

Bowdoin Solidarity Referendum

On college campuses across the United States, thousands of students are calling on their institutions to confront their complicity in the Israeli government's brutal and ongoing assault on Gaza, which UN experts have characterized as a "[genocide in the making](#)." In solidarity with the Palestinian people and with our peers across the country, we request the following:

1. As students of an institution committed to the pursuit of knowledge and the Common Good, **we implore Bowdoin to take a public, institutional stand against the Israeli government's [ongoing scholasticide](#) in Gaza.** The Israeli government's bombardment and siege of Gaza has killed scores of educators, academics, parents, and students, including [over 13,000 children](#). With [80 percent](#) of school buildings and every [university](#) either severely damaged or destroyed, the infrastructure necessary for learning in Gaza has been obliterated, robbing [over 625,000](#) Gazan students of their right to an education.
2. In 2023, Bowdoin disclosed its investment [exposure to fossil fuel-focused funds](#). In keeping with this precedent and in the spirit of transparency, **we request that Bowdoin disclose its exposure—both direct and indirect—to arms manufacturing across its entire portfolio.**
3. **We request that Bowdoin, in selecting future funds, commit to not investing in defense-focused funds and funds with significant holdings (over 33 percent) in the following corporations,** whose weapons have directly facilitated the mass killing of Palestinians: BAE Systems, Boeing, Elbit Systems, General Dynamics, L3Harris Technologies, Leonardo, Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman, RTX (Raytheon), and ThyssenKrupp.
4. **We ask that the Board of Trustees reinstate an independent committee comprising students, faculty, and staff to oversee social responsibility in the College's investments.** Established in the wake of student activism to end the College's complicity in apartheid in South Africa, [social responsibility committees](#) contributed to Bowdoin's divestment in 1987. In once again establishing a social responsibility committee, we can help ensure that Bowdoin upholds its commitment to the Common Good—in theory and in practice.