



**Associated Students
of Madison**

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

ASM Student Council, 23rd Session
Legislation 23-0426-03

Title: Resolution for Divestment from Private Prisons, Fossil Fuel Corporations, Border Walls, and Arms Manufacturers

Sponsored by: Chair Morrison, Chair Gosey, Chair Arain, Representative Burdett, Representative Judge-Lord, Representative Mack

1 **WHEREAS**, systems of oppression that target Black, Brown, and Indigenous lives are enabled through
2 corporations engaged in human rights abuses.

3
4 **WHEREAS**, 36.29(1), Wis. Stats., states that “all investments ‘...made in any company, corporation,
5 subsidiary, or affiliate that practices or condones through its actions discrimination on the basis of race,
6 religion, color, creed or sex. . . .’ shall be divested in as prudent but rapid a manner as possible.”

7
8 **WHEREAS**, there is a concerning lack of accessible information on the UW Foundation’s \$3.1 billion
9 investment portfolio.

10
11 **WHEREAS**, University of Wisconsin-Madison students lack access to information on what corporations
12 the University is invested in, and should have input regarding what corporations their University supports.

13
14 **WHEREAS**, the Code of Conduct of the University of Wisconsin states that “[r]espect for human dignity
15 is essential to the university environment. The UW Colleges affirms its commitment to promoting the
16 ideal that faculty, staff, students, and guests are free to engage in academic expression and debate, and to
17 pursue their social and private lives in our communities, unthreatened by discrimination or harassment.
18 All who come to the UW Colleges to work and to study will be accepted and judged as individuals;
19 discrimination, disruption, or harassment on the basis of race, sex, religion, color, creed, disability, sexual
20 orientation, gender, national origin, ancestry, or age will not be tolerated.”¹

21
22 **WHEREAS**, the UW Foundation provides, “opportunities to enhance its learning, research and outreach
23 programs and guarantees ethical stewardship of gifts received.”²

24
25 **WHEREAS**, there are numerous companies actively engaged in human rights violations across the world.

26
27 **WHEREAS**, this resolution aims neither to condemn a country, a people, nor a community nor to
28 determine a political solution, but is solely aimed at ending our University’s support of corporations that
29 profit from human rights violations.

30
31 **WHEREAS**, US trade and foreign policy, with an emphasis on NAFTA, has intentionally destabilized the
32 political and economic climates of Latin American nations, causing the desire for migration to the United
33 States. ⁶

34

¹ http://uwc.edu/sites/uwc.edu/files/imce-uploads/students/handbook-policies/_files/handbookfinal.pdf

² <https://www.supportuw.org/about-us/vision-mission-values>



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Walls, and Arms Manufacturers**

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Representative Judge-Lord, Representative Mack**

1 **WHEREAS**, the hateful and racist rhetoric used by Donald Trump to garner support for the proposed US-
2 Mexico border wall correlates with a significant rise in reported hate crimes against several marginalized
3 groups, including but not limited to the Latinx, Black, Muslim, Indigenous, and Jewish communities.
4

5 **WHEREAS**, the proposed US-Mexico border wall will decrease the migration of the more than seventy
6 percent of agricultural workers who are undocumented⁷, and will cause untold devastation to US food
7 production and supply⁸.
8

9 **WHEREAS, Granite Construction, Tetra Tech, Sundt⁹, and Elbit Systems¹⁰**
10 have built previous segments of the border wall between the US and Mexico through Indigenous lands.
11

12 ~~Therefore, be it resolved, that the Associated Students of Madison~~ **Bylaws be amended as follows:**

13
14 **WHEREAS**, the policies of mass incarceration have disproportionately affected Black, Brown, and
15 Indigenous bodies,
16

17 **WHEREAS, CoreCivic and GEO Group**, account for 85% of the private prison beds in the United
18 States and their largest consumer is the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Agency,
19

20 **WHEREAS, G4S** provides transportation for US Customs and Border Protection along the US-Mexican
21 Border and is actively involved in the detention of immigrants in the United States and Europe
22

23 **WHEREAS**, Fossil Fuel corporations routinely engage in resource extraction from indigenous lands
24 without the consent of impacted Indigenous Nations and which affects or destroys their ways of life,
25 spiritual being, or physical self.
26

27 **WHEREAS**, this includes the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline by **Energy Transfer**
28 **Partners** which is destroying sacred burial sites of the Sioux Nation and putting at risk the sacred, life-
29 giving waters of the Missouri River.
30

31 **WHEREAS**, this includes Canadian **Aquila Resources** which is planning to build an open-pit mine in
32 northern Wisconsin against the voices of the Menominee Nation.
33

34 6: <http://cepr.net/documents/nafta-20-years-2014-02.pdf>

35 7: Andrew Wainer (December 2011), "Farm Workers and immigration Policy," Briefing Paper 12, Bread for the World Institute.

36 8: Dwi Susanto, et al. (2010), "Immigration policy, foreign agricultural labor, and exit intentions in the United States dairy industry," Journal of
37 Dairy Science (93).

38 9: <https://www.thestreet.com/story/13945461/1/these-stocks-could-soar-with-trump-s-mexico-wall-regardless-of-who-pays-for-it.html>

39 10: <https://www.thenation.com/article/why-israeli-defense-contractor-building-virtual-wall-arizona-desert/>

40
41 **Banks that Finance Corporate Human Rights Abuse**



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WHEREAS, the Standing Rock Sioux have called for divestment from banks funding the Dakota Access Pipeline, including but not limited to **Citibank, SunTrust, TD Securities, Deutsche Bank, and Wells Fargo**.

US-Bank and Wells Fargo have engaged in discriminatory lending practices that contribute to evictions, housing insecurity, and wealth inequality in low-income and minority communities, and **JPMorgan-Chase** has engaged in discriminatory promotion practices

WHEREAS, these private prison corporations “depend on the debt financing in the form of credit, loans, and bonds to conduct their day-to-day business and acquire smaller companies.” These smaller companies include those that provide residential re-entry and electronic monitoring services, that will enable GEO Group and CoreCivic to continue to benefit from the latest profit-maximizing moves in mass incarceration: house arrest.

WHEREAS, **Bank of America, JP Morgan Chase, BNP Paribas, Suntrust, US Bank Corp, Wells Fargo and Deutsche Bank** all have been shown to play a major role in the financing of these private prison companies and thus are responsible for the enabling mass incarceration and the criminalization of immigration.

WHEREAS, Lockheed Martin, Raytheon, General Dynamics, and Northrop Grumman, Honeywell, Textron, Huntington Ingalls, L-3 Communications, United Technologies Corporations, General Dynamics, and Boeing, which represent some of the largest arms manufacturers in the United States, profit from the destruction of Black, Brown, and Indigenous Lives. This includes, but is not limited to, those lives in Palestine who continue to suffer under Israeli military occupation supported by a United States \$38 billion dollar military aid package which is used to purchase equipment from these arms manufacturers. It includes lives in Egypt, Syria, Yemen, and Latin America who suffer from violence enabled by these arms manufacturers.

WHEREAS, the US Department of Defense’s 1033 Program, which allows the transfer of military equipment to civilian law enforcement agencies, has caused “American policing to become unnecessarily and dangerously militarized.” Moreover, these military arsenals are used to perpetuate a War on Drugs that destroys Black and Brown communities through mass incarceration and extrajudicial police killings.

WHEREAS, Israeli police and military train US police departments and Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents in military police control tactics in response to civilian protests. These tactics have actively contributed to the militarization of police forces and the subsequent extrajudicial killings of Black and Brown bodies at the hands of these police forces.



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- 1 ^[1] <http://investigate.afsc.org/company/lockheed-martin>
- 2 ^[2] <http://investigate.afsc.org/company/raytheon-company>
- 3 ^[3] [http://www.businessinsider.com/the-top-9-biggest-defense-contractors-in-america-2016-5/#4-general-](http://www.businessinsider.com/the-top-9-biggest-defense-contractors-in-america-2016-5/#4-general-dynamics-corporation-4)
- 4 [dynamics-corporation-4](http://www.businessinsider.com/the-top-9-biggest-defense-contractors-in-america-2016-5/#4-general-dynamics-corporation-4)
- 5 ^[4] <http://www.cnn.com/2015/11/11/politics/us-foreign-aid-report/>
- 6 ^[5] [http://www.veteranstopday.com/2015/12/15/syria-finds-further-proof-of-turkey-raytheon-corporation-](http://www.veteranstopday.com/2015/12/15/syria-finds-further-proof-of-turkey-raytheon-corporation-arms-aid-to-terrorists/)
- 7 [arms-aid-to-terrorists/](http://www.veteranstopday.com/2015/12/15/syria-finds-further-proof-of-turkey-raytheon-corporation-arms-aid-to-terrorists/)
- 8 ^[6] <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-saudi-arabia-yemen-exclusive-idUSKBN1421UK>
- 9 ^[7] <https://nacla.org/article/supplying-latin-american-military>
- 10 ^[8] <https://www.aclu.org/sites/default/files/assets/jus14-warcomeshome-report-web-rel1.pdf>
- 11 ^[9] <http://www.ebony.com/news-views/the-ferguson-palestine-connection-403#axzz3hxNNSILi>
- 12

The Associated Students of Madison acting in Student Council do enact as follows:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, Be it resolved that the Associated Students of Madison requests that UW administration takes tangible steps towards ensuring UW Foundation’s investments are made public to ensure transparency between students, staff, alumni, and administration, and their financial dealings with university funds.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Be it resolved that the Associated Students of Madison calls for the UW Foundation to divest from **Private Prisons, Fossil Fuel Corporations, Corporations that build Border Walls, and Arms Manufactures, and the aforementioned banks.**

AQUILA FOOTNOTE: <http://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/wisconsin/2016/09/19/michigan-mine-prompts-scrutiny/90522306/>

ENERGY TRANSFER PARTNERS FOOTNOTE: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-37863955>

http://www.hamiltonproject.org/assets/files/private_prisons_technical_appendix.pdf

https://web.archive.org/web/20100308105335/http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/newsroom/news_releases/archives/2007_news_releases/102007/10042007_2.xml

Date introduced:

Date acted upon:

Disposition:



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- 1 Secretary:
- 2
- 3 Chair:
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