



TU Dublin Students' Union  
Bradogue, Grangegorman  
Technological University Dublin  
D07 E3HW

26th February, 2024

Dear David,

Thank you for the prompt response regarding a University stance, and the clarification surrounding institutional-level links with Israeli academic institutions or companies.

However, we have some concerns about some aspects of your response:

**1. 'I can say that I am unaware of any institutional-level links with Israeli academic institutions or companies.'**

According to the responses of an FOI request sent in by the TU Dublin SU, received on the 11th of December 2023, there is evidence of at least one such link. One of the questions posed in the request was for TU Dublin to 'provide a list of Israeli companies that provide any services to TU Dublin, or that TU Dublin has trade with, or investments in.' The response to this was as follows: 'Photonicsys Ltd'. Could you clarify what this relationship is, and if TU Dublin is willing to suspend its ties with this company?

Furthermore, Minister Simon Harris confirmed in a written answer to a Parliamentary Question in Dáil Éireann on 23 January 2024 that Israeli institutions or companies are involved in multiple research projects with Irish Universities or Institutes of Technology under the Horizon Europe Framework Programme for Research and Innovation. One of these research projects includes TU Dublin and the Israeli Hadassah Medical Organisation. We are requesting that you, as President of TU Dublin, now recommend that this Israeli organisation be suspended from this research project until Israel stops committing the crime of apartheid and abides by international law.

**2. Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions (BDS) Policy**

There was no clear agreement as to whether or not TU Dublin would consider adopting such a policy; for example, 'Domino's' is currently on the approved supplier list for TU Dublin, despite being listed on the International BDS boycott list. As such, student funds are being used in a manner that students and staff do not believe is appropriate. Is TU Dublin willing to commit to adopting a BDS Policy and so remove this organisation from its supplier list?

**3. 'My guiding principle is my belief that universities should take the lead in providing a neutral setting to bring all members of society into a conversation.'**

Whilst we understand the value of universities being a neutral setting for engagement by all people in society, we noted your statement on the 22nd March 2022, entitled 'TU Dublin Statement of Support for Ukraine', which included the following:



**Supporting Student Life**

TU Dublin SU Company Limited by Guarantee  
Registered No: 109412  
Registered At: TU Dublin, City Campus, D01 K822.  
Directors: Deiric O'Broin, Brian Jordan, Shauna O'Toole  
Nekesa Khisa Nancy, Ian Kelly, Louise Kavanagh  
Robert Brennan Bell, Annabel Biddulph, Mary Akinlolu  
Samantha Corcoran, Frank Crummey, Maria Hegarty  
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**'TU Dublin strongly condemns the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the escalating conflict that is affecting the citizens of Ukraine and beyond.'**

'The University adds its voice and wholeheartedly supports the demands of the Irish Government, the European Union, and the international community for an urgent, immediate, and peaceful resolution to the conflict, respecting the primacy and sanctity of life and the right for democratic self-determination of Ukraine by its people.'

We believe it to be a reasonable request that you follow suit concerning the systematic genocide being perpetrated by the Israeli military in Gaza and we are hugely disappointed that you have refused to do so.

Furthermore, we draw your attention to the statement issued last week by the President of the University of Galway, a recent statement by staff and students in the UCD College of Art and Humanities, and one from 160 staff and students in the UCD College of Social Sciences and Law.

We urge you to reconsider your decision as it is our firm belief that TU Dublin should be at the forefront of leading the calls in Irish academia for an immediate permanent ceasefire, release of all hostages on both sides, for massive humanitarian aid for Gaza and for advocating for peace, justice, and human rights for Palestinians which they have been denied for decades.

Given the importance and urgency of this issue, we would be happy to meet with you, to air our concerns and to better understand the rationale behind your current stance regarding not issuing a statement. If you agree then please let us know of your availability.

Yours sincerely,

**Brian Jordan**  
*President of TU Dublin SU*

**Janet Mc Kennedy**  
*Chair TUI Dublin Colleges Branch*

**Jim Roche**  
*Vice Chair TUI Dublin Colleges Branch*

**Liam Mc Glynn**  
*TUI Blanchardstown Branch*

**Noel Gorman**  
*TUI Tallaght Branch*



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