

QUICK FACTS :

United Methodists & The HP Boycott

Learn to do good, seek justice, rescue the oppressed, defend the orphan, plead for the widow. Isaiah 1:17

Palestinians line up at 2:00 or 3:00 am to hopefully get through checkpoints in time for work.



THE CHECKPOINTS & THE SEPARATION WALL: HP provides the Basel system, a unique automated access system used for Israel's checkpoints and Separation Wall. There are hundreds of checkpoints and roadblocks in occupied territory, restricting daily access to hospitals, family members, schools, and jobs, making any semblance of a normal life impossible. Most are not for Israeli security; only a handful restrict access to Israel. The great majority imprison and restrict Palestinians within their own territory, a method of controlling the population so they cannot resist the illegal and continually growing colonization of their land.

THE ISRAELI NAVY: HP provides IT technology and services for the Israeli Navy which enforces the blockade of Gaza, the world's largest "open-air prison." As a result, Gazans live in a perpetual humanitarian catastrophe of epic proportions.

The Israeli Navy frequently attacks Gaza fisherman within their own waters.



Why boycott HP products?

To do good, seek justice, and rescue the oppressed: We call on HP companies to stop providing essential technology and services for Israel to maintain a brutal military occupation and apartheid regime over Palestinians. This boycott upholds the principles that Palestinians are entitled to the same rights as the rest of humanity, and Israel must comply with international law. Boycotts are nonviolent and effective actions that enable all of us to address injustice when governments and institutions fail to act.

THE SETTLEMENTS: The Israeli settlements that are illegally colonizing occupied Palestinian territory are the root cause that leads to all the subsequent human rights violations of the occupation. HP companies provide IT services and equipment to these illegal settlements on stolen land.

The Separation Wall surrounds and imprisons Bethlehem. The International Court of Justice has ruled it illegal.



"I was really not prepared for all the horrors that I saw. I had heard about checkpoints. And I thought a checkpoint was something like a tollbooth on a highway here in the United States. It's not like that at all. And it's gotten worse every time I return. The way they are now, they remind me of when animals are rounded up and taken to slaughter, it's just so humiliating."



Hedy Epstein
Holocaust survivor & human rights advocate

Where does the UMC stand?

The UMC has opposed the Israeli occupation since the 1980's. In 2012, the UMC called for a global ban (boycott) of products from Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories. In 2014, the United Methodist Pension Board divested from G4S, a British security company, and in 2016, the board banned investments in five Israeli banks and one more Israeli business; all those actions were due to those companies' human rights violations in Israel/Palestine.

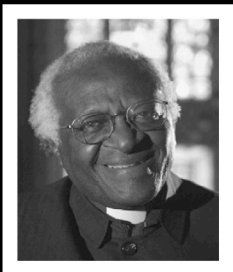
They are speaking to us. Will we listen?



The Kairos Palestine Document is Palestinian Christians' profound statement of faith and urgent call to action, signed by thousands of Palestinian Christians & endorsed by all the Heads and Patriarchs of Churches in Jerusalem.

"Our question to our brothers and sisters in the Churches today is: **Are you able to help us get our freedom back?** For this is the only way you can help the two peoples attain justice, peace, security and love."

Speaking of boycott and divestment: "These advocacy campaigns must be carried out with courage, openly and sincerely proclaiming that their object is not revenge but rather to put an end to the existing evil, liberating both the perpetrators and the victims of injustice...In this spirit and with this dedication we will eventually reach the longed-for resolution to our problems, as indeed happened in South Africa and with many other liberation movements in the world."



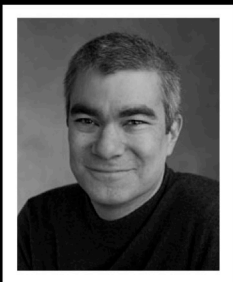
Archbishop Desmond Tutu Nobel Peace Prize Laureate

"I have been to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and I have witnessed the racially segregated roads and housing that reminded me so much of the conditions we experienced in South Africa under the racist system of Apartheid....

in South Africa, we could not have achieved our freedom and just peace without the help of people around the world...through the use of nonviolent means such as boycotts and divestment."

"It is becoming more and more clear that responsibility for brokering a sustainable solution to the crisis in the Holy Land rests with civil society...."

Rabbi Brant Rosen, Jewish Voice for Peace Rabbinical Council



"When will we find the wherewithal to say out loud that this policy of home demolitions, checkpoints, evictions, increased Jewish settlements, and land expropriations is inhumane and indefensible? At the very least, will we be ready to put our money where our moral conscience is?"

What can we do?

1. If you have an HP device, put a sticker on it: "This is my last HP." **See our website:** www.KairosResponse.org

2. Talk to your church leaders about becoming an HP-FREE CHURCH, a campaign initiated by the ecumenical group FOSNA: Friends of Sabeel North America. Both UMKR & FOSNA can help you do that. We have resources and possibly speakers to help you communicate the good reasons to become HP-free. **Email us:** info@kairosresponse.org

1. Don't buy HP products & sign the International pledge **at our website.**

3. Use resources from **our website** to inform store managers and educate others about the boycott.



www.fosna.org

Can this have an impact?

Yes! Numerous companies that were the focus of boycott and divestment campaigns **have withdrawn from contracts or operations that supported the Israeli occupation**, including: G4S, a British security firm and 3rd largest private employer in the world, and Veolia, a French multinational corporation in energy, transportation, water management, and sanitation.

International & Interfaith Support

The HP boycott International Week of Action in Nov-Dec 2016 saw over 150 actions in 101 cities in 30 countries on 6 continents. Christian bodies that have decided to divest HP stock include: The Presbyterian Church (USA), The United Church of Christ, Friends Fiduciary Corporation (Quakers), and several United Methodist annual conferences. Boycott and divestment campaigns for Palestinian human rights have global support from government bodies, financial institutions, many Israeli organizations and dozens of Christian denominations and Jewish organizations in the US, Europe, Africa, Australia and South America. See the lists at kairosresponse.org



KairosResponse.org

United Methodists for Kairos Response (UMKR) is an international grassroots peace movement responding to Palestinian Christians' urgent call, in *Kairos Palestine: A Moment of Truth*, for effective action to end

the Israeli occupation and achieve a just peace in the Holy Land. UMKR seeks – through nonviolent action and in partnership with our Palestinian sisters and brothers in Christ – freedom, justice and equality for all Palestinians and Israelis.

Get connected!

One More Thing To Do ↗

At our website, **SIGN UP** for UMKR monthly news to hear what is happening with this boycott and other UM advocacy for justice & peace in the Holy Land.



UMKR May 2017