

Palestine Solidarity Roadmap

In 2024, University College Cork agreed a series of commitments as part of its Palestine Solidarity Response. This document presents an update on the implementation of these actions. While some are discrete, many have wider relevance beyond the specific context and the learning from this process is being taken into account as part of the University's global engagement activity.

Actions On Track

Palestine Roadmap - Actions on Track (including completion dates and updates)				
#	Action	Progress	Completion By/Further Update	Status
	1. Partnerships			
1	Establish a Group, including student members, to develop a new ethical/human rights framework for all University partnerships and activity.	1. Consultation and horizon scanning undertaken. 2. Liaison with other HEIs complete 3. Terms of Reference approved and members invited. 4. Meeting schedule being established. 5. Presentations to the Group throughout 2025 from a wide range of perspectives; inputs analysed. 6. Meetings with Leiden, Malmo and Ghent to explore their approaches. Irish Universities consulted. 7. UCC consultation throughout Summer and Autumn 2025 with the draft Framework presented at Academic Board, Academic Council Research Committee, Global Engagement Committee, ULT and Academic Council. Met with SU to discuss. 8. Feedback from all groups taken into account. 9. Academic Council approved the Framework to go into pilot on 14 November 2025.	Checklist being finalised Resources being prepared to support capacity building and staff training. Expected to go live from 1 January 2026	On Track

6	Initiate revision of research integrity protocol to support ethical decision-making in all individual research, consultancy and industry activity.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Protocol revised, following discussion at the P&I Working Group, and other standing university bodies on research and as part of Research Security Framework. 2. Meetings taken place to align work on research integrity with the ethics and human rights framework. 3. Enhanced training and information for staff developed/available. 4. Document considered at Academic Council Research and Innovation Committee in March 2025. 5. Consultation and preparation for roll out underway. 	<p>Work completed by the Office of Vice President Research and Innovation, incorporated into the checklist for research grant approval.</p> <p>Training underway.</p> <p>Protocol being rolled out in January 2026.</p>	On track
14	Add social impact, including human rights violations, to new procurement tenders.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Legal advice received on the legality of this approach which suggests complexity. 2. Considered as part of the Ethics and Human Rights Framework Working Group. 3. Being rolled out with the Human Rights Framework so that those tendering for services will be required to respond to the Human Rights Framework. 	<p>This will be incorporated into work ongoing regarding ESG commitments.</p> <p>Will be kept under review.</p>	On track

Palestine Solidarity Roadmap: Actions Closed or Ongoing

Palestine Roadmap - Closed or Actions Closed or Ongoing Actions				
#	Action	Progress	Further Update	Status
	1. Partnerships			
2	Apply for HEA funding to support cross-sectoral approach to human rights partnership framework.	Funding streams considered and discussions took place on possible joint proposal. Ultimately, the Funding Call was deemed not suitable/feasible.	Objective transitioned to EDI Action Plan. Closed.	Closed
3	Lead out on national advocacy to promote an ethical/human rights to University partnerships.	1. Matter raised with: DFHERIS, IUA and other bodies. 2. Matter raised with other VPs Global. 3. Matter raised with international partners.		Ongoing
4	Review all Horizon Europe grants to establish the level of engagement with Israeli partners and support.	1. Information on Horizon grants in the public domain. 2. Support offered to all PIs. 3. This is set out in the Palestine and Israel Working Group Report. 4. Report considered by ULT.	Report now on website	Closed
5	Support all staff involved in grant activity with Israeli partners.	1. Support offered to staff via PIs. 2. Engagement with HR on supports.		Ongoing
7	Identify the level of engagement between Tyndall National Institute and Israeli institutions.	1.Details of grants in the public domain - Summer 2024. 2.Further information shared by Tyndall in the P&I Working Group. 3. This is set out in the Palestine and Israel Working Group Report. 4. Report considered by ULT.	Report now on website	Closed
8	Develop guidance/principles to inform decision-making relating to new research grants and activity with Israeli partners.	1. Due diligence and pre-grant activity being supported by OVPRI. 2. Process documented in the P&I Working Group. 3. Commitment to a human rights framework set out in the Global Engagement Plan. 4. Work progressed as part of the Ethical and Human Rights Framework working group.	This is now incorporated into the Ethical and Human Rights Framework.	Closed

9	Develop Interim arrangements to ensure any new partnerships or arrangements comply with the university's values and commitments.	1. Steps have been taken to adopt interim arrangements so that any new or proposed partnerships or contracts are brought to the attention of relevant University leadership.		Closed
11	Complete internal approval for divestment for the only fund that has exposure to Israeli stock.	Divestment complete.		Closed
12	Clarify association between UCC's contracted travel provider and an Israeli company.	Complete.		Closed
13	Establish level of engagement with specific companies identified by UCC BDS.	1. Activity scoped during Summer 2024. 2. Up to date review completed and relevant details set out in the Report of the P&I working group. 3. Report considered by ULT in March 2025.	Report now on website	Closed
2. Awareness raising				
15	Develop seminar series on Palestine, including Occupied Territories Bill	1. Lecture by Prof Emeritus of Modern Arab Studies at Colombia University, Prof Rashid Khalidi, Palestinian American on Nov 6th. 2. Seminar on Tuesday March 26th (Refugee Week) with Dr Oliver Moore and Izz Cafe on Farming under Duress. 3. Documentary screening on Friday March 21st ' The Palestine Exception ' with the film maker attending, included a panel discussion on academic freedom and protest. 4. Seminar on the International Criminal Court and the Palestine Question , by Dr Paul Bradfield and Dr Dug Cubie, The Shtepps, 24th March 2025. 5. Public lecture by Prof Illan Pappé, Israel on the Brink - 8 Steps to Decolonisation , 3 July 2025 6. Seminar by Dr Ahmed Beshtawi, ACoRN Fellow at School of Law, ' When Law Plans Inequality: How Israel's Planning Regime Denies Palestinian Children's Right to Education ', 26 November 2025	Further events being planned/supported by the Office of the Vice President Global Engagement	Ongoing

		7. Seminar by Dr Lana Tatour on Race and the Palestine Question , convened by the School of Law, 27 November 2025.		
16	Integrate Palestine issues, as well as wider issues of student protest and global engagement, into the curriculum of relevant University Wide (UW) modules.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Feasibility of adopting or developing a UW module examined. Student demand to be kept under review. 2. SU to explore feasibility of introducing elements into the UW model on sustainability. 3. Digital Badge on Global Citizenship & Development Education launched by Dr Gertrude Cotter, School of Education. 	This is happening organically, where expertise permits (especially with visiting scholars).	Closed.
3. Palestinian Emergency Response Group				
17	Establish Palestine Emergency Response Group to promote an emergency response to the crisis especially for Palestine students and the academic community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Report was submitted and recommendations approved. 2. Recommendations added to ongoing actions. 3. Report published on the website. 		Closed
18	Secure funding for a scholars at risk programme for at risk Palestinian scholars	Scholars At Risk programme launched in Q 1 2025 and 4 Palestinian scholars offered positions. Three ACoRN scholars came to UCC in 25/26 (one working remotely from Palestine).	UCC continues to support Scholars at Risk through visiting appointments, as they arise.	Closed
19	Secure funding for Sanctuary Scholarships for displaced Palestinian students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Feasibility of applying Sanctuary model to Palestinian students explored and barriers identified. 2. Ad hoc enquiries dealt with and gap in funding model identified. 3. Immediate funding for PGT scholarships for displaced students unsuccessful, case for support being refreshed. 4. DFA Palestine scholarship programme advertised and programmes added. 5. Scholarships in place for 2026 with the support of philanthropy. 	Engagement with Advancement Office to secure future support for scholarships.	Ongoing

20	In collaboration with ACE, consider the potential to offer part-time and online programmes of study to Palestinian students.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Range of programmes identified of interest and available online to Palestinian students (located in Palestine or displaced). 2. English language courses being made available in person free of charge. 3. ACE Palestine Scholarships offered to 19 students in 2025/2026 (13 enrolled). 		Closed
21	Learn from University and Ireland's response to the Ukrainian crisis	1. Learning from previous experience has been incorporated into this project plan, including the importance of the international sanction regime and government supports.		Closed
22	Actively advocate with the IUA for Government supports and funding for displaced Palestinian students	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Matter is being raised with all relevant government and advocacy organisations by VP Global Engagement. 2. Evacuation flight supported by DFA in August and UCC engaged in National Gaza Support Group. 		Ongoing
4. Statement on Palestine				
23	Statement on Palestine to confirm support and address concerns regarding gaps in previous statement.	Statement complete and published.		Closed
5. Implementation of UCC Commitments				
24	Agree protocol re ministerial visits re SU involvement/meetings	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Measures adopted so that ministerial visitors to the Campus are advised of SU interest in meeting with them to discuss the Occupied Territories Bill. 2. The operation of this measure will be kept under review. 3. SU will be kept informed. 		Ongoing

25	Establish pathways/structures, with SU involvement, to provide transparency and accountability with respect to the completion of the relevant actions, and timelines.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Regular meetings with SU in place to update on progress and discuss any barriers. 2. SU participating in relevant working groups. 3. Ongoing reporting of progress to all relevant University bodies. 4. Updates shared on actions and timelines. 5. Website kept up to date. 		Ongoing
26	Meeting with President	Meeting held with UCC President.		Closed

Solidarity Roadmap: Acronyms

Acronyms	
SU	Students' Union
HEI	Higher Education Institution
PI	Principal Investigator
P&I	Palestine and Israel
HR	Human Resources
OVPRI	Office of the Vice President for Research and Innovation
UCC	University College Cork
AC	Academic Council
ACRIC	Academic Council Research and Innovation Committee
OT Bill	Occupied Territories Bill
UW	University Wide
DFA	Department of Foreign Affairs
HEA	Higher Education Authority
EDI	Equality, Diversity and Inclusion
IUA	Irish Universities Association
DFHERIS	Department of Further Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science
VP	Vice President
VPGE	Vice President Global Engagement