

# 5 reasons why we need to boycott Israeli universities

1. Israeli universities have an exceptionally close relationship with the Israeli military and arms industry. Universities played a key role in developing the weapon systems and military doctrines deployed in the current assault on Gaza, including the so-called "Dhahiya doctrine", which prescribes disproportionate use of violence and the systematic targeting of civilian infrastructure.
2. Israeli universities play a key role in planning, implementing and justifying Israel's regime of occupation and apartheid - both by developing technologies used for the surveillance, control and dispossession of Palestinians and by providing legal and moral justification for the ongoing colonization of Palestinian land, extra-judicial killings and indiscriminate attacks against civilians.
3. Since the beginning of what is currently being investigated as a genocide, universities across Israel have not only expressed unwavering support for the Israeli military, but also provided financial compensation and other benefits for so-called "warrior students" serving in the army.
4. Palestinians are systematically discriminated against throughout Israel's education system. At universities, Palestinian students are not only disproportionately targeted with disciplinary measures by the university administrations, based on their political opinions, but also face threats and harassment from fellow students.
5. Israeli universities censor and restrict the academic freedom of scholars and students. Subjects such as the Nakba and the right of Palestinian refugees to return are often off-limits on campus, and critical scholars regularly face harassment, threats and even suspension.



# How it works

The call for academic boycott targets Israeli institutions, not individuals. The boycott in other words does not prevent individual Israeli scholars from engaging with international scholars and international institutions, unless the exchange is a part of an institutional collaboration or the scholar is commissioned by or represent a complicit Israeli institution. The call for academic boycott is a part global Boycott, Divest, Sanctions movement (BDS) launched in 2005 by 170 Palestinian civil society organizations. Inspired by the South African anti-apartheid movement, the Palestinian BDS call urges nonviolent pressure on Israel until it complies with international law by ending the illegal occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, recognizing the rights of Palestinians citizens of Israel and respecting the right of displaced Palestinians to return.

## What can you do?

- Sign the national petition for an academic boycott of universities that are complicit in Israel's regime of occupation and apartheid!
- Spread awareness about the academic boycott! You can download flyers, posters, fact sheets on our website.
- Contact your head of department, dean or rektor, and raise your concerns. You can find email templates on our website.
- Talk to your colleagues and identify allies locally! It's always easier to take action if you can do it with people you trust.

