

GAZA & UK ARMS SALES TO ISRAEL - FACT SHEET



Dec 2023 v.2

Israel is using UK arms exports in a genocide against the Palestinian people. The UK government is complicit in these crimes not just by supplying these weapons for decades, but by repeatedly inciting Israel to commit war crimes against Palestinian civilians with impunity

Find out the facts below! More details on UK arms exports to Israel including what is made where can be found overleaf. Follow the links/QR code for more background.

Consistent Arms Sales

01

The UK has consistently sold arms to Israel, in spite of its illegal occupation of the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem since 1967

Stealth Combat Aircraft

02

UK industry provides 15% by value of the US-made F35 stealth combat aircraft currently being used in the bombardment of Gaza.

High value business

03

The value of UK parts in F-35s delivered to Israel so far is estimated by Campaign Against Arms Trade to be at least £336m. More info overleaf.

UK Must End Arms Sales

04

The siege, bombardments and forcible transfer of civilians of Gaza are not compliant with international law. UK must end arms sales to Israel.



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Detailed Overview

The F-35 Joint Strike Fighter

15% of the value of every F-35 is made in the UK. BAE Systems is the biggest UK company in the programme, but many other UK companies are also involved. Some of the firms and manufacturing sites for the F35 in the UK are the following:

- **The rear fuselage of every F-35 fighter** is made by **BAE Systems at Samlesbury Aerodrome, Lancashire.**
- The **“active interceptor system”** is made by **BAE Systems in Rochester, Kent.** There is a steady stream of components for F35s and Israel's F16s from this site.
- “Durability testing” for the F35 is undertaken at the BAE structural testing facility in East Yorkshire.
- **Martin-Baker make the ejector seat in the UK;** their headquarters is in **Higher Denham, Buckinghamshire.**
- **L3Harris make weapons release cables** for the F-35 in **Brighton,** including ones that are **specially adapted for Israel's use with their own munitions.**
- **Leonardo make the laser targeting system** for the F35 in **Edinburgh.**
- **Dunlop Aircraft Tyres** make the **aircraft tyres** in **Birmingham**

Munitions made in the UK for Israeli Forces

- **The MLRS M270 rocket launcher** - used inside the Gaza Strip for the first time since 2006 - is made by Lockheed Martin. It is built in Europe by an international consortium of companies from France, Germany, Italy and UK. In Germany, Krauss-Maffei-Wegmann (MKW) has signed an MoU with Elbit subsidiaries to modernise the MLRS.
- **Raytheon makes the Paveway II Guided Missile for Israel in the US. Raytheon also makes the Paveway IV in Glenrothes.** While there are no export licenses for the Paveway IV to Israel from the UK, **they are assembled in the US so the supply chain is unclear. Further, there could be common components made in the UK, and the same multinational company has responsibility.**

Companies with UK arms export licenses to Israel

Various companies have held arms export licenses from the UK to Israel since 2008. Some of the license holders are:

- **Elbit Systems, an Israeli defence company with subsidiaries in the UK and US has had arms export licenses issued from the UK** including for: **military communications components; military communications equipment; military communications equipment software, body armour and military electronic equipment.** The UK subsidiary of the firm has a new R&D facility in Bristol. Although Elbit Systems exports from the UK to Israel, much of its production in the UK is focused around contracts with the British armed forces.
- **The Elbit site in the UK most connected to goods used by the IOF** is run by its subsidiary **Instro Precision Ltd** in **Sandwich, Kent.** Instro Precision Ltd make **targeting equipment for troops and vehicles** and hold export licenses to Israel – **this equipment is likely used in Israel's ground operations.**
- **Teledyne Defence and Space, Shipley, Yorkshire. Teledyne manufacture components for air, land, sea and space radar equipment, including for the F35.** Their defence and space subsidiary has one manufacturing plant in Shipley and has sales representatives (Ormic Components) based in Israel. Since 2018, its parent company Teledyne Technologies has applied for **134 export licenses from the UK to Israel.** NB: we have not yet been able to trace the direct supply chains to Israeli military equipment

Resources and links on UK military production for Israel

<https://caat.org.uk/data/exports-uk/overview?region=Israel>
<https://caat.org.uk/news/statement-on-uk-arms-exports-to-israel/>
<https://caat.org.uk/data/countries/israel/>

