>documented</u> ABB equipment in the Kalia settlement solar energy field in the Jordan Valley in the illegally occupied West Bank. The Kalia Solar Field is a joint project of Clal Sun Ltd and Kibbutz Kalia, a settlement in the occupied Jordan Valley. The Field is one of the largest commercial solar fields built on occupied Palestinian land.	£120,870
Airbnb Inc AirBnB Inc is an American company operating a marketplace for holiday properties. As of 2018, Airbnb had some 200 property listings in illegal Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank, not including those in occupied East Jerusalem. Amnesty International <u>documented</u> an additional 100 listings in occupied East Jerusalem and the occupied Golan Heights. In addition, Airbnb's listings display that these properties are not in the occupied West Bank, but in Israel. Due to listing properties in Israel's illegal settlements, based on stolen Palestinian land, the company was included in the UN OHCHRs list of business enterprises active in Israel's illegal settlements.	£203,552
Airbus Airbus is a Dutch arms company . It has co-operated with Israeli arms companies. For example, in 2018, Airbus signed a \$600 million deal with Israel Aerospace Industries to lease Heron TP drones to the German military. Israel uses drones such as these patrol the skies of the besieged Gaza Strip. In addition, between 2008 and 2021 Airbus applied to the British government for an export license to supply weapons and military technology to Israel.	£386,327
Alphabet Inc Google's parent company, Alphabet Inc, <u>provides</u> cloud computing services and other technologies to the Israeli military. Since 2021, Google Cloud Platform, has co-developed the main cloud infrastructure platform for the Israeli state, dubbed 'Project Nimbus'.	£6,033,002
Amazon Amazon is an American technology company. As <u>reported by</u> Investigate, Amazon, alongside Google, is th e main provider of cloud computing infrastructure for the Israeli government and military , dubbed Project Nimbus.	£7,619,862
AXA AXA is a French insurance company. Research <u>released in 2024</u> shows that AXA invests in eleven companies that are providing Israel with weapons and military technology used in its attacks on Palestinians.	£115,126
Bank Hapoalim Bank Hapoalim is one of Israel's largest banks. It <u>facilitates</u> the c onstruction and expansion of illegal Israeli settlements, based on stolen Palestinian land. It was included in the UN OHCHR's list of companies active in illegal Israeli settlements.	£12,573
Bank Leumi Le-Israel Bank Leumi is one of Israel's largest banks. It routinely <u>provides loans</u> for the construction in illegal Israeli settlements, based on stolen Palestinian land. It is included on the UN OHCHR's list of companies active in illegal Israeli settlements.	£36,403

Company	Value of investment
Barclays Barclays is a British multinational bank and financial services company. According to <u>research</u> <u>released</u> by PSC, War on Want and Campaign Against Arms Trade, it holds over £2bn in shares in , and provides financial services worth £6.1bn to , nine companies supplying Israel with weapons and military technology, used in its militarised violence against Palestinians. Barclays is also a 'primary dealer' of Israeli government bonds, aiding Israel to raise money to fund its crimes against Palestinians.	£92,356
Bezeq Bezeq is an Israeli telecommunications company. It provides telecommunication services to all Israeli settlements, army bases and checkpoints in the occupied West Bank and to Israeli settlements in the occupied Syrian Golan. The company builds and maintains telecommunication infrastructure throughout the West Bank and Golan, as <u>reported by</u> WhoProfits. Bezeq has been included in the UN OHCHR's list of companies involved in Israel's illegal settlement economy.	£5,390
Boeing Boeing is a US headquartered manufacturing company. It is the second largest arms manufacturer in the world. It <u>manufactures</u> the Apache attack helicopter. These helicopters have been used extensively in Israel's attacks on Gaza, the West Bank and Lebanon. In addition, Boeing JDAM guiding systems have been utilised in Israel's attacks on Palestinians in Gaza, including extensively in its genocide in Gaza beginning in October 2023.	£404,835
Booking Holdings Inc Booking Holdings Inc operates travel metasearch engine Booking.com for lodging reservations . It <u>lists accommodation</u> located in illegal Israeli settlements on stolen Palestinian land. It was included in the UN OHCHR's list of businesses active in illegal Israeli settlements.	£444,234
Caterpillar US Company Caterpillar supplies the Israeli military with D9 bulldozers which are weaponised and used to demolish Palestinian homes, schools, villages and civilian infrastructure in the illegally occupied West Bank. As <u>reported by</u> Investigate, "armored D9 bulldozers have been crucial for Israel's ground invasion of the Gaza Strip, accompanying combat troops and paving their way by clearing roads and demolishing buildings."	£465,928
Chevron Chevron is a US energy company. The BDS movement <u>has called for a boycott</u> of Chevron for its role as the "main international actor extracting gas claimed by Israel in the Eastern Mediterranean since it acquired Noble Energy in 2020. With its extracting activities, Chevron is implicated in Israel's policy and practice of depriving the Palestinian people of their right to sovereignty over their natural resources. Chevron is potentially complicit in Israel's pillage of Palestinian gas reserves off the shores of the occupied Gaza Strip, a war crime under international law."	£436,938
Cisco Systems Cisco Systems is an US-based public company that designs and sells a broad range of digital communication technologies . In 2018, it entered into a long-term agreement with the Israeli state to establish a range of "digital hubs". 8 of the 45 announced locations of digital hubs are in or near illegal Israeli settlements. In addition, Cisco is also a large contractor for the Israeli military, as <u>outlined by</u> Investigate.	£568,888
CNH Industrial CNH Industrial is a manufacturer of construction equipment. According to the <u>research by</u> WhoProfits, the company's machinery has been used in constructing illegal Israeli settlements , the apartheid wall, and infrastructure projects, as well as in demolishing Palestinian homes.	£8,739

Company	Value of investment
Expedia Expedia is an American online travel shopping company. <u>Research by WhoProfits has found</u> Expedia contains a number of listings of properties in illegal Israeli settlements in both the West Bank and East Jerusalem . It is in the UN OHCHR's list of companies active in illegal Israeli settlements, based on stolen Palestinian land.	£39,929
FANUC FANUC is a Japanese industrial robot manufacturer. Its robots are <u>used</u> by Israeli weapons manufacturers, including Elbit Systems.	£56,056
Ford Motor Company Ford Motor Company is an American car manufacturer. As <u>reported by</u> WhoProfits, Ford vehicle components have been used in armoured vehicles used Israeli military in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. In addition, Ford vehicles have been used in infrastructure projects that support illegal settlements in the occupied West Bank.	£300,607
General Electric GE Aerospace, formally General Electric, is one of the world's largest weapons manufacturers. Its engines <u>are integrated</u> into Israel's fighter jets, attack helicopters, and surveillance aircraft, used in its assaults on Palestinians, including its genocide in Gaza.	£661,396
Hewlett-Packard Enterprise Hewlett Packard Enterprise is a multinational IT company. It supplies IT equipment used by Israel in its violations of Palestinian rights, including supplying IT equipment to Israel's police and prison services. In 2023, it <u>was contracted</u> by the Israel Prison Service to provide maintenance for its IT equipment until 2024.	£101,938
Honeywell Honeywell is a US-based arms company. It <u>manufactures components</u> for bombs, missiles and drones used by the Israeli military in its attacks on Palestinians.	£694,050
HP Inc HP Inc <u>provides</u> t echnology and IT services to Israeli state , including to the offices of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Minister of Finance Betzalel Smotrich.	£189,337
HSBC HSBC is a large British bank. <u>Research by</u> War on Want in 2017 found that HSBC invests over £830million in, and provides financial services worth up to £19billion for, companies supplying Israel with weapons and military technology used in its militarised attacks on Palestinians. In addition, the <u>Don't Buy into Occupation 2024 report</u> , shows HSBC as the second largest European creditor to companies involved in Israel's illegal settlements.	£3,134,271
Hyundai Hyundai is a collection of South Korean companies. Hyundai equipment is used by Israel to demolish Palestinian homes and structures in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. WhoProfits <u>reports that</u> "between 2019 and 2024, Hyundai heavy machinery was documented in dozens of house demolitions and destruction of agriculture and water structures carried out by Israeli authorities in the occupied West Bank and in occupied East Jerusalem."	£192,140
Israel Discount Bank Israel Discount Bank is a commercial Israeli bank. It <u>finances</u> construction in, and provides services to, illegal Israeli settlements, based on stolen Palestinian land. It is included in the UN OHCHR's list of business enterprises active in illegal Israeli settlements.	£6,250
Lockheed Martin Lockheed Martin is one of the world's largest arms companies. It <u>supplies the Israeli military</u> with a range of weaponry, including fighter jets, attack helicopters and missiles , used in its attacks on Palestinians.	£421,899
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Company	Value of investment
McDonald's McDonald's is a multinational fast food corporation. Its Israeli franchisee provided free meals to Israeli soldiers during the genocidal assault on Gaza, while McDonald's Malaysia filed a lawsuit against BDS Malaysia to silence solidarity activism. The BDS Movement <u>calls for</u> a global boycott until McDonald's ends its ties with the Israeli franchisee and stops its Malaysian franchisee's attempts to suppress advocacy for Palestinian rights.	£405,567
Mitsubishi Mitsubishi is a Japanese automotive manufacturer. As <u>reported by</u> Investigate, the Mitsubishi Pajero model is used by dozens of senior officers in the Israeli Army, and has been used in the demolition of Palestinian homes in the occupied Palestinian territory.	£1,305,156
Mizrahi Tefahot Bank Mizrahi Tefahot Bank is an Israeli commercial bank. It <u>finances</u> construction projects in Israel's illegal settlements, on stolen Palestinian land. The bank has been included in the UN OHCHR's list of business enterprises active in Israel's illegal settlements.	£6,066
Motorola Motorola is an American communications and telecommunication equipment provider. Motorola's equipment is <u>installed in illegal Israeli settlements</u> and on the apartheid wall in the occupied West Bank, and it is used by the Israeli military, police and prison service. Motorola was listed in the UN OHCHR's list of business enterprises active in Israel's illegal settlements in the West Bank.	£283,776
Nice Ltd NICE Ltd is a global software and artificial intelligence company. It was formed by members of Unit 8200, which is the largest unit in the Israel Defense Forces, comprising several thousand soldiers. Unit 8200 is Israel's cyber spy unit, tasked with spying on Palestinians living under Israeli apartheid. NICE Ltd's clients have included Israeli arms firms Rafael and Elta Systems Ltd, both of which have supplied weapons and military technology to Israel, used in its militarised repression of Palestinians.	£32,486
Palantir Palantir is a US-based surveillance company. As <u>reported by</u> Investigate, Palantir entered into a "strategic partnership" with Israel's Ministry of Defense in 2024. As part of this partnership, 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.	£147,926
Rolls Royce Rolls-Royce is a British arms manufacturer. As <u>reported by</u> Investigate, its German subsidiary owns a company called MTU, which produces the engine which powers Israel's main battle tanks. It is the only major component of the Merkava tank that is made outside of Israel.	£334,867
Safran Safran is a French multinational company. It has provided equipment, including finger print scanners, used by Israeli forces in the occupied Palestinian territory. It has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with Rafael, an Israeli state owned weapons manufacturer.	£163,366
Serco Serco is a UK-based company. Serco <u>reports</u> it has provided services for Israeli naval projects. In addition, its subsidiary, Serco Australia Defence, has a contract to provide maintenance and technical support for Rafael-produced Typhoon and Mini-Typhoon remote weapon stations for the Australian Navy.	£1,655,568

Company	Value of investment
Siemens	£4,126,693
Siemens is a German multinational company. As <u>reported by</u> Investigate, a project by the American Friends Service Committee, " its equipment is installed in illegal settlement roads and railway tracks in the occupied West Bank ." In addition, the BDS movement <u>has called</u> for a boycott of Siemens for its role constructing the EuroAsia Interconnector, a submarine electricity cable from Israel via Cyprus to Greece, that will connect apartheid Israel's electricity grid with that of the EU and enable it to export electricity produced from fossil gas to Europe.	
Sony	£245,93
Sony Corporation is a Japanese multinational conglomerate corporation. Its business includes consumer and professional electronics, gaming, entertainment and financial services. During a June 2018 field tour in the Old City of Jerusalem, <u>WhoProfits</u> documented the use of Sony cameras as part of Israel's surveillance system in the occupied area. At least six Sony cameras were installed at Jerusalem's Damascus Gate. As part of its military occupation, Israel maintains a regime of intense surveillance against Palestinians in Jerusalem.	
Teva	£116,369
Teva is an Israeli pharmaceutical company. As <u>reported by</u> Investigate, i t is part of an oligopoly of companies which benefit from selling to the Palestinian captive market." It "enjoys the advantages generated by the Israeli occupation of Palestinian lands allowing the company to exploit the Palestinian market."	
Textron	£10,169
Textron is a US-based arms company. Investigate <u>reports that</u> the "Israeli Air Force 100 Squadron, which has supported Israel's genocidal attacks on Gaza, uses Textron aircraft, including the Beechcraft King Air, Queen Air, RC12-D Guardrail, and Bonanza A-36, mostly for reconnaissance, freight, and training purposes ."	
Valero Energy	£217,850
Valero Energy is a US based energy company. It is one of the <u>largest fuel suppliers</u> to the Israeli military. It has supplied the Israeli military with jet fuel to power Israel's AH-64 attack helicopters, F-15 and F-16 fighter jets and bombers, and Israel's Merkava tanks. This equipment has been used by Israel in violence against Palestinians civilians, including in repeated aerial bombardments of the besieged Gaza Strip, including its genocide beginning in October 2023.	
Volvo	£51,758
Volvo is a Swedish vehicle manufacturing company. As <u>reported by</u> WhoProfits, Volvo machines have been photographed and videotaped destroying Palestinian properties, including homes and schools, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. Moreover, Volvo vehicles have been used in the construction of illegal Israeli settlements on stolen Palestinian land.	

This research has been conducted by Palestine Solidarity Campaign. The database is copyright property of PSC.

The information above is an excerpt from the PSC update providing the investments of 81 LGPS funds in companies complicit in Israel's violations of Palestinian rights and published in February 2025. The large increase in complicit investment is due to the inclusion of investments in Amazon and Alphabet Inc (Google's parent company), which provide cloud computing technology to the Israeli government and military.

Get Involved! Acting together, we can end the complicity of LGPS funds in Israel's grave violations of Palestinian rights.

https://lgpsdivest.org/lgps-investments/

LGPS Investments

81

local government pension funds have known complicit investments £12,214,286,216

known complicit investment for all funds

- 11 May 2001: The UK Incorporated the Rome Statute into British Law through the International Criminal Court Act 2001
- **26 Jan 2024: International Court of Justice [ICJ]** Found it plausible that Israel's actions could amount to Genocide and Ordered Israel to take measures to prevent acts of genocide, issuing 6 Provisional Measures:
 - Prevent Genocidal Acts as defined by the 1948 Genocide Convention
 - Ensure Military Compliance in accordance with the Convention
 - Prevent and Punish Incitement to genocide
 - Ensure Humanitarian Assistance and basic services to Palestinians in Gaza
 - Preserve Evidence to prevent the destruction of evidence related to allegations of genocide
 - Report on Compliance to the measures within one month
- **24 Mar 2024: ICJ issues New Emergency Measures for Israel to** ensure basic food supplies without delay as Gazans face famine and starvation.
- 28 Mar 2024: ICJ Ordered Israel to ensure basic food supplies to Gaza
- 24 May 2024: ICJ Ordered Israel to Immediately Cease its military operations in Rafah
- 19 Jul 2024: ICJ Ruled in an Advisory Opinion that:
 - <u>All States</u> must co-operate with the United Nations to put into effect modalities required to ensure an end to Israel's illegal presence in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT) and the full realization of the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination.
 - All States are under obligation not to recognise as legal the situation arising from the unlawful presence of Israel in the OPT
 - Obligation not to render aid or assistance in maintaining the situation created by Israel's illegal presence in the OPT
 - Obligation to distinguish in dealings with Israel between the territory of Israel and the OPT
 - Legal consequences for the United Nations.
 - Obligation not to recognize as legal the situation arising from the unlawful presence of Israel in the OPT
 - Obligation to distinguish in dealings with Israel between the territory of Israel and the OPT
 - Precise modalities to bring to an end Israel's unlawful presence in the OPT to be dealt with by the General Assembly and the Security Council.
- 18 Sep 2024: UN General Assembly demands Israel ends its 'unlawful occupation' of OPT
- **18 Oct 2024: The Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the OPT (Commission)** set forth its **Legal Analysis and Recommendations** to Israel, Member States, the General Assembly and the Security Council, on the implementation of the ICJ Ruling.

The UK has a responsibility not to act in complicity but in accordance with international law, including the UN Charter, the decisions of the Security Council, and international human rights and humanitarian law.