



Statement Concerning the Use of Monday.com by the MINT Programme and Direction of Studies.

28 February 2023,

An Open Letter to the Geneva Graduate Institute Community.

As of 25 February 2023, students of the MINT Masters programme were made aware that they were enrolled and would be required to use Monday.com, a work-management platform, as part of the compulsory Advanced Research Project (ARP). Monday.com is an Israeli start-up founded by Roy Mann, Eran Kampf, and Eran Zinman and based in Tel Aviv. It's a host of the Israeli government and pays taxes that fund the Israeli Army (IDF), ultimately contributing directly to the occupation of Palestinian territories and ongoing instances of violence, discrimination, and oppression of the Palestinian people globally.

As of the Spring of 2021, the Graduate Institute Student Association (GISA) succeeded in achieving a majority vote to endorse and adopt the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanction (BDS) movement. Thus, GISA has worked to boycott companies that directly endorse or fund the occupation of Palestine, with the understanding that the ongoing oppression of the Palestinian people by the State of Israel and the IDF is diametrically opposed to the values of democracy, liberation, and respect that the Institute stands for. Furthermore, we have additional concerns regarding the imposition of this platform in its entirety, given that students were enrolled without prior consent and their personal information was shared with the platform, giving them no option to delete their account.

On behalf of the Middle East and North Africa Initiative, and the integrity of our community as a whole, we call on the office of the Direction of Studies to respect the student community's majority vote to boycott companies that contribute to the occupation of Palestine, including Monday.com. We



remain available to offer alternative platforms, of which there are many (i.e. Slack, Trello, etc.), as well as to continue the dialogue around the BDS Movement and the Palestinian cause.

We also strongly encourage all members of our community to boycott this platform, as well as other companies that endorse or otherwise empower the occupation of Palestine and the continued violations of human rights and international law that Israel commits in Gaza, the West Bank, and across the Middle East as a whole. As an Initiative, we are committed to education and solidarity around these issues, and we are, as always, ready to move forward in good faith with the values of human rights, dignity, and equality that we believe the Institute stands for.

For more information on the BDS Movement and the occupation of Palestine, we would like to suggest the following sources:

[What is BDS? | An Intro to the BDS Movement](#)

[Jewish Voice for Peace | Annual Report 2022](#)

In Solidarity,

The Middle East and North Africa Student Initiative,