

Disarm Oxford Motion

Proposer: Irene Barriga Seconder: William Sutton

This JCR notes that:

- Investigations conducted through Freedom of Information Requests by Disarm Oxford have revealed that the University of Oxford maintains strong links with the arms industry.
- Staff at the University are directly affiliated with arms companies and conduct research into nuclear warhead technology (considered as illegal under international law) and lethal autonomous weapons systems, amongst other areas of weapons development.
- The Careers Service promotes opportunities from companies with known links and activities within the arms industry, such as DSTL and Leonardo, and also engages them in careers events and invites these companies to careers fairs.
- Furthermore, the University invests into arms companies or other organisations that have links to the arms trade i.e. through indirect investments.
- Disarm Oxford has received support from 8 college JCRs, a number of student societies and from the Oxford SU, and there has not been a similar JCR motion proposed through Worcester until now.

This JCR believes that:

- The actions of the arms industry in promoting and arming conflicts, and in generating profits from the deaths of often innocent people (the death toll of conflicts is, on the whole, due to civilian casualties) is morally wrong. The killing of civilians in conflicts is a war crime under international law, and this should not be supported by this University.
- This is an international university that has a responsibility, both in its actions and for its fee-paying students, to promote peace, cooperation, human rights and freedoms. This is jeopardised by its commitments and relationships with arms companies.
- It is important that students' voices are heard and that students attending this university should know about its actions, interests and impact within a divided world.
- The University should be on the right side of history and should cease its activities and cut its ties with the arms industry.

This JCR resolves to:

- Publicly endorse the Disarm Motion group and any current campaigns e.g. Open letter to Vice Chancellor Louise Richardson

- Investigate Worcester College's own investments into the arms trade
- Contribute to campaigning efforts by Disarm Oxford e.g. Dissuade students from attending careers events with arms companies, support open letters