

# Divestment and Boycott: Peaceful ways YOU can Make a Difference

## The University of Wisconsin Divestment from Israel Campaign (WisDivest)

Al-Awda Wisconsin, <http://alawda.rso.wisc.edu>

- **Divestment:** Stopping capital investment in companies that do business in/with or provide aid to Israel
- **Boycott:** Not buying Israeli products or products of companies that provide aid to Israel, and ending contacts with Israeli institutions such as academic, cultural and athletic institutions.
- **Sanctions:** Ending trade relations with Israel, as well as diplomatic and cultural isolation

### WisDivest:

With the purpose of moving towards just and enduring peace in the Palestinians-Israeli conflict, protecting the lives, safety, dignity, and freedom of Palestinians and Israeli alike, and putting an end to Israel's human rights violations, WisDivest was initiated. A campaign lead by Al-Awda Wisconsin, the Palestine Right to Return Coalition and other socially conscious Wisconsin organizations and individuals aims to persuade the University of Wisconsin Board of Regents to divest the University's trust fund from investments it holds that aid and enable Israel's Human rights violations and discrimination against the Palestinians by providing weapons and other products, equipment, and services. WisDivest aims to build public pressure and support for such action through a series of divestment resolutions to be adopted by the various University of Wisconsin bodies, and institutions.

### Why Divest? Divestment Goals:

- Build a grassroots movement to pressure companies to withdraw their investments from Israel
- Dismantle Israel's apartheid system, end construction of colonies in the occupied Palestinian territories.
- Make Israelis realize that maintaining racial discrimination is morally abhorrent and occupation is an economic and human drain.

### Troubling UW Investments

Weapon Manufacturer	UW Investment (Sep. 04)
Boeing	\$ 1,015,535
Caterpillar Inc.	\$ 74,813
General Dynamics	\$ 153,150
General Electric	\$ 1,309,462
Lockheed Martin	\$ 548,553
Northrop Grumman	\$ 762,619
Raytheon	\$ 15,831
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,879,963</b>

### UW Trust and Fund Policies

**78-1:** "In accordance with Sec. 36.29(1) *Wis. Stats.*, all investments "made in any company, corporation, subsidiary or affiliate which practices or condones through its actions discrimination on the basis of race religion, color, creed or sex. . . ." shall be divested in as prudent but rapid a manner as possible."

**97-1:** "the Board acknowledges the importance of maintaining an awareness of public concerns about corporate policies or practices that are discriminatory (as defined by 36.29(1) *Wis. Stats.*) or cause substantial social injury, and (that) it will take this factor into account."

### What Do They Do?\*

**Boeing:** Produces the AH-64 Apache Attack and other Helicopters. Israel also possesses Boeing fighter planes, and missiles (e.g. Hellfire). Israel owns 98 Boeing F-15 Eagle jets, \$38 million each.

**Caterpillar:** Sells armored D-9 &10 bulldozers, which are used by the IOF to demolish homes and businesses, construct the wall, and uproot olive trees.

**General Dynamics:** Manufactures the 20mm guns for Israel's F-16 jets and has supplied Israel with approximately 1000 M60A3 Main Battle Tanks.

**General Electric:** Makes engines for Apache Helicopters used in extra judicial assassinations.

**Lockheed Martin:** Manufactures Patriot Missile and the F-16 Fighting Falcon jet. Israel possesses 237 Fighting Falcons, each costing \$34.3 million.

**Northrop Grumman:** Makes radar and weapons systems, often used in extra judicial assassinations.

**Raytheon:** Produces a number of missiles used by Israel against the Palestinians, including: AGM 65 Maverick, Patriot, and AIM 9 Sidewinder.

\*<http://www.globalexchange.org/countries/palestine/arms.html>

Al-Awda Wisconsin/ WisDivest: <http://alawda.rso.wisc.edu> , email: [wiscdivest@yahoo.com](mailto:wiscdivest@yahoo.com)