

Maire Geoghegan-Quin
EU Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science
Brussels

10, July 2012

Dear Maire Geoghegan-Quin

European Union research programs have become a key mechanism for the funding of research and the exchange of knowledge. However, the participation in these programs of private Israeli companies actively engaged in violating international law seriously undermines both the reputation of these programs and the stated goals of the European Union and its member states.

Ahava DSL is a private Israeli cosmetics company based in and partially owned by the council of an illegal Israeli settlement in occupied Palestinian territory. Through its participation in the EU's Seventh Framework Program (FP7), Ahava DSL has been awarded €1.08m of EU research funding since 2008.ⁱ Despite the concerns raised by MEPs and civil society, and assurances to the media that it would address the issue of Ahava's participation, the European Commission has just allowed Ahava DSL to engage in a new project consortium that it is funding to the tune of €3.49m.ⁱⁱ

Two other participants in FP7 projects, Elbit Systems and Israeli Aerospace Industries, play an active role in the construction and maintenance of Israel's Wall, ruled illegal by the International Court of Justice in 2004.ⁱⁱⁱ

Article 3 of the Treaty on European Union obliges the EU to uphold human rights and to strictly observe and support the development of international law in all of its external relations.

By allowing companies that actively participate in and aid and assist with serious breaches of international law and maintain that such actions are legal to participate in FP7 projects, the EU is entrusting resources to companies that cannot be relied upon to use them in a manner in accordance with the EU's own legal obligations.

Academics and institutions that participate in EU research programs depend on the good judgement of the European Commission. In listing companies such as Ahava DSL and Elbit Systems on its list of approved research partners, the EU is recommending companies engaged in violations of international law as suitable research, exposing academics and institutions to reputational and economic risks.

As advocates of a just peace between Israel and the Palestinians based on international law,

Please reply to: BRICUP, BM BRICUP, London WC1N3XX

email: bricup@bricup.org.uk
www.bricup.org.uk

we call upon the European Commission to exclude such companies and institutions from receiving EU funding and to introduce new legislation that would prevent them from doing so. Violations of international law and universal human rights will surely continue for at least as long as institutions such as the EU provide funding to those that perpetrate them.

Yours sincerely,

Nils Aarsæther, University of Tromsø, Norway

Paul Aarts, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands

Ahmed Abbes, CNRS, France

Zohair Abu Shaban, University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg

Gilbert Achcar, School of Oriental and African Studies, UK

Daniel Adam, Philosopher, France

Nadje Al-Ali, School of Oriental and African Studies, UK

Mateo Alaluf, Belgium

Blake Alcott, UK

Lori Allen, University of Cambridge, UK

Vanja Alling, Norwegian Geotechnical Institute, Oslo, Norway

Ann-Kristin Alseth, Norway

Carlo Amirante, Università Federico II Napoli, Italy

Giuseppe Antonio Di Marco, Storia della filosofia, Italy

Giuseppe Aragno, Università "Federico II" di Napoli, Italy

Efrén Areskurrinaga, University of the Basque Country, Basque Country

Jon Arrizabalaga, IMF-CSIC, Spain

Dina Bacalexi, CNRS, France

Mona Baker, University of Manchester, UK

Andrea Balduzzi, Università degli Studi di Genova, Italy

Etienne Balibar, Université de Paris-Ouest, France

Franca Balsamo, University of Turin, Italy

Angelo Baracca, University of Florence, Italy

Javier Barreda Sureda, Universidad de Alicante, Spain

Isaías Barreñada, Faculty of Political Science and Sociology, Spain

Aitor Bengoetxea, University of the Basque Country, Basque Country

Rudolf Bkourche, Université Lille 1, France

Sue Blackwell, Language Consultancy Desk, UK

Gianfranco Borrelli, Storia delle dottrine politiche, Italy

Jean-Pierre Boudine, France

Glenn Bowman, University of Kent, UK

Bill Bowring, Birkbeck, University of London, UK

Robert Boyce, London School of Economics and Political Science, UK

Marco Bozzo, Università degli Studi di Genova, Italy

Vincenzo Brandi, Agency for New Technologies, Italy

Bob Brecher, University of Brighton, UK

Daniela Bredi, Università La Sapienza di Roma, Italy

Haim Bresheeth, University of East London, UK

Renato Briganti, Università Federico II Napoli, Italy

Christopher Burns-Cox, Emeritus Consultant Physician, UK

Ray Bush, University of Leeds, UK

Irene Calis, London School of Economics and Political Science, UK

Arantza Campos, University of the Basque Country, Basque Country

Diana Carminati, University of Turin, Italy

Marina Carter, University of Edinburgh, UK

James Carr, University of Limerick, Ireland

Kathleen Cavanaugh, Irish Centre for Human Rights, Ireland

Iain Chambers, Università Napoli 'L'Orientale', Italy

Christiane Charretton, France

Rachel Cohen, University of Surrey, UK

Peter Collins, St. Mary's University College Belfast, UK

Francesco Cornacchia, Università "Aldo Moro" di Bari, Italy

Amedeo Cottino, University of Turin, Italy

Lidia Curti, Università di Napoli 'L'Orientale', Italy

Mike Cushman, London School of Economics and Political Science, UK

Lise Dalby, Sør Trøndelag University College, Norway

Simone D'Alessandro, University of Pisa, Italy

Dr Marc David, Universiteit Antwerpen, Belgium

Eric David, Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium

Sonia Dayan-Herzbrun, Université de Paris-7, France

Marc de Broe, Universiteit Antwerpen, Belgium

Lieven De Cauter, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium

Herman De Ley, Universiteit Gent, Belgium

Olivier De Schutter, Centre de Philosophie du Droit, Belgium

Patrick Deboosere, Department of Sociology, Belgium

Pascal Debruyne, Univerisiteit Gent, Belgium

Adele Del Guercio, Università degli Studi di Napoli "L'Orientale", Italy

Dominique Delande, CNRS, France

Federico Della Valle, University of Trieste, Italy

Claude Denisse, Agro Paris-Tech, France

Maria d'Erme, Department of Biochemical Sciences, Italy

Karel Dobbelaere, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven en Universiteit Antwerpen, Belgium

Andrea Domenici, University of Pisa, Italy

Lars Drake, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Sweden

Alfonso Dubois, University of the Basque Country, Basque Country

John Dugard, Leiden University, Netherlands

Hans Ebbing, University of Bergen, Norway

Bertil Egerö, Lund University, Sweden

Ivar Ekeland, former President of Université Paris-Dauphine, France

Lars Ekstrand, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany

Zohair EL Gharras, Université de Rouen, France

Ingunn Elstad, University of Tromsø, Norway

Nina Emaus, University of Tromsø, Norway

Jan Engelen, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium, Belgium

Palle Erben Jørgensen, Sør Trøndelag University College, Norway

Rafael Escudero, Carlos III University of Madrid, Spain

Luc Everley, Agro Paris-Tech, France

Giuseppi Ferraro, Università di Napoli Federico II, Italy

Gaetano Fiore, Università "Federico II" di Napoli, France

Peter Fletcher, Keele University, UK

Dagfinn Føllesdal, University of Oslo, Norway

Lars Forsberg, Karolinska Institutet, Sweden

Giorgio Forti, Université de Milan, Italy

Benjamin Fortna, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, UK

Marie-Paule Fristot, Enseignante, France

Philippe Fritsch, Enseignant, France

Sancia Gaetani, Istituto Naz Ricerca Alimenti e Nutrizione , Italy

Claire Gallen, Université Montpellier 3, France

Philip Gilligan, University of Bradford, UK

Luz Gomez García, Universidad Autonoma de Madrid, Spain

Marcial Gondar Portosany, Universida de de Santiago de Compostela, Spain

Luc Goossens, ImaMS, Belgium

Hector Grad, Universidad Autonoma de Madrid, Sweden

Michel Gros, Université Rennes 1, France

Alain Guénoche, CNRS, France

Luis Guridi, University of the Basque Country, Basque Country

Jan-Erik Gustafsson, KTH, Sweden

Jeff Handmaker, Human Rights and Development, Netherlands

Barbara Harrell-Bond, University of Oxford, UK

Michael Harris, Université Paris 7, France

Laia Haurie, Université Polytechnique de Catalogne, France

Odile Helier, France

Kirsti Henriksen, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Tromsø, Norway

Aitor Hernández, Public Policies and Government Institute (IGOP), Spain

Juan Hernández, University of the Basque Country, Basque Country

Luisa Hirschbein, CNRS, France

Dr Aggie Hirst, University of Leeds, UK

Goretti Horgan, University of Ulster, UK

Richard Hudson, University College London, UK

Oddmar Iversen, Sør Trøndelag University College, Norway

Ferran Izquierdo, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain

Omar Jabary Salamanca, Ghent University, Belgium

Gunnar Jacks, KTH, Sweden

Nicole Kahn, France

Ghada Karmi, Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies, UK

Mehrnaz Katouzian-Safadi, CNRS, France

Adah Kay, The City University, London, UK

Paul Keleman, University of Manchester, UK

Dr Brian Kelly, Queen's University Belfast, UK

Laleh Khalili, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, UK

David W. Kidner, Nottingham Trent University, UK

Annette Klepzig, Heidelberg University, Federal Republic of Germany

Hélène Korb, France

Dennis Kortheuer, California State University, Long Beach, USA

Thierry Labica, Université de Nanterre, France

Mertxe Larrañaga, University of the Basque Country, Basque Country

Eider Larrazabal, University of the Basque Country, Basque Country

Delphine Lautier, Université Paris-Dauphine, France

Zoë Lawlor, University of Limerick, Ireland

Béatrice Le Prioux, France

Les Levidow, Open University, UK

Morten Levin, Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Norway

Malcolm Levitt, University of Southampton and Friend of the Royal Society, UK

Jean-Marc Levy-Leblond, Université de Nice, France

Matthias Lievens, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium

Ramón Lopez-Suevoz Fernández, Universidad Santiago de Compostela – Galizia, Spain

Yosefa Loshitzky, University of East London, UK

Domenico Losurdo, Università di Urbino, Italy

Fred Louckx, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium

Michael Loughlin, Manchester Metropolitan University, UK

Peder M. Lysestøl, Sør Trøndelag University College, Norway

Moshé Machover, Kings College London, UK

Mauro Maggi, Istituto Italiano di Studi Orientali, Belgium

Paola Manduca, DISTAV, Italy

Raphael Manlay, Agro Paris-Tech, France

Zesar Martínez, University of the Basque Country, Basque Country

Dina Matar, School of Oriental and African Studies, UK

Chantal Meloni, Università degli Studi di Milano, Italy

Alessandra Mezzadri, School of Oriental and African Studies, UK

Tariq Modood, Briston University, UK

Siri Moe, University of Tromsø, Norway

José Luis Moraguès, Montpellier UM3, France

Jacques Moriau, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium

Sergio Morra, Università degli Studi di Genova, Italy

Jean-Hugues Morneau, Université Joseph Fourier, France

Javier Moya García, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Spain

Martha Mundy, London School of Economics and Political Science, UK

Stefano Nanni, Università di Bologna Alma Mater Studiorum, Italy

Mica Nava, University of East London, UK

Ketil Normann, University of Tromsø, Norway

Dr Ouali Nouria, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium

Francesca Odone, Università degli Studi di Genova, Italy

Joseph Oesterlé, Université Paris 6, France

Josiane Olf-Nathan, France

Perrine Olf-Rastegar, France

Umberto Oreste, Istituto di Biochimica delle Proteine CNR, Italy

Paola Orsatti, Università La Sapienza di Roma, Italy

David Pegg, University of York, UK

Carmen Perez Gonzalez, Carlos III University of Madrid, Spain

Guy Perrier, Université de Lorraine, France

Antonello Petrillo, Università degli Studi S.O. Benincasa, Italy

Elisabeth Picard, CNRS, France

Eva Pisano, Università degli Studi di Genova, Italy

Rossana Platone, Università degli studi di Milano, Italy

Nicola Pratt, University of Warwick, UK

M.A. Qavi, UK

Naomi Ramírez Diaz, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Spain

Shalini Randeria, University of Zurich, Switzerland

Rupert Read, University of East Anglia, UK

Matthias Reichl, Begegnungszentrum fuer active Gewaltlosigkeit, Austria

Luc Reyhler, International Relations and European Policy, Belgium

Hermann Riess, Electro Riess Company, Austria

Valentina Ripa, Università degli Studi di Bari Aldo Moro, Italy

Frank Roels, Ghent University, Belgium

Caroline Rooney, University of Kent, UK

Hilary Rose, Gresham College London, UK

Steven Rose, The Open University, UK

Jonathan Rosenhead, London School of Economics and Political Science, UK

Henri Rossi, France

Giampiero Ruani, Institute of Nanostructured Materials (CNR-ISMN), Italy

Marina Rui, Università degli Studi di Genova, Italy

Pierre Scharpira, Université Paris 6, France

Andrea Schenone, Università degli Studi di Genova, Italy

Christiane Schomblond, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium

Lionel Schwartz, Université Paris 13, France

Richard Seaford, University of Exeter, UK

Ur Shlonsky, University of Geneva, Switzerland

Ludi Simpson, University of Manchester, UK

Subir Sinha, School of African and Oriental Studies, UK

Tore Sivertsen, Norwegian School of Veterinary Science, Norway

Knut Skjærvold, Sør Trøndelag University College, Norway

Eystein Skjerve, Norwegian School of Veterinary Science, Norway

Hilary Smith, Bradford University, UK

Elvira Souto, Universidad Santiago de Compostela – Galizia, Spain

Richard Stainton, UK

Eric Steegmans, Departement Computerwetenschappen, Belgium

Angelo Stefanini MD, Centre for International Health, Italy

Alexis Tadié, Université Paris 7, France

Rabah Tahraoui, Université de Rouen, France

Carlos Taibo, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Spain

Aina Tarabini, Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain

James Tarlton, University of Oxford, UK

Ruth Tenne, H.M. Civil Service, UK

Tiziana Terranova, Università degli Studi di Napoli 'L'Orientale', Italy

Erika Torres Terrazas, Universidad Autonoma de Madrid,

Gérard Toulouse, Académie des Sciences, France

Julian Townshend, Manchester Metropolitan University, UK

Vincenzo Tradardi, Università di Parma, Italy

Dick Urban Vestbro, School of Architecture and the Built Environment, Sweden

Arantza Urkaregi, University of the Basque Country, Basque Country

Gie van den Berghe, Universiteit Gent, Belgium

Bernard Vandebunder, CNRS, France

Christian Vandermotten, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium

Gianni Vattimo, University of Turin, Italy

Agustin Velloso, Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia – UNED, Spain

Dominique Ventre, Telecom-Paris Tech, France

Gerd von der Lippe, Telemark University College, Norway

Liliane Voyé, Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium

Sean Wallis, University College London, UK

Dror Warschawski, CNRS, France

Peter Waterman, Institute of Social Studies, Netherlands

Robert Wintemute, Kings College London, UK

Patrick Wolfe, La Trobe University, Australia

Hathem Zaag, CNRS, France

Patxi Zabalo, University of the Basque Country, Basque Country

Karim Zahidi, Universiteit Antwerpen, Belgium

Carl Zaisser, Austria

Federico Zanetti, Università di Perugia, Italy

Marco Zannetti, Università di Salerno, Italy

Dubravka Zarkov, Erasmus University Rotterdam, Netherlands

Liesbeth Zegveld, Netherlands

Ettore Zerbino MD, Roma, Italy

Slavoj Zizek, Philosopher, France

And from outside Europe

Anthony Tirado Chase, Occidental College, LA, US

Antony Davies, Zambia School of Medicine, Zambia

Sondra Hale, University of California, Los Angeles, USA

Charles Harb, American University of Beirut, Lebanon

Samuel Noumoff, McGill University, Canada

Rosemary Sayigh, American University of Beirut, Lebanon

Kamalain Sha'ath, The Islamic University - Gaza, Gaza

②

i

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getAllAnswers.do?reference=P-2011-006190&language=EN>
http://cordis.europa.eu/fetch?CALLER=FP7_PROJ_EN&QZ_WEBSRCH=ahava&QM_PJA=&USR_SORT=EN_QVD+CHAR+DESC

ii

http://cordis.europa.eu/projects/rcn/103074_en.html

2

iii

http://ec.europa.eu/research/horizon2020/pdf/contributions/post/palestinian_territory/stop_the_wall_campaign.pdf