



10,589 percent rise: UK purchases of Israel arms spiked massively during genocide

## Description

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Israel

The UK bought [massive amounts](#) of Israel's military gear between 2023 and 2025 - the most intense years of the [genocide](#). UN figures show a spike of 10,589 percent in Israeli imports with the British police and military being major recipients.

Israel has been [found](#) by the UN, to have committed genocide against Palestinians. *Declassified UK reported*

Figures from the UN Comtrade database show that UK imports from Israel of arms, ammunition and related parts increased from just £55,000 in 2023 to almost £5.9 million in 2025.

That is equivalent to around a 10,589 percent rise during two years in which Israel was found by a UN commission to have committed genocide in Gaza, claims it has denied.

👉 NEW - Revealed: Israeli arms imports to UK surged during Gaza war

By Akhil Ranjan & [@iainoverton](#)

UN trade data shows value of military goods from Israel to UK increased by a factor of more than 100 between 2023 and 2025 <https://t.co/qzKeqGEApA>

Declassified UK (@declassifiedUK) [June 18, 2026](#)

Where the imports [ended up](#) is not totally clear:

The figures represent imports into the UK as a whole rather than government spending, so customers could include both public and private end-users.

[However](#)

The British army and police forces would appear to be among the purchasers, having announced they were spending tens of millions of pounds on Israeli weaponry during the two-year period.

The UK government has faced strong pressure from campaigners to distance itself from the settler-colonial state.

Oxfam policy advisor Martin Butcher [said](#)

It is appalling that the UK has seen a sharp increase in purchases from Israel, boosting Israeli profits and therefore helping pay for the genocide in Gaza and risking complicity.

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**Israel's Elbit, Rafael and other death firms are named**

The report, written by journalists Akhil Ranjan and Iain Overton, [found](#) that the big names in the Israeli war industry were all involved:

The figures will include the 2023 contract which Israeli defence company Elbit Systems secured to provide drones, surveillance radar systems and training technology to the British Army.

The same year, Rafael Advanced Defense Systems signed a £20m deal to equip Britain's Challenger 3 tanks with its Trophy active protection system.

[And](#)

In 2024, Israeli surveillance companies supplied technology to British police forces, while drone manufacturer XTend received a £1.93m Ministry of Defence order.

The spike in trade came despite [a UK ban](#) on Israel attending DSEI, the UK's biggest arms show, in 2025.

**The UK keeps arms figures very quiet**

The investigators [found](#) the UK government:

does not appear to publish a readily accessible record of arms imports from Israel. Searches of the UK's official trade data portal returned no import figures that corresponded with the UN data.

### However

Other data sets such as Trading Economics show the same rise in UK imports of Israeli military goods.

And there has also been [a global rise](#) in Israeli arms imports:

Globally, the UN data showed that Israeli exports of arms and ammunition have increased substantially in recent years, rising from  $\text{£}1.05$  billion in 2021 to  $\text{£}1.83$ bn in 2025, their highest level on record.

The UK has supported the [training for Israeli personnel](#) through to [spy flights](#) over Gaza and [military](#) [training for Israeli personnel](#). From [spy flights](#) over Gaza and [military](#) [training for Israeli personnel](#) through to [spy flights](#) over Gaza and [military](#) [training for Israeli personnel](#), there is no sense that the British government has learned any lessons or shown any accountability. [spy flights](#) over Gaza and [military](#) [training for Israeli personnel](#) is rhetoric - what we need is full divestment.

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By [Joe Glenton](#)

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