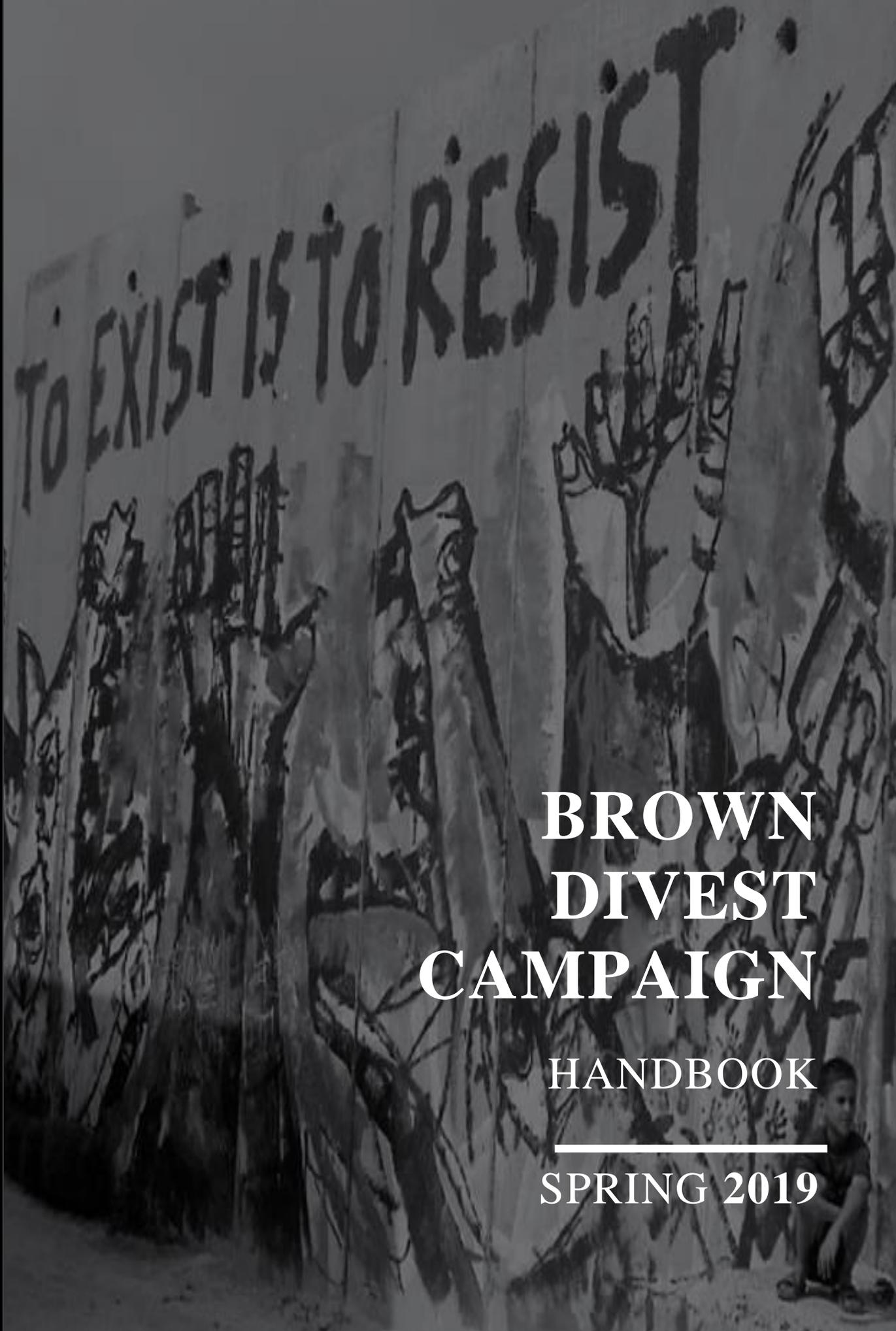


# BROWN DIVEST



## BROWN DIVEST CAMPAIGN

HANDBOOK

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SPRING 2019

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# BROWN DIVEST

## Statement and Demands

Dear Brown University Undergraduates,

We are a coalition of undergraduate students who call upon the Brown University administration to divest all stocks, funds, endowment, and other monetary instruments from companies complicit in human rights abuses in Palestine including Boeing, Caterpillar, G4S, Hewlett Packard Enterprise CO, Motorola Solutions Inc., Oaktree Capital Group LLC, Textron, AB Volvo, and The Safariland Group.

Our campaign is in response to a call issued by members of the Palestinian civil society in 2005 asking “people of conscience” from around the globe to pressure the state of Israel to halt violations of international law through a movement to Boycott, Divest and Sanction (BDS) the state of Israel. Inspired by the South African anti-apartheid movement, BDS is a non-violent movement that urges individuals, organizations, and countries to put economic pressure on the Israeli government until it recognizes and respects the fundamental rights of Palestinians. BDS does not propose a political solution, rather it brings awareness to Israel’s discrimination against its Arab-Palestinian citizens and devastating occupation policy.

Since 1967, the Israeli government has demolished over 48,000 Palestinian homes in the West Bank to clear land for the construction of Israeli settlements, which has been deemed a form of collective punishment and a flagrant violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention. Palestinians protesting for their right of return are continuously shot at from across the border fence in the besieged Gaza Strip. In response, the United Nations has condemned Israel for the use of “excessive, disproportionate and indiscriminate force” against these civilians. These issues have intensified under the Trump administration, which has recently cut funding to agencies such as the WFP, UNRWA, and USAID which provide food and humanitarian assistance to Palestinian refugees.

With increasing urgency, it is clear we must take action. The #BrownDivest campaign is organized by a coalition of undergraduate students to identify and divest from companies that profit from Israeli violations of human rights. Since Brown is a private institution that does not publicize its investments, we are unaware of the extent to which Brown invests in the corporations we have listed. However, we have outlined in detail the ways in which the aforementioned companies engage in human rights violations and how they are connected to Brown. For example, Brown contracts with Caterpillar, which is the number one supplier of excavators and bulldozers used in demolitions of Palestinian homes. Hence, while we call for divestment from these companies, we are simultaneously calling for greater financial transparency from the Brown Corporation.

We believe that by supporting such companies, Brown University is complicit in crimes against Palestinians. As Brown students, we should not tolerate our university profiting off of oppression. #BrownDivest follows in the footsteps of other successful divestment campaigns that have effectively pressured the investor to withdraw investments from an institution associated with a harmful practice. In the past, Brown students have successfully rallied for divestment from the tobacco industry and the genocide in Darfur, Sudan. Even now, our peers encourage divestment from corporations that destroy environments and rely on prison labor. And yet, we remain silent on Palestine while universities across the country, including but not limited to Stanford, George Washington, NYU, University of Michigan, Tufts, University of Indianapolis, and UCLA, have passed resolutions calling for divestment from Palestinian suffering. The time has come for us to oppose our University’s investment in the disenfranchisement, displacement, and death of Palestinians.

The Brown Divest campaign aims to structure these collective concerns raised by the undergraduate student community at Brown and present them to the Undergraduate Council of Students (UCS) in late February. If the UCS members vote in favor of holding a referendum on the #BrownDivest demands, then the undergraduate student community will vote on divestment in the UCS general election. Leading up to the vote, we strive to engage the campus in critical and informed conversation on the situation in Palestine. We will host a number of prominent guests over the next few weeks who will help raise awareness through lectures, workshops, and panel discussions. Although our campaign is explicitly directed towards violations of Palestinian human rights, we hope to raise important questions on the intersectionality of different resistance movements. In doing so, we seek to elevate the struggles of marginalized communities fighting institutional oppression near and far.

So join us in planning this campaign, stand in solidarity with this cause, and ask your friends to vote for divestment!

**Demands:**

1. We call upon the Brown Corporation to withdraw investments in securities, endowments, mutual funds, and other monetary instruments with holdings in the companies we have identified as being complicit in Palestinian suffering.
  - 1.1. By extension, we call upon the Brown University Advisory Committee on Corporate Responsibility in Investment Policies to examine the issues of “social harm” (as defined in the Charter) inflicted upon Palestinian lives by these corporations.
  - 1.2. We call upon Brown University to maintain the withdrawal of investments from said companies until they cease to engage in “social harm” as defined by the Charter.
2. We call upon Brown University to establish a means of implementing financial transparency and student oversight of the University’s investments.

Sincerely,  
#BrownDivest



# What is Divestment and Why You Should Support It

## What is #BrownDivest?

- The recognition that Brown University's investments are complicit in the suffering of Palestinians and Israel's continued human rights violations.
- Brown University students taking responsibility in examining what their university's investments are and what effect they have on people's lives within and outside of campus.
- Students requesting the university to divest from companies that are involved in violent practices in Israel-Palestine.
- The call for greater transparency in our university's investments, that are made without any student input.

## What is Divestment Not?

- Claiming that the students organizing the #BrownDivest campaign are experts on Israel-Palestine
- Proposing a political solution for the situation in Israel-Palestine
- Attacking a particular community or group of people

## Why You Should Support Divestment:

### 1. *You believe that our university should not support unethical investments*

Like numerous universities, Brown University profits off of investments in corporations that promote, perpetuate, and/or enact violence against individuals and communities around the globe. For example, we could be investing in companies that profit from mass incarceration in the US, arms and bombing equipment used against Yemeni civilians, and the unethical separation of immigrant children from their parents at the US-Mexico border. If you support divestment from unethical investments, you should also support this particular case.

### 2. *You are for corporate social responsibility*

The companies and groups we have included in this handbook preserve and even aid Israeli human rights violations against Palestinians. In the company information section, you will find details on how exactly these groups enact violence against Palestinians. If you want the university to stop investing in these groups until they transform their practices, you should support #BrownDivest.

### 3. *You want to show up for your peers who are affected*

Envision what it is like for Palestinian students at Brown whose family and/or friends live in Israel or the occupied territories and face human rights violations on a daily basis. Realize that there are students and faculty members as well as their families who are affected by this.



# What You Can Do!

## What Does Divestment at Brown Look Like?

From February to March 2019, we will be hosting various events with student organizations so that you can come and learn more about divestment, Israel-Palestine, and the companies that profit from Palestinian suffering. We hope that you will join us and engage in constructive dialogue.

At the end of February 2019, the students organizing #BrownDivest will have to obtain a vote from the Undergraduate Council of Students (UCS) to allow a referendum on divestment to be included in the annual UCS ballot.

If we are successful, then the study body (you!) will vote for or against passing the resolution to divest soon after. The vote will be confidential.

In the meantime, as an individual or student organization you can...

*Get involved in the campaign by:*

- Planning and co-hosting events with us throughout the semester

*Raise awareness by:*

- Sharing our posts on Facebook and using the hashtag #BrownDivest
- Spread our flyers around campus

*Learn more about Israel-Palestine by:*

- Coming to our events that will be advertised throughout the semester and are open to all students
- Checking out the Further Resources page at the end

***Take concrete action by: Voting in favor of divestment if there is a UCS referendum***



# Company Information

## Investment Screening Criteria

*Companies are listed in this booklet that:*

1. Provide products or services that contribute to the maintenance of the Israeli military occupation of Gaza and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem;
2. Provide products or services to the maintenance and expansion of Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories;
3. Establish facilities or operations in Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories;
4. Provide products or services that contribute to the maintenance and construction of the Separation Wall;
5. Provide products or services that contribute to violent acts against either Israeli or Palestinian civilians.

*Companies:*

- Boeing
- Caterpillar
- G4S
- Hewlett Packard Enterprise CO
- Motorola Solutions Inc.
- Oaktree Capital Group LLC
- Textron
- AB Volvo
- The Safariland Group



# Boeing



**Investment Screening Criteria Met: 1, 5**

## **Boeing has provided Israel with:**

- AH-64 Apache helicopters
- F-15 Eagle fighter jets
- Hellfire missiles & MK84 2000-lb bombs
- Joint Direct Attack Munitions (JDAM) kits that turn bombs into “smart,” guided bombs
- Harpoon sea-to-sea missile system
- Future delivery of Bell Boeing V-22 VTOL helicopter
- Marketing in the US of the Israeli military drones Hermes 450 and 900
- The DIME (Dense Inert Metal Explosive) munition
- The Small Diameter Bomb (SDB) system

**Revenue:** \$93 billion USD

**Market Cap:** ~\$200 billion USD



*An Apache Helicopter*



# Caterpillar



**Investment Screening Criteria Met:** 1, 2, 4, 5

**Caterpillar has provided the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) with:**

- Bulldozer and excavators that are used in:
  - The demolition of Palestinian homes
  - The construction of settlements that are illegal under international law

**Caterpillar designs:**

- The track systems for Israeli tanks

**Revenue:** \$46 billion USD

**Market Cap:** ~\$74 billion USD



*Brown University regularly contracts with Caterpillar for excavators, bulldozers, generators, etc.*



*A pair of Caterpillar generators spotted in front of Pembroke Hall in 2018*



# G4S

**Investment Screening Criteria Met:** 1, 2

**G4S has a stake in the Policy corporation, which built and now operates the new Israeli National Police Academy near the city of Beit Shemesh,**

- Israel plans to use the Academy in the future to train some of its other security forces, such as the Israeli Prison Service and Border Police.
- The National Police Academy opened in 2015, and Policy has a contract to expand it and operate it at least until 2035

**G4S and 3M together supply all electronic monitoring systems to prisons in Israel.**

**Revenue:** \$8 billion USD

**Market Cap:** \$3 billion USD



*Demonstration highlighting G4S profits from the Israeli Prison Service and the abuses the company enables*



# Hewlett Packard Enterprise Co.



**Hewlett Packard  
Enterprise**

**Investment Screening Criteria Met: 1, 2, 5**

**The Israeli Prison Service utilizes the services of Hewlett-Packard Enterprise to:**

- Maintain its servers and other IT infrastructure as well as to provide training for its personnel.

**Hewlett-Packard Enterprise is the prime contractor of the Basel system, an automated biometric access control system used in Israel's checkpoints and apartheid wall**

- These checkpoints fragment and segregate the Occupied Palestinian Territories and its residents through electric fences, watchtowers, sensors, and concrete barriers
- The checkpoint system separates Palestinian workers from their jobs, farmers from their land, students from their schools, patients from hospitals, and families from each other.

**Revenue: \$29 billion USD**

**Market Cap: \$23 billion USD**



# Motorola Solutions Inc.



**Investment Screening Criteria Met:** 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

## **Motorola Solutions Inc. Supports the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) by:**

- Supplying the Tadiran communication encryption systems for the Merkava battle tank
- Supplying the IDF with a smartphone capable of encrypted calls, emails, and the ability to send and receive digital media and navigation capabilities

## **Motorola Solutions Inc. Supports Settlements by:**

- Providing and servicing the MotoEagle radar-detector system in some 20-47 Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank as a virtual fence to detect movement
  - Some radar stations were erected on private Palestinian land, preventing Palestinian movement
  - The system is also used in the West Bank separation wall complex and the wall around Gaza
- Installing internet on the A1 fast train line from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem
  - The A1 route crosses the Green Line international border in two areas into the occupied West Bank & through privately owned Palestinian lands
  - Any use of occupied Palestinian land and resources for an exclusively Israeli transportation project is illegal by international law.

**Revenue:** \$6.4 billion USD

**Market Cap:** \$21 billion USD



# Oaktree Capital Group LLC



**Investment Screening Criteria Met: 2, 3**

**Oaktree Capital Group LLC owns Veolia Israel**, whose subsidiary T.M.M. Integrated Recycling Industries, owns and operates the Tovlan waste disposal site, located in the occupied Jordan Valley, which:

- Serves settlements across the West Bank
- However, most of the waste that arrives at the dump originates from Israeli cities outside the occupied territories
- This violates international humanitarian law, which prohibits the use of land and other natural resources in an occupied territory for the civilian purposes of the occupier

**Oaktree Capital Group LLC owns Veritis Environment**, the operator of the Ayalon wastewater treatment facility, which serves several cities and towns in central Israel, including the illegal settlement of Modi'in Illit (one of the largest) and the entire Mate Binyamin Regional Council, which includes illegal settlements in roughly a fifth of the area of the occupied West Bank

- In 2014, Israel decided to expand the capacity of the Ayalon facility, in order to enable the expansion of these settlements.

**Assets:** \$122 billion USD

**Market Cap:** \$6.4 billion USD



# Textron

# TEXTRON

Investment Screening Criteria Met: 1, 5

## Textron:

- Makes Namer APCs for Israel
- Manufactures and provides continued maintenance for the Cobra attack helicopter
- Provides Unmanned Aerial Vehicles for the Israel Defense Forces (IDF).

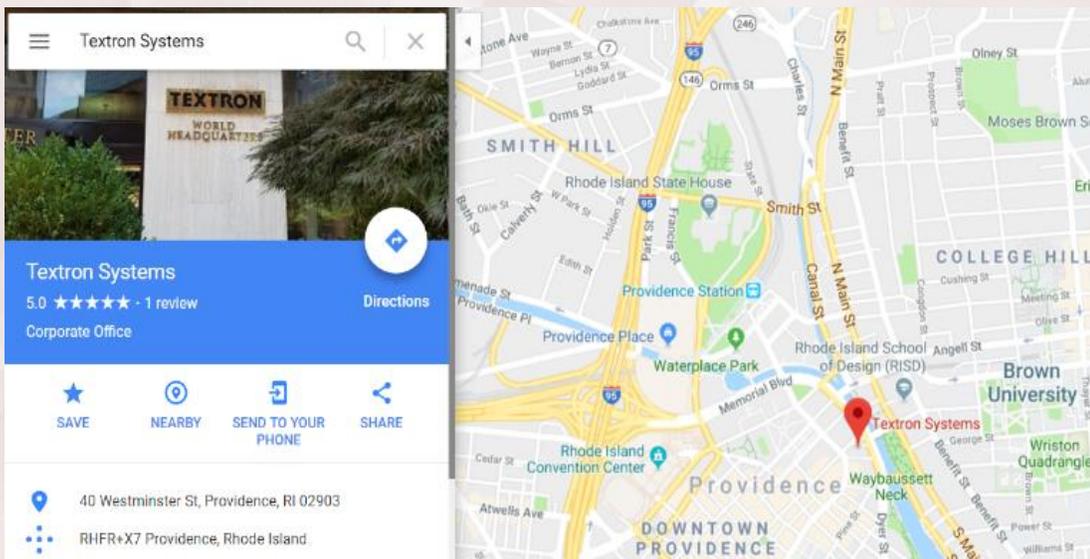
## Textron is headquartered in Providence, Rhode Island

- **Scott C. Donnelly**, the Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Textron is on the advisory committee of the executive master's in science and technology leadership program **here at Brown!**

Revenue: \$13 billion USD

Market Cap: \$14 billion USD

## A FEW BLOCKS AWAY!



# AB Volvo



**Investment Screening Criteria Met:** 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

**AB Volvo is involved in the demolition of Palestinian homes since:**

- Volvo wheel loaders were used to demolish houses in the Palestinian village of Umm al-Khayr
- Volvo track excavators and wheel loaders were also used for house demolitions in the Palestinian neighborhoods of Tzur Baher, Silwan, Wadi Qaddum, Sheikh Jarrah, Beit Hanina and Issawiya in East Jerusalem as well as homes in the city of Lod.

**AB Volvo is involved in settlement activities since:**

- Volvo equipment was used to construct the Har Gilo settlement and the Barkan Industrial Zone
- Volvo trucks were used for the construction of the Huwwara checkpoint, Route 443 (a West Bank road for Israelis only) and the Separation Wall near the Palestinian village of Al-Walaja
- Volvo owns 26.5% of Merkavim, which supplies armored buses to Egged lines, which maintains bus service to/within the settlements
- It provides services to the Israel Prison Service, including buses for the transportation of prisoners
- It supplies maintenance trucks to the Jerusalem Light Rail project, which connects settlements in the Jerusalem area with the city center

**Revenue:** \$107 billion USD

**Market Cap:** \$269 billion USD



# The Safariland Group

## The Safariland Group produces:

- **Tear gas cannisters through its manufacturer “Defense Technology”, which** have been used against protesters in the West Bank, Palestine, Ferguson, and against Central American migrants on the Southwestern border of the US.
- **Flash Bang Grenades**, which are carried by Israeli SWAT

Warren Kanders, the Chairman of the Safariland Group, received a B.A. degree in Economics from Brown University!

- Kanders recently co-organized a Brown exhibit “On Protest, Art, and Activism” to shed light on state-sponsored violence, which is extremely hypocritical.



# Further Resources

Please read the following articles, statements, and books to learn more about human rights violations in Israel-Palestine and divestment.

## History Resources:

- Video: [Israel and Palestine conflict explained](#) by Jewish Voice for Peace
- Resource: [8 Things You Need to Know about Gaza](#) by Jewish Voice for Peace
- Quick Facts: [The Palestinian Nakba](#), Institute for Middle East Understanding
- Article: [The Structural Roots of Israeli Apartheid](#) by Noura Erakat
- Article: [The Nakba, 65 Years of Dispossession and Apartheid](#), Institute for Middle East Understanding
- Article: [Balfour Declaration, 1917](#), Yale Law School
- Historical Document: [The Palestinian Mandate](#), Yale Law School
- Ilan Pappé
  - [The Ethnic Cleansing of Palestine](#)
  - [Ten Myths About Israel](#)
- Edward Said
  - [Orientalism](#) (link for introduction and first chapter)
  - [Blaming the Victims: Spurious Scholarship and the Palestinian Question](#)
- Noam Chomsky and Ilan Pappé
  - [Gaza in Crisis: Reflections on Israel's War Against the Palestinians](#)

## Articles:

- [Time to Break the Silence on Palestine](#) by Michelle Alexander, author of *The New Jim Crow*
- [When I See Them I See Us](#) by Black Palestinian Solidarity (VIDEO)
- Naomi Shihab Nye, [On growing up in Ferguson and Palestine](#)
- [Israel: Water as a tool to dominate Palestinians](#) by Camilla Corradin
- [Anti-Semitism has no place in Palestine Advocacy](#) by Yasmeen Serhan
- [A timeline of Palestinian mass hunger strikes in Israel](#) by Zena Tahhan
- [A Guide to Difficult Conversations About Israel and Palestine](#) by Jewish Voice for Peace
- [JVP Fact Sheet - Hunger Strike by Palestinian Prisoners and Detainees](#)

## Academic Articles:

- Patrick Wolfe, [Settler Colonialism and the Elimination of the Native](#)
- Nur Masalha, [The Palestinian Nakba: Decolonising History, Narrating the Subaltern, Reclaiming Memory](#)
- Leila Farsakh, [The Political Economy of Israeli Occupation: What is Colonial about it?](#)
- Migid Shihade, [Settler Colonialism and Conflict: The Israeli State and its Palestinian Subjects](#)
- David Lloyd, [Settler Colonialism and the State of Exception: The Example of Palestine/Israel](#)
- Chase Madar, [How the US is Bankrolling Israel](#)

