

Dear Colleagues,

Following your letter on Monday, March 4th, 2024, I asked colleagues throughout the university to conduct a further search of our records.

This search has confirmed that the University does not have any active bilateral partnerships with Israeli academic institutions and companies. We are a partner on a Horizon Europe project, VALIDATE, which is investigating the use of AI to assist in the prediction of patient outcomes in acute stroke. We do not coordinate this project; we are one of nine partners, including an Israeli hospital. However, we are unaware of a mechanism that allows one partner in an EU-funded collaborative research project to request that another partner be removed from the consortium on the basis of a political position or action by their government. Given the potential societal benefits of VALIDATE and our university's position that partnership is key to delivering innovative solutions to the world's most difficult challenges, I believe it is correct to continue participating in this project.

In relation to Photonicsys Ltd, they are an equipment supplier, and they do not have institutional-level links with TU Dublin. Our records indicate that one piece of equipment – a Biosensing instrument – was purchased from this company in November 2022. We also found a small number of payments to a company named Elementor, which is best known for developing WordPress websites. As TU Dublin doesn't use WordPress for any official websites, we don't envisage any further business with this company.

I want to reiterate that as President of TU Dublin, I stand in solidarity with all victims of violence and human rights violations. On Monday, 11th of March, [President Michael D Higgins](#) issued a statement about Gaza, and I wholeheartedly agree with his assertion that "*it is vital that every country in the world now does all in its power to ensure that a humanitarian disaster in its most extreme sense is avoided.*"

Nevertheless, a university must provide a safe forum for an open exchange of views, and we must be vigilant in protecting the right to free expression as long as what is conveyed does not breach legislation or university policy. TU Dublin fully supports the right of staff and students to make their voices heard.

Yours sincerely,



Professor David FitzPatrick
President

Seoladh Cláraithe / Registered Address

OT Baile Átha Cliath - Teach na Páirce Ghráinseach Ghormáin
191 An Cuarbhóthar Thuaidh, D07 EWW4, Éire

TU Dublin - Park House Grangegorman
191 North Circular Road, D07 EWW4, Ireland

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D07 EWW4, Éire

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191 North Circular Road
D07 EWW4, Ireland

~ +353 1 402 3000
~ tudublin.ie