

Motion for Union Support for HE in Gaza and for Palestine in the face of continuing destruction

This branch notes:

- The Palestinian Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MHESR) has recorded the complete destruction or partial damage of university buildings and facilities in the Israeli government bombings of the last six weeks, including the Islamic University of Gaza, Al-Azhar University, the North Gaza and Tubas branches of Al-Quds Open University and buildings of An-Najah National University located at Palestine Technical University Kadoorie.
- The killing of Prof Sufyan Abdul Rahman Tayeh, President of the Islamic University of Gaza, along with his family by Israeli airstrikes.
- The long and established partnerships the University of Manchester has with two Israeli academic institutions and how it is directly involved through links to arms companies and direct investments in complicit companies (see this [statement](#) for concrete information circulated two weeks ago).
- The vast destruction of hospital infrastructure in Gaza in the last six weeks means adequate basic care for basic medical needs as well as complex medical conditions is impossible. Reports suggest at least 21 out of 35 hospitals are out of action. This combined with Israeli airstrikes on the two universities with medical schools in Gaza means current and future medical needs in the strip are severely compromised.

This branch resolves:

- To take concrete action to show solidarity with academics and students in Palestine by twinning with one of the HE Institutions in Gaza.
- To call on UoM to immediately sever any existing institutional partnerships or affiliations with Israeli academic institutions, divest from all complicit companies, and end all partnerships with arms companies.
- To call on UoM to set up a scholarship scheme for one PhD student from Palestine.
- To investigate the possibility of setting up medical-school links with Gaza, including one clinical fellowship for a doctor from Palestine and one clinical fellowship for a nurse from Palestine.
- To recognise the Israeli ethnic cleansing of Palestinians
- To recognise the impact of this ethnic cleansing of Palestinians on students and staff with connections to the region.
- To demand that UoM protect the freedom of those students with connections to the region to speak out in support of their communities.
- To publicly join local actions and ensure pro-Palestinian voices on campus are heard.