

# Union Stance on the Imperial College Relations with Lockheed Martin

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## Union Notes -

1. The college invested over 2.9 million pounds in 2019 [1] in Lockheed Martin: the 'largest arms dealer in the world' [2]
2. Lockheed Martin is a long-time supplier of the Israeli army since 1971 [3]. They have produced F-16 fighter jets, which have been used in attacks on Palestinian and Lebanese civilians [4]
3. Lockheed Martin are responsible for "strengthening the Israeli Defence Force (IDF) ground forces" and have supplied them with "radars, rockets, fire control and guidance systems".[5]
4. Since the 10th May, the IDF has conducted over 1400 airstrikes on the Gaza strip reportedly killing 248 Palestinians (of whom 39 are women and 66 are children, with over 1,900 injured) [6]
5. The Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, Article 8 details that a war crime includes '*Intentionally directing attacks against the civilian population as such or against individual civilians not taking direct part in hostilities*' [7]
6. Amnesty international have stated that the recent atrocities in Gaza "disregard the lives of Palestinian civilians by carrying out a number of airstrikes targeting residential buildings in some cases killing entire families - including children - and causing wanton destruction to civilian property, in attacks that may amount to war crimes or crimes against humanity" [8]
7. Lockheed Martin has also provided weapons to other countries, such as Saudi Arabia, which have been used in war crimes against Yemen, according to Human Rights Watch. [9]
8. In the relationship review policy for the College, it states that "Relationships should not....require the College to be involved in action that is illegal." [10] which should include international law
9. The college claims in its relationship review policy that Imperial College London is an institution whose mission is to "achieve enduring excellence in research and education in science, engineering, medicine and business **for the benefit of society**" [11]

## **Union Believes -**

1. Lockheed Martin is a company directly aiding Israeli forces in committing war crimes through the killing of innocent civilians
2. Lockheed Martin is a company that directly contributes to the violation of International Law by supplying fighter jets to the Israeli Defence Force
3. The Lockheed Martin-Imperial relationship violates the the Imperial College relationship review policy as :
  - a) Lockheed Martin's involvement in the Israel does not share the colleges mission to "achieve enduring excellence in research and education in science, engineering, medicine and business for the benefit of society."(Relationship Review Policy, Section 2)
  - b) It directly contributes to war crimes that violate Imperial policy where it states relationships should not lead to the " Violation of international conventions on human rights or the environment' (Relationship Review Policy, Section 4)
  - c) The partnership leaves the College vulnerable to reputational damage (Relationship Review Policy, Section 4)
  - d) The relationship leaves the college at risk to significant liability (Relationship Review Policy, Section 4)
4. There is a clear relationship between Lockheed Martin and Imperial College with funding having increased majorly over the past few years

## **Union Resolves -**

1. To request clarity on any research funding received by the College from Lockheed Martin over the last ten years.
2. To recommend that the College considers how companies, including Lockheed Martin, might abet human rights abuses and violations of international law, during their upcoming research relationships review, when deciding whether to accept money from them
3. To request that the College share up-to-date figures describing their current holdings in Lockheed Martin.
4. To lobby for the College to terminate any research partnerships or investments with Lockheed Martin as soon as possible, including any existing research partnerships, until such a time as they are not abetting human rights abuses.

5. To request that the College takes an active role in condemning the human rights violations, including through the release of a public statement of solidarity, showing support towards Palestinian students and staff who have been affected by such events.

#### References

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8. <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2021/05/israelopt-pattern-of-israeli-attacks-on-residential-homes-in-gaza-must-be-investigated-as-war-crimes/>
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