

Oxford UCU Branch Motion

Passed at Branch Extraordinary General Meeting on 12th August 2025

Divest for Palestine

Oxford UCU Notes:

- Israel's assault on Palestinians in Gaza has killed tens of thousands, displaced 90% of Gaza's population, and caused widespread destruction.
- The International Court of Justice has ruled South Africa's case, that Israel is committing genocide in Gaza, to be plausible, and the chief prosecutor of the International Criminal Court is seeking arrest warrants against senior members of the Israeli government for war crimes and crimes against humanity.
- Israel's militarised violence against Palestinians sustains its system of oppression that amounts to the crime against humanity of apartheid.
- Research by Palestine Solidarity Campaign (PSC) identifying that Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) funds collectively invest over £4.4billion in companies enabling Israel's grave violations of international law.
- As a State Party to the Genocide Convention, the UK government, including local councils, have a legal obligation to take all possible steps to deter, prevent and punish genocidal acts.
- Oxford City Council voted in March to divest from companies enabling Israel's grave violations of international law.
- UCU is nationally affiliated to the PSC

Oxford UCU Believes:

- Workers are entitled to a decent pension that does not contribute to violations of human rights and international law.

Oxford UCU Resolves:

- To write to all members of the Oxfordshire County Council pension committee demanding they adhere to their moral and legal obligations by immediately divesting the pension fund from companies complicit in Israel's war crimes. This includes companies that:
 - Supply weapons, components and military technology to Israel.
 - Provide infrastructure for illegal occupation.
 - Conduct business with enterprises on illegal settlements.
- To circulate information to all members about the LGPS divest campaign, including how members can support the campaign "Oxfordshire Divest for Palestine" locally.
- Affiliate to Oxford PSC and work with it to implement this motion.