

Wadham College MCR wholeheartedly supports the liberated encampment zone in solidarity with Gaza established by *Oxford Action for Palestine*. We stand in solidarity with the movement in their struggle to end the University of Oxford's complicity in Israel's genocide, settler colonialism, and apartheid.

Echoing the recently published Wadham SU [statement](#) in solidarity with Palestine and the *Oxford Action for Palestine's* demands, we call on the university as well as Wadham College to immediately comply with the demands of the Oxford Action for Palestine and Wadham SU. We express our severe disappointment at the University neither directly addressing the demands of the encampment nor making any attempts to start negotiations. We call on the University of Oxford and Wadham College to urgently start negotiations and to do so without any escalations against University members.

The University of Oxford receives millions of pounds from defense companies linked to arming Israel. Over the past 5 years, the University has [received](#) approximately £17 million, and from 2013-2021 the University [received](#) almost £20 million. Both the University and Wadham College maintain financial ties with Barclays Bank, a bank which [holds](#) £2 billion in shares, and provides £9.1 billion in loans and underwriting to 9 companies who are contributing to the genocide of Palestinians through weapons, components, and military technology. In addition to other financial ties, the college also [partners](#) with the bank for its 'Access to Banking Program'. We commend the program as an excellent initiative for non-selective state schooled students. However, we are alarmed specifically by the funding Wadham College receives from Barclays. We call on our college to immediately and actively look for a different funding entity to support this much needed program, so that the college can move towards completely discontinuing their association with Barclays. Neither the university nor the college has provided us with the financial transparency required to understand the extent of such investments.

The *Oxford Action for Palestine's* liberated encampment zone, established on the 6th of May outside the Natural History Museum, should be interpreted as "a [public-facing global education project](#)" and a representation of freedom of expression and protest. We call on the University's leadership to treat this political expression as the opportunity for dialogue that it is. We condemn the university's and the college's complicity, and, as students, we will continue to hold them accountable. We also call on members of our community to support the encampment to whichever extent they can, and to continue to insist that the University comply with *Oxford Action for Palestine's* demands.

Further elaboration and clarification on these demands can be found on Oxford Action for Palestine's Instagram profile, [@oxact4pal](#) and Wadham SU's instagram, [@wadhamsu](#)