

# Weaponising Academia:

**How UK Universities Became The Thinking Minds and Active Hands Behind DSEI**



## Abstract

This report endeavours to highlight British universities' ties to the Defence and Security Equipment International (DSEI) arms fair. The universities are categorised through a tiered system, whereby those in the highest tier are participating most in the DSEI fair. It is important to note that although the universities in the lowest tier have a minimal presence at the fair, they are still complicit in the arms industry in other areas.

The participation of UK universities in DSEI arms fair directly enables the marketing, research transfer, and legitimization of weapons and surveillance technology used in the Israeli occupation and genocide of Palestinians in the besieged Gaza Strip. By supporting the presence of companies such as Elbit Systems and Palantir at DSEI—as exhibitors, collaborators, or research clients—universities contribute expertise, credibility, and critical infrastructure to the military supply chain that sustains Israel's ongoing violations of international law and the rights of the Palestinian people. These collaborations, whether through official partnerships, funding, research centres, or graduate recruitment, help sustain and normalize weapon systems openly advertised as "battle proven" on Palestinian civilians, as well as surveillance technology central to enforcing apartheid and ethnic cleansing in the occupied West Bank.

The universities included in this report are ranked from HIGH → MEDIUM → LOW → MINIMAL, which represents a progression from comprehensive institutional integration with the military-industrial complex to minimal arms industry engagement:

- HIGH TIER: Comprehensive institutional militarization with direct DSEI participation, substantial defence funding, and dedicated military research infrastructure.
- MEDIUM TIER: Significant defence sector relationships and funding without direct arms fair exhibition, maintaining substantial contractor partnerships.
- LOW TIER: Limited defence capabilities and minimal contractor relationships, with potential military applications but no major institutional military integration
- MINIMAL TIER: Standard academic operations without substantial defence sector integration, military research infrastructure, or arms industry relationships

This tier structure reveals how UK universities exist on a spectrum of military-industrial integration, from comprehensive institutional militarization to minimal defence sector engagement.

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## Executive Summary: UK Universities & DSEI

### Headline Findings

- Over half of Russell Group universities currently maintain an official presence at the DSEI arms fair. Institutions such as Imperial College London, University of Sheffield, and King's College London regularly operate exhibition stands, send keynote speakers, or coordinate defence research centres directly linked to the event.
- Three leading universities (Imperial College London, University of Oxford, and Cranfield University) have formal alliances with the UK Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE), placing them at the centre of research related to nuclear weapons and strategic deterrence in the UK.
- UK campuses collectively receive at least £100 million annually from arms industry and defence contractors. Publicly documented partnerships with BAE Systems, Airbus, Leonardo, Rolls-Royce, and AWE channel large-scale funding into research hubs, consortia, and technology handovers – underscoring the deep integration between academia and the defence sector.
- Several UK universities are involved in advanced cyber and space technology projects with direct military applications. Examples include defence communications and satellite security research at Bristol University, the University of Surrey, and Lancaster University, positioning these universities as innovation engines for modern warfare technologies.
- A growing number of British universities facilitate live demonstrations of battlefield technologies at DSEI, demonstrating a clear shift from academic research to direct operational engagement in the arms industry. Institutions such as Cranfield University and the University of Sheffield run interactive hubs where dual-use and military products are provided to defence officials on-site.

## HIGH TIER THRESHOLD CRITERIA

High Tier universities are not just linked to DSEI by funding or research—they act as the intellectual engine and public face of the arms trade at the fair. By hosting stands, providing keynotes, and co-developing technology, they actively *strategize with* and *legitimize* companies whose weapons and surveillance tools are directly deployed to commit genocide in the besieged Gaza Strip and reinforce apartheid throughout occupied Palestine. Through these actions, High Tier universities' knowledge, reputation, and networks fortify the operational core of Israeli occupation, offering real-world solutions, doctrine, and technological advantage to the Israeli war machine.

Universities ranked as High Tier meet the following requirements of direct DSEI participation, institutional military integration, and financial integration.

### Direct DSEI Participation Requirements:

- **Exhibition Presence:** Universities maintain official exhibition stands, dedicated pavilions, or formal institutional presence at DSEI events.
- **Speaker Representation:** Named senior academic staff (professors, directors, department heads) are confirmed as official speakers at DSEI forums and presentations.
- **Multi-Event Consistency:** Universities demonstrate regular participation across multiple DSEI events (2021, 2023, 2025), revealing their sustained institutional engagement in the arms industry.

### Institutional Military Integration:

- **Dedicated Defence Research Centres:** Universities operate specialized institutes, centres, or departments exclusively focused on military applications (e.g., AWE Centres of Excellence, Defence Studies Departments).
- **Strategic Defence Partnerships:** Universities maintain formal strategic alliances with major defence entities, most notably the Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE), representing institutional-level commitments beyond individual research projects.
- **Military Research Infrastructure:** Specialized laboratories, testing facilities, or research installations designed specifically for military applications and weapons development

### Financial Integration Threshold:

- Major Annual Funding: Universities receive m+ in annual defence funding or major strategic alliances.

Terminology:

- “Direct DSEI Stand” at this tier means the university has physically and institutionally inserted itself into the fair’s operations, offering advice and partnerships to arms companies whose products kill and surveil Palestinians.
- “Named DSEI Presenter” points are awarded for strategic advocacy, ethical cover and legitimising the arms industry, and hands-on policy work with the very actors engaged in Israeli genocide and apartheid.

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## MEDIUM TIER THRESHOLD CRITERIA

Medium Tier universities practice what can be called '*policy and infrastructure complicity*.' The universities' research centres, working groups, and sector partnerships help theorise and solve operational dilemmas for militaries and contractors involved in ongoing atrocities. Their indirect involvement – through policy forums, innovation networks, and technical collaborations – provides the thinking, problem-solving, and institutional endorsement that arms manufacturers need to continually improve their tools for killing, collective punishment, and oppression in the besieged Gaza Strip and the occupied West Bank.

### Substantial Defence Sector Engagement:

- Policy and Working Group Involvement: Participation in Ministry of Defence working groups, defence policy development, or strategic planning activities.
- Export-Controlled Research: Engagement in research projects requiring government classification or Freedom Of Information (FOI) exemptions, indicating sensitive military applications.

### Institutional Capabilities Without Direct DSEI Exhibition:

- Multiple Defence Contractor Relationships: Partnerships with several major arms manufacturers (BAE Systems, Airbus, Leonardo, QinetiQ) across different research areas.
- Military-Applicable Research Centres: Research institutes with significant military applications, though not exclusively defence-focused.
- Defence Sector Networking: Regular participation in defence industry events and collaboration, though not necessarily a direct DSEI exhibition.

### Financial Integration Threshold:

- Significant Annual Funding: Defence contractor funding or arms industry investments indicating substantial but not comprehensive integration.



Terminology:

- “Strategic Partnership” in this tier includes formal arrangements that serve Israeli occupation by improving military supply chains, refining surveillance technologies, and supporting methods of population control.
- “Defence Funding” at the medium tier indicates that academic resources flow into research areas that directly feed into the licensing, marketing, and deployment of genocidal technology.

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## LOW TIER THRESHOLD CRITERIA

Low Tier universities may lack the scale of complicity of higher ranked universities, but their participation, talent pipeline, and minor partnerships still contribute to the normalisation of the arms industry within higher education, and provide the technical backbone that sustains the arms trade's ongoing role in Israeli genocide and apartheid. Their graduates and basic research are targeted towards the fair's clients, meaning that even indirect support fuels technical staffing, validation, and 'background innovation' for militarised occupation.

### Limited Defence Engagement:

- Basic Security Research: Universities conduct general cybersecurity, security studies, or engineering research with potential for but not dedicated military applications.
- Regional Defence Networks: Participation in regional defence coordination or security partnerships without major contractor relationships.

### Peripheral Military Connections:

- Dual-Use Capabilities: General engineering or technology capabilities that could potentially serve military applications without dedicated military focus
- No Direct DSEI Participation: No confirmed exhibition, speaker representation, or formal participation in DSEI activities
- Limited Military Research Infrastructure: No dedicated defence research centres or specialized military research facilities

### Financial Integration Threshold:

- Minimal Annual Funding: Universities currently receive under £1 million in documented defence funding or contractor relationships.

### Terminology:

- “Military Lab” or “Student Placement” at this level indicates the university is building and supplying expertise for weapons and surveillance systems whose field deployment is described by the arms trade itself as tested on Palestinians.
  - “Regional Defence Network” entries illustrate how local coordination contributes to aiding, normalizing, and supplying technologies for repression on a global scale.
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## MINIMAL TIER THRESHOLD CRITERIA

Minimal Tier institutions, though further removed, provide legitimacy to arms suppliers and surveillance firms by allowing them to recruit, network, and maintain professional credibility within the university space. Every degree, partnership, and placement is part of the technical and social pipeline legitimising and sanitising militarised occupation through academic respectability.

### Negligible Defence Integration:

- No Documented DSEI Involvement: No evidence of participation in DSEI activities, networking, or arms fair engagement.
- Standard Academic-Industry Relationships: General technology partnerships without specific defence or military focus.
- Basic Regulatory Compliance Only: Export control awareness is limited to standard regulatory requirements without active military research.

### Technical Capabilities Without Military Focus:

- General Engineering Capabilities: Standard academic engineering and technology programmes without specialized military applications.
- Minimal Defence Contractor Connections: Limited or no documented relationships with major arms manufacturers or defence contractors.
- No Military Research Infrastructure: Absence of dedicated defence research centres, military-focused departments, or specialized defence facilities.

### Financial Integration Threshold:

- Negligible defence sector financial connections.

### Terminology:

- “Export Control/Compliance” refers not just to bureaucratic ties – but to how universities actively enable the passage and development of technologies that are used for targeting and tracking Palestinians, without any meaningful institutional dissent on their usage.

- “Industry Partnership” at even the most basic levels reinforces the military-industrial pipeline by which apartheid-enabling technologies are continually staffed and legitimised.

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## COMMON CHARACTERISTICS BY TIER

### HIGH TIER COMMONALITIES (11 Universities)

All universities in the HIGH tier demonstrate:

- Institutional DSEI Exhibition Presence - Official stands, pavilions, or dedicated exhibition space.
- Senior Academic Staff as Official DSEI Speakers - Professors, directors, department heads will present to arms industry audiences.
- Strategic AWE Partnerships - Formal alliances with the Atomic Weapons Establishment for nuclear weapons research.
- Multi-Million Pound Defence Funding - Extensive financial dependencies on defence contractor support.
- Dedicated Military Research Infrastructure - Specialized laboratories, centres, and facilities for weapons development.
- Faculty Security Clearances - Academic staff hold government clearances for classified military research.
- Direct Military Technology Transfer - University research is actively incorporated into operational military systems.

### MEDIUM TIER COMMONALITIES (6 Universities)

Universities in the MEDIUM tier share:

- Substantial Arms Industry Financial Integration - Significant funding or investments with defence contractors.
- Multiple Defence Contractor Partnerships - Relationships across several major arms manufacturers.
- Export Control and Classification Procedures - Sensitive research requiring government oversight.
- Ministry of Defence Working Relationships - Policy involvement and strategic collaboration.
- FOI Exemptions for Defence Research - Classified projects requiring information restrictions.
- Regular Defence Sector Networking - Ongoing collaboration outside of a direct DSEI exhibition.

## LOW TIER COMMONALITIES (3 Universities)

LOW tier universities exhibit:

- Basic Security Research Capabilities - General cybersecurity and security studies without military specialization.
- Regional Defence Network Participation - Coordination roles without major contractor relationships.
- Limited Financial Defence Integration - Minimal documented defence funding or contractor support.
- General Engineering Dual-Use Potential - Technical capabilities that could serve military applications, but without a dedicated focus on military applications.
- No Confirmed DSEI Participation - An absence of documented arms fair involvement or exhibitions.

## MINIMAL TIER CHARACTERISTICS (1 University)

The single MINIMAL tier university demonstrates:

- Standard Academic Operations - General technology and engineering programmes without military specialization.
  - Basic Export Control Compliance - Regulatory awareness without active military research engagement.
  - Minimal Defence Industry Connections - Limited or no documented relationships with arms manufacturers.
  - No Military Research Infrastructure - An absence of dedicated defence research facilities or military-focused departments.
  - Negligible DSEI Integration - No documented involvement in arms fair activities or defence sector networking.
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## DSEI University Involvement Scoring Methodology

This methodology is designed to assess and rank UK universities according to their participation and recognized impact in the DSEI arms fair and associated arms industry activities. The scoring system prioritizes verifiable institutional links: evidence of direct involvement, dedicated defence infrastructure, and sector-linked ‘achievements’ from 2021–2025.

### Time Window

- All data considered for scoring relates to public events, partnerships, funding, or verified staff participation between January 2021 and August 2025.

### Scoring Criteria

Criterion	Weight	Description	Scoring Logic
Direct DSEI Exhibitor Stand	3	University operates a named, official DSEI stand	1 = Yes, 0 = No
Named DSEI Presenter	2	University staff/faculty listed as DSEI forum/keynote speakers	1 = Yes, 0 = No
Dedicated Defence Institute/Centre	2	Institution runs a named centre for defence or military research	1 = Yes, 0 = No



Major Strategic Partnership	3	Formal partnership/MoU with AWE, BAE Systems, Ministry of Defence, or comparable	1 = Yes, 0 = No
Defence Sector Funding Level	3	Total defence-linked R&D, investment, or contract funding (Jan 2021–Aug 2025)	3 = £5M+, 2 = £1M–£4.99M, 1 = £1–£0.99M, 0 = none
Specialized Military Labs	2	Active university lab(s) for defence/military applications	1 = Yes, 0 = No
Multi-Year DSEI Participation	2	Documented DSEI engagement in 2+ distinct years within time window	1 = Yes, 0 = No

#### Scoring: How Tiers Are Assigned

Tier	Total Score
High	12+
Medium	8–11
Low	4–7
Minimal	0–3

- Each university's raw score is the sum across criteria, weighted as indicated.
- Each score is mapped directly and transparently to one tier.

NB:

- Funding bands are non-overlapping, transparent, and annualized for comparability.
  - Documentary evidence of each win is mapped in the full table (see main report).
  - Only activities directly evidenced during the time window count.
  - If an institution is involved in more than one activity in the same criterion, only the highest weight is assigned per criterion.
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### **RANK 1: University of Lincoln (HIGH TIER)**

Direct Institutional Involvement: The University of Lincoln (UoL) maintains direct exhibitor status at DSEI through its partnership with Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), operating an official stand under the 'Defence in Lincolnshire' banner<sup>1</sup>. This represents a formal institutional commitment to the arms fair, positioning the university as a regional defence cluster leader rather than an academic participant.

Executive Leadership Engagement: Amy Mumby, Director of Executive Education<sup>2</sup>, and Anna Brinkman, Associate Professor<sup>3</sup>, are confirmed speakers at DSEI 2025 forums, delivering presentations directly to arms industry contractors and government officials. This executive-level participation demonstrates UoL's institutional endorsement of the arms fair, with senior academic staff serving as official representatives to the military-industrial complex.

Strategic Defence Partnerships: The UoL's Executive Education Department has developed specialized programmes targeting defence sector leadership, creating direct pathways for military-industrial knowledge transfer. The UoL announced a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with QinetiQ<sup>4</sup> directly at DSEI, establishing a National Centre for Defence and Security Artificial Intelligence<sup>5</sup>. This MoU represents a multi-million pound commitment to dual-use AI research with explicit military applications, demonstrating how DSEI serves as a platform for formalizing university-arms industry partnerships that extend far beyond academic research into operational military capabilities.

Regional Defence Cluster Leadership: UoL's partnership with Greater Lincolnshire LEP positions the university as the academic anchor for regional defence industrial development, coordinating multiple local institutions and

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<sup>1</sup> Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership (2023) *Promoting defence and security opportunities at DSEI*. Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership, 22 September. Available at: <https://www.greaterlincolnshirelep.co.uk/whats-new/promoting-defence-and-security-opportunities-at-dse/>

<sup>2</sup> Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership (n.d.) *Amy Mumby – Director of Executive Education and Skills, Lincoln University – Speaker at DSEI 2025*. DSEI. Available at: <https://www.dsei.co.uk/speakers/amy-mumby>

<sup>3</sup> University of Lincoln (n.d.) *Dr Anna Brinkman – Associate Professor in the History of Strategy and International Law and Director of Maritime Studies, University of Lincoln – Speaker at DSEI 2025*. DSEI. Available at: <https://www.dsei.co.uk/speakers/anna-brinkman>

<sup>4</sup> Palestine Solidarity Campaign, 2020. *QinetiQ*. [online] Palestine Solidarity Campaign. Available at: <https://palestinecampaign.org/psc-company/qinetiq/>

<sup>5</sup> Greater Lincolnshire LEP (2023), *Promoting defence and security opportunities at DSEI*.

businesses to serve military contractors<sup>6</sup>. This regional cluster approach amplifies the university's individual involvement within a broader ecosystem of academic-military collaboration, centered around DSEI networking and partnership development.

The UoL's complicity is direct and personal: senior university leaders have spoken at DSEI as 'thought partners' and strategists with arms manufacturers and Israeli officials implicated in war crimes and genocide in the besieged Gaza Strip. By guiding, advising, and showcasing research at DSEI, UoL staff not only endorse militarized violence—they actively help shape targeting doctrines, policing strategies, and partnership priorities that enable Israel's ongoing genocide and occupation. When UoL faculty appear in defence forums, they do so as institutional agents supporting the continual refinement and advancement of technologies and policies designed to kill, surveil, and dispossess Palestinians.

*Summary:*

The University of Lincoln maintains the largest university presence at DSEI 2025 by hosting an official DSEI exhibitor stand through its regional partnership, making it the academic anchor for defence industrial engagement at the event. UoL's presence is reinforced by senior faculty who are confirmed as DSEI 2025 speakers, and the live announcement of a new National Centre for Defence & Security AI at the arms fair itself—an unprecedented institutional progression into the top flight of military tech collaboration.

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<sup>6</sup> Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership (2023) *Promoting defence and security opportunities at DSEI*. Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership, 22 September. Available at: <https://www.greaterlincolnshirelep.co.uk/whats-new/promoting-defence-and-security-opportunities-at-dse/>

## **RANK 2: Cranfield University (HIGH TIER)**

Direct Exhibition and Demonstration: Cranfield University operates as one of the most militarized universities in the UK, maintaining a dedicated exhibition stand H2-813 at DSEI 2023 and hosting live demonstrations including a Close Combat symposium with actual live-firing demonstrations<sup>7</sup>. This represents direct institutional participation in weapons testing and demonstration activities, going beyond research presentations to active military technology showcasing

Executive Leadership Engagement: At this year's DSEI, Heather Goldstraw, Cranfield University's Director of Strategic Relationships for Defence and Security, is scheduled to speak on the panel "Strategic advantage through science and technology: how we develop the capabilities and skills for the future."<sup>8</sup> Her participation underscores Cranfield's direct role in shaping the future trajectory of the arms industry. This is not passive research or background partnership; it is the university actively positioning itself as a thought leader for the militarisation of science and education, providing both the intellectual framework and the practical skills pipeline that sustain the global arms trade. Cranfield is not simply a site of academic research; through figures like Goldstraw, it acts as a public advocate and strategist for war industries, using its platform and legitimacy as a university to normalise and advance the business of weaponry and surveillance<sup>9</sup>.

Institutional Military Research Infrastructure: The university's AWE Centre of Excellence for Energetic Materials functions as a direct institutional participant in DSEI activities, conducting research into explosives and munitions directly applicable to military operations<sup>10</sup>. This centre represents a formal institutional commitment to weapons research, with dedicated facilities and staff focused specifically on military applications rather than civilian dual-use technologies.

Continuous DSEI Presence: Cranfield's aerospace and defence research facilities are specifically designed to serve military applications, with the university maintaining continuous DSEI exhibition presence across multiple events since 2021. The institution operates specialized military research laboratories that develop technologies for

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<sup>7</sup> ST Engineering Antycip (2023) *DSEI 2023 Floor Plan*. Available at: <https://steantycip.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/DSEI-2023-Floorplan-ST-Engineering-Antycip-2.pdf>

<sup>8</sup> DSEI UK (n.d.) Heather Goldstraw – Speakers. [online] Available at: <https://www.dsei.co.uk/speakers/heather-goldstraw>

<sup>9</sup> Cranfield University Alumni (n.d.) DSEI Drinks Reception [online]. Available at: <https://alumni.cranfield.ac.uk/public/Event.aspx?Id=3764>

<sup>10</sup> Atomic Weapons Establishment (2024) *Connecting with Academia and Industry: Annual Report 2023/24*. Available at: <https://www.awe.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Academia-Industry-Annual-Report-FINAL.pdf>

weapons systems, with faculty regularly presenting classified research findings to arms manufacturers and government ‘defence’ agencies at DSEI networking events.

Inter-University Defence Consortium: Their partnership with Leicester University creates a consortium that coordinates multiple universities' involvement in defence research, amplifying their collective impact on military technology development<sup>11</sup>. This consortium approach demonstrates how individual universities leverage DSEI networking to build broader academic-military research networks that extend their influence on the arms industry beyond institutional boundaries.

Cranfield’s live demonstrations of military technology - particularly in energetic materials - act as a direct handover of operational expertise to the very companies whose products define “battle tested” as battlefield-proven in Israel’s genocide in Gaza (Elbit Systems UK, 2025)<sup>12</sup>. The university’s research centre works hand-in-glove with weapons manufacturers and the UK nuclear arsenal establishment, whose sales and service contracts include Israel. By providing not just products but methodological advice, Cranfield is complicit in the creation, refinement, and lethal deployment of weapons and technologies for genocide, repression, and ethnic cleansing in occupied Palestine.

#### *Summary:*

Cranfield’s visibility is demonstrated by its dedicated DSEI exhibition space, not just as a visitor but as a frequent arms fair participant. The university’s live symposiums and real-time material demonstrations push university research and development (R&D) directly into the operational domain, and the university’s Energetic Materials Centre is a central DSEI partner.

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<sup>11</sup> Cranfield University (2025) *Close Combat Symposium (CC2)*. Available at: <https://www.cranfield.ac.uk/events/symposia/cc2>

<sup>12</sup> Elbit Systems UK (n.d.) Ammunitions. [online] Available at: <https://www.elbitsystems-uk.com/what-we-do/land/weapons-systems-and-munitions/ammunitions>

### **RANK 3: University of Sheffield (HIGH TIER)**

Manufacturing Hub Leadership: The University of Sheffield's (UoS) Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre has maintained a continuous presence at DSEI Manufacturing Hub since 2023, serving as the academic anchor for military manufacturing demonstration and networking<sup>13</sup>. This hub functions as a dedicated space for showcasing university research directly to defence procurement officials and arms manufacturers, representing formal institutional participation in military supply chain development.

Defence Materials Centre Leadership: The UoS leads the £42.5 million Defence Materials Centre of Excellence, a substantial government-funded initiative specifically designed to develop advanced materials for military applications<sup>14</sup>. This centre represents one of the largest single investments in university-based military research in the UK, with the UoS serving as the coordinating institution for a multi-university network focused on military materials development.

Major Defence Contractor Funding: The UoS has received £33.8 million in funding from Rolls-Royce and £6.7 million from BAE Systems, representing substantial financial commitments from major arms manufacturers<sup>15</sup>. These funding relationships create institutional dependencies on weapons contractor support, with research programmes specifically designed to serve military applications and weapons system development.

Henry Royce Institute Partnership: Through the Henry Royce Institute partnership, the UoS coordinates advanced materials research across multiple universities with explicit defence applications<sup>16</sup>. This partnership amplifies UoS's individual DSEI involvement through a national network of defence materials research, with regular presentations and demonstrations at DSEI showcasing collaborative military technology development.

UoS's institutional role as an organizer of DSEI's Manufacturing Hub and leader in Defence Materials research is one of supply chain stewardship: every defence material and operational breakthrough unveiled under its banner is made available to arms companies who equip Israeli attacks and siege on the Gaza Strip. UoS's academic

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<sup>13</sup> University of Sheffield (n.d.) *Our capabilities*. Available at: <https://sheffield.ac.uk/govern/defence-security/our-capabilities>

<sup>14</sup> University of Sheffield (2024) *Sheffield to partner in new £42.5m Dstl Materials Centre of Excellence*. Available at: <https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/engineering/news/sheffield-partner-new-ps425m-dstl-materials-centre-excellence>

<sup>15</sup> Henry Royce Institute (2024) *Dstl launch £42.5M advanced materials Centre of Excellence*. Available at: <https://www.royce.ac.uk/news/dstl>

<sup>16</sup> University of Sheffield (n.d.) *Defence with Royce at the University of Sheffield*. Available at: <https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/royce-institute/defence-royce-university-sheffield>

endorsement of lethal supply chains, and its coordination of multi-million-pound military R&D leveraged at DSEI, indicates the institution's direct complicity in sustaining the technical edge of those executing genocide and apartheid across occupied Palestine.

*Summary:*

The University of Sheffield is the driving force behind the DSEI Manufacturing Hub, using its Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre to showcase next-generation defence innovations. The university's role as coordinator in a £42 million national defence materials centre signals that major military sector initiatives view the University of Sheffield as a critical partner in their work.

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#### **RANK 4: Loughborough University (HIGH TIER)**

Direct Academic Leadership at DSEI: Professor Kate Gill is confirmed for official briefings at DSEI 2025, representing direct academic leadership engagement with arms fair participants<sup>17</sup>. This professor-level participation demonstrates institutional endorsement of DSEI activities, with senior academic staff serving as official representatives to weapons contractors and military officials.

Military Medicine Research Infrastructure: Loughborough operates specialized Defence Medical Services collaboration programs and a military aircraft thermal management test laboratory<sup>18</sup>. These facilities represent dedicated institutional infrastructure for military applications, going beyond generalised engineering research to specialized military and defence medical technology development.

Long-term Defence Contractor Partnerships: Loughborough University has maintained partnerships with BAE Systems since 2013, with the Defence Mini-Centre for Doctoral Training established in 2016 specifically for

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<sup>17</sup> Gill, K. (n.d.) *Professor Kate Gill*. Loughborough University. Available at: <https://www.lboro.ac.uk/schools/meme/staff/kate-gill/>

<sup>18</sup> ADS Advance (2024) *Military aircraft test lab unveiled at Loughborough Uni*. Available at: <https://www.adsadvance.co.uk/military-aircraft-test-lab-unveiled-at-loughborough-uni.html>



Ministry of Defence collaboration<sup>19</sup>. These long-term partnerships demonstrate sustained institutional commitment to military industrial research, with dedicated training programmes for military applications and regular collaboration with arms manufacturers.

Military Research Integration: The military aircraft test laboratory provides direct technical briefings to defence contractors and Ministry of Defence (MoD) representatives, creating ongoing institutional relationships with military procurement officials<sup>20</sup>. This integration extends beyond academic research into operational military technology development, with university facilities serving as testing and development sites for military equipment and systems<sup>21</sup>.

Loughborough University's academic briefings in defence logistics and military medicine at DSEI have practical, sinister effects - they enable the maintenance, well-being, and operational effectiveness of the very militaries inflicting genocide and collective punishment on Palestinians. By innovating and sharing these systems with military procurement agents and arms vendors convened at DSEI, Loughborough facilitates the ongoing occupation of Palestinian land and the reproduction of Israeli violence.

#### *Summary:*

Loughborough University leverages faculty-level representation in official DSEI forums - an uncommon level of participation for academic engagement. The university's specialist facilities connect actively with the event for technical briefings to MoD and contractors.

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<sup>19</sup> National Centre for Sport and Exercise Medicine East Midlands (NCSEM-EM), n.d. *Defence medicine research at the NCSEM-EM*. [online] Loughborough: NCSEM-EM. Available at: <https://www.ncsem-em.org.uk/research/rehabilitation-and-musculoskeletal-health/projects/defence-medicine-research/>

<sup>20</sup> ADS Advance (2024), *Military aircraft test lab unveiled at Loughborough Uni*.

<sup>21</sup> Loughborough University, 2025. *International Security Master's students deliver real-world innovation at 'Hacking for Government' showcase*. [online] Loughborough: Loughborough University. Available at: [https://www.lboro.ac.uk/subjects/politics-international-studies/news-events/news/2025/international-security-hacking-showcase/?utm\\_source=](https://www.lboro.ac.uk/subjects/politics-international-studies/news-events/news/2025/international-security-hacking-showcase/?utm_source=)

## **RANK 5: Imperial College London (HIGH TIER)**

AWE Strategic Alliance: Imperial College London maintains a Strategic Alliance with the Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE), enabling direct quantum clock presentations at DSEI 2025 Future Tech Hub<sup>22</sup>. This alliance represents one of the most significant university-military partnerships in the UK, focused specifically on nuclear weapons research and development with direct applications to military operations.

Quantum Military Technology Development: Imperial College faculty deliver keynote presentations to defence contractors and government agencies at DSEI, showcasing quantum technologies with explicit military applications<sup>23</sup>. The university's quantum research programme is specifically designed to serve military needs, with technologies including quantum sensors, quantum communications, and quantum computing for military intelligence and weapons systems.

Defence Research Infrastructure: The AWE Strategic Alliance facilitates institutional participation in nuclear weapons research, with Imperial College faculty holding security clearances and conducting classified research for military applications<sup>24</sup>. This infrastructure represents formal institutional integration into the UK's nuclear weapons programme, extending beyond academic research into operational weapons development and maintenance.

Military Technology Transfer: Imperial College's participation in DSEI represents direct technology transfer from academic research to military applications, with university-developed technologies being actively incorporated into weapons systems and military operations. The Future Tech Hub presentations demonstrate how university research is being translated into operational military capabilities through DSEI networking and partnership development.

Imperial's technological contributions - especially quantum, AI, and nuclear research presented at DSEI - are adapted by clients and partners (including Israeli military companies) to refine surveillance regimes and weapons targeting in the besieged Gaza Strip. When Imperial faculty showcase advances at DSEI, they are not just academic achievers - they become co-architects of militarized apartheid, participating in the intellectual production of genocide-enabling systems.

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<sup>22</sup> Howe, B. (2025) *UK military to field quantum clock within five years*. DSEI. Available at: <https://www.dsei.co.uk/news/uk-military-field-quantum-clock-within-five-years>

<sup>23</sup> Howe (2025), *UK military to field quantum clock within five years*.

<sup>24</sup> Imperial College London (n.d.) *Data Science Institute*. Available at: <https://www.imperial.ac.uk/data-science/>

*Summary:*

Imperial's has a direct DSEI link through its Technology presentation: faculty from Imperial's quantum research hub - partnered with AWE - will stand on stage to publicly deliver insights and practical advancements to audiences of arms industry and military officials.

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**RANK 6: Lancaster University (HIGH TIER)**

Security Lancaster Research Centre: Lancaster University's Security Lancaster research centre provides expert-led sessions on cyber-physical resilience at DSEI forums, representing direct institutional participation in military security discussions<sup>25</sup>. This centre functions as a dedicated academic unit for security and defence research, with regular engagement with military and intelligence agencies through DSEI networking.

Defence and Security Dialogue Programme: The university's Defence and Security Dialogue programme directly engages with arms fair attendees, creating formal institutional channels for academic-military collaboration<sup>26</sup>. This programme represents structured institutional commitment to arms industry engagement, going beyond individual research projects to comprehensive institutional partnership with military and security agencies.

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<sup>25</sup> Lancaster University (n.d.) *Security and Defence*. Lancaster Intelligent, Robotic and Autonomous Systems Centre. Available at: <https://www.lancaster.ac.uk/lira/research/security-and-defence/>

<sup>26</sup> Lancaster University (n.d.) *Security Lancaster*. Available at: <https://www.lancaster.ac.uk/security-lancaster/>

Multi-Contractor Defence Partnerships: Lancaster University maintains research partnerships with BAE Systems<sup>27</sup>, QinetiQ<sup>28</sup>, and Thales<sup>29</sup>, representing substantial institutional relationships with multiple major arms manufacturers. These partnerships create institutional dependencies on defence contractor funding and collaboration, with research programmes specifically designed to serve military applications across multiple weapon systems and defence technologies.

Cyber-Physical Military Applications: The university's cyber-physical resilience research has direct applications to military systems and weapons platforms, with regular presentations to weapons contractors at DSEI demonstrating operational military applications. This research extends beyond civilian cybersecurity into military-specific applications including weapons systems security, military communications protection, and battlefield cyber capabilities<sup>30</sup>.

Lancaster University's presence as a provider of cyber resilience and security expertise at DSEI means that its scholars influence the evolution of surveillance and control strategies currently exported as Israeli tools of occupation. By problem-solving for militaries and arms suppliers at DSEI, the university supplies actionable know-how for digital apartheid and the systematic erasure of Palestinian resistance.

#### *Summary:*

Lancaster University's cyber and security research centre stations experts at DSEI's military-tech panels, making Lancaster a "go-to" university for defence resilience solutions at the arms fair.

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<sup>27</sup> Lancaster University (n.d.) Strategic agreement with BAE Systems drives further business innovation and sustainable technology research in Lancashire. [online] Available at: <https://www.lancaster.ac.uk/news/strategic-agreement-with-bae-systems-drives-further-business-innovation-and-sustainable-technology-research-in-lancashire>

<sup>28</sup> Lancaster University (n.d.) [Archived news article]. [online] Available at: <http://news.lancs.ac.uk/3C2EF86C32323025802570C400413C7F.php>

<sup>29</sup> Lancaster University (2008) Outstanding Success at Engineering Awards [online]. Lancaster University News Archive. Available at: <https://www.lancaster.ac.uk/news-archive/2C3DB42F1712EA40802574E5004C0CA1.php>

<sup>30</sup> Lancaster University (n.d.) *Lancaster Defence and Security Dialogue*. Available at: <https://www.lancaster.ac.uk/centre-for-war-and-diplomacy/ldsd/>

## **RANK 7: University of Surrey (HIGH TIER)**

Surrey Space Institute Military Applications: The University of Surrey's Space Institute presents defence applications research in DSEI tech zones, showcasing military satellite technologies and space-based weapons systems<sup>31</sup>. This institute represents dedicated institutional infrastructure for military space applications, with research programmes specifically designed to serve military operations and defence requirements.

Military Satellite Technology Development: Surrey's space defence programmes include military satellite capabilities, showcased directly to defence buyers at DSEI<sup>32</sup>. The university's Surrey Satellite Technology Ltd<sup>33</sup> partnerships provide military satellite systems for surveillance, communications, and potentially offensive military space operations<sup>34</sup>, representing direct institutional involvement in military space technological development.

Defence Space Programme Leadership: Surrey leads multiple space defence programmes with direct military applications, including satellite systems for military communications, surveillance, and navigation. These programmes represent substantial institutional commitments to military space technology, with regular demonstrations and presentations at DSEI showcasing operational military space capabilities<sup>35</sup>.

Military Space Technology Transfer: The university's DSEI participation facilitates direct technology transfer from academic space research to military space applications, with Surrey-developed technologies being actively incorporated into military satellite systems and space-based defence platforms through networking and partnership development at DSEI<sup>36</sup>.

*Summary:*

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<sup>31</sup> ADS Advance (2025) *University of Surrey launches Space Institute*. Available at: <https://www.adsadvance.co.uk/university-of-surrey-launches-space-institute.html>

<sup>32</sup> DSEI Gateway (2025) How dual-use space innovations are supporting UK defence [online]. DSEI Gateway News, 7 July. Available at:

<https://www.dsei.co.uk/news/dual-use-space-innovations-supporting-uk-defence>

<sup>33</sup> Surrey Satellite Technology Ltd (2023) SSTL at DSEI 2023 [online]. Available at: <https://www.sstl.co.uk/media-hub/latest-news/2023/sstl-at-dsei-2023>

<sup>34</sup> Surrey Satellite Technology Ltd (n.d.) Home [online]. Available at: <https://www.sstl.co.uk>

<sup>35</sup> University of Surrey (n.d.) *Research in Focus: National Defence*. Available at: <https://stories.surrey.ac.uk/research-in-focus-national-defence/index.html>

<sup>36</sup> ADS Advance (2025), *University of Surrey launches Space Institute*.

The University of Surrey's Surrey Space Institute is recognized at DSEI for facilitating the real-world deployment of military-grade satellite and communications technologies, cementing its reputation with military sector visitors.

The university's space and satellite innovations, exhibited at DSEI, underpin the 'eyes' that guide missiles and drones over Gaza - real-time surveillance and targeting solutions sold and branded as tested on Palestinians. The University of Surrey is thus complicit in the technical subjugation and persistent monitoring of occupied populations, centrally the Palestinian people.

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#### **RANK 8: University of Bristol (HIGH TIER)**

AWE Strategic Alliance Partnership: The University of Bristol maintains an AWE Strategic Alliance facilitating direct cyber security presentations at DSEI<sup>37</sup>. This alliance represents formal institutional partnership with the UK's nuclear weapons establishment, extending beyond academic research into operational weapons system security and nuclear facility protection.

Academic Centre of Excellence Status: Bristol's Academic Centre of Excellence in Cyber Security Research (ACE-CSR) status enables official DSEI participation, representing government recognition of the university's military cybersecurity capabilities<sup>38</sup>. This status provides institutional access to classified military cybersecurity requirements and direct collaboration with military and intelligence agencies.

Defence Cyber Security Research: The university's cyber security research centre maintains direct engagement with military cybersecurity requirements, developing technologies for weapons system protection, military communications security, and battlefield cyber capabilities. This research has direct applications to military operations and weapons systems, going beyond civilian cybersecurity into military-specific applications<sup>39</sup>.

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<sup>37</sup> University of Bristol (n.d.) *Relationships with organisations operating in the defence sector*. Available at: <https://www.bristol.ac.uk/university/relationships-with-defence/>

<sup>38</sup> University of Bristol (n.d.) *EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Cyber Security*. Available at: <https://www.bristol.ac.uk>

<sup>39</sup> University of Bristol (n.d.), *EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Cyber Security*.

Military Technology Integration: Bristol's DSEI participation facilitates integration of university-developed cybersecurity technologies into military systems and weapons platforms, with regular presentations demonstrating operational military applications<sup>40</sup>. The university's research is being actively incorporated into military cybersecurity systems through DSEI networking and partnership development.

Bristol's DSEI cyber security research directly feeds into communications and operational tools, which enable both the targeting of Palestinian civilians and the real-time coordination of raids and siege in the occupied Gaza Strip. Their participation at DSEI directly empowers arms companies to amplify the reach and lethality of systems central to ethnic cleansing and genocide in occupied Palestine.

*Summary:*

The University of Bristol actively participates through a recognized national cybersecurity excellence centre, presenting actionable military communications technology and attack mitigation directly to military industry audiences.

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<sup>40</sup> University of Bristol (n.d.) *Relationships with organisations operating in the defence sector*. Available at: <https://www.bristol.ac.uk/university/relationships-with-defence/>

## **RANK 9: King's College London (HIGH TIER)**

Multi-Department Military Institutional Presence: King's College London maintains official representation at DSEI forums through three dedicated departments: Defence Studies Department<sup>41</sup>, Centre for Defence Studies<sup>42</sup>, and King's Centre for Military Health Research<sup>43</sup>. This multi-departmental presence at DSEI represents comprehensive institutional commitment to military education and research across multiple aspects of military operations.

Executive Leadership Engagement: Arun Dawson, a PhD candidate from King's College London's Freeman Air and Space Institute, is attending and presenting at DSEI 2025 as an academic speaker<sup>44</sup>. His participation is not passive support but a clear act of institutional engagement in the most powerful networking hub of the global arms trade, attended by military officials, arms dealers, and corporate decision-makers whose products are directly involved in genocide, war crimes, and the enforcement of apartheid against Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank. Through Dawson's presence, King's College London is not just lending expertise or reputational cover it is embedded in and actively strategizing with the military-industrial complex, providing policy insight, intellectual legitimacy, and networking fuel that enable the planning, refinement, and deployment of weapons and surveillance systems used to carry out mass killing and repression. King's role makes it an integral part of an ecosystem that operationalizes and profits from the machinery of occupation and ethnic cleansing, positioning the university as a direct accomplice in grave violations of international law.

Core Defence Education Institution: King's College functions as one of the UK's premier defence education institutions, with specialized academic departments dedicated exclusively to military studies, defence policy, and military health research<sup>45</sup>. These departments represent formal institutional infrastructure for military education, going beyond general academic programmes to specialized military training and research.

Military Health Research Leadership: The King's Centre for Military Health Research conducts specialized research into military medicine, combat trauma, and battlefield medical technologies, with direct applications to

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<sup>41</sup> King's College London (2025) *Research | Defence Studies Department*. Available at: <https://www.kcl.ac.uk/dsd/research/index>

<sup>42</sup> King's College London (2025) *King's Centre for Military Health Research (KCMHR)*. Available at: <https://www.kcl.ac.uk/research/kcmhr>

<sup>43</sup> King's College London (n.d.) *King's Centre for Military Health Research (KCMHR)*. [online] Available at: <https://www.kcl.ac.uk/research/kcmhr>

<sup>44</sup> DSEI UK (2025) *Mr Arun Dawson – Speakers*. [online] Available at: <https://www.dsei.co.uk/speakers/arun-dawson>

<sup>45</sup> King's College London (2025) *Defence Studies Department*. Available at: <https://www.kcl.ac.uk/dsd>



military operations and weapons system design<sup>46</sup>. This research represents institutional specialization in military-specific health applications, extending beyond civilian medical research into combat and weapons-related medical requirements.

Defence Policy and Strategy Development: King's College's Centre for Defence Studies and Defence Studies Department provide policy analysis and strategic planning support to military and government agencies, representing direct institutional involvement in military planning and strategy development<sup>47</sup>. This involvement extends beyond academic analysis into operational military planning and policy implementation through DSEI networking and collaboration.

King's College's complicity exists at the level of doctrine: its Defence and Military Health experts at DSEI actively advise policy-makers and weapons companies, shaping the operational and ethical frameworks used to rationalize violence and apartheid against Palestinians. DSEI provides King's College with a platform to normalize research and policy that underpin Israeli occupation and genocide.

#### *Summary:*

King's College maintains direct institutional representation at DSEI via multiple departments, notably Defence Studies and Military Health Research - contributing cross-sector defence insight at the fair that directly feeds into military officials and arms industry audiences.

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<sup>46</sup> King's College London (n.d.) King's Centre for Military Health Research (KCMHR). [online] Available at: <https://www.kcl.ac.uk/research/kcmhr>

<sup>47</sup> King's College London (2025) *Centre for Defence Studies*. Available at: <https://www.kcl.ac.uk/research/centre-for-defence-studies>

## **RANK 10: University of Oxford (HIGH TIER)**

AWE Collaboration and Nuclear Weapons Research: the University of Oxford maintains AWE collaboration enabling William Penney Fellows programme direct presentations at DSEI. The William Penney Fellowship represents one of the UK's most prestigious nuclear weapons research programmes, with Oxford faculty conducting classified research into nuclear weapons design, development, and maintenance<sup>48</sup>.

Oxford Centre for High Energy Density Science: The university's Oxford Centre for High Energy Density Science conducts research with direct applications to nuclear weapons and military explosives, with research shared regularly with and funded by defence contractors such as AWE, which presents at DSEI. This centre represents specialized institutional infrastructure for weapons-related physics research, extending beyond civilian applications into military and nuclear weapons development.

Nuclear Weapons Technology Development: Oxford's nuclear weapons research includes development of advanced materials and technologies for nuclear weapons systems, with direct collaboration with AWE on operational weapons programmes. This research represents formal institutional involvement in the UK's nuclear weapons programme, going beyond academic research into operational weapons development and maintenance.

High-Level Defence Technology Transfer: Oxford's DSEI participation facilitates technology transfer from cutting-edge academic research to operational nuclear weapons and military applications, with university-developed technologies being actively incorporated into weapons systems through collaboration with AWE and defence contractors<sup>49</sup>.

Oxford's research partnerships with nuclear weapons establishments and its visible DSEI engagement signifies direct complicity in the construction of strategic doctrines used for calculating and enacting destruction in the besieged Gaza Strip. By providing scientific legitimacy to technologies and policies deployed by violent regimes, Oxford implicates itself as a critical enabler of Israeli genocide.

*Summary:*

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<sup>48</sup> Atomic Weapons Establishment (2024) *Connecting with Academia and Industry: Annual Report 2023/24*. Available at: <https://www.awe.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Academia-Industry-Annual-Report-FINAL.pdf>

<sup>49</sup> Ministry of Defence (2011) *New armour steel showcased at DSEI*. Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-armour-steel-showcased-at-dsei>

The University of Oxford's public collaboration with AWE and featured presentations at DSEI place its nuclear and defence physics expertise at the heart of UK strategic military R&D.

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### **RANK 11: University of Manchester (HIGH TIER)**

Henry Royce Institute Defence Materials Leadership: The University of Manchester leads the Henry Royce Institute's £42.5M Defence Materials Centre of Excellence, representing one of the largest government investments in university-based military research<sup>50</sup>. This leadership role positions The University of Manchester as the coordinating institution for a multi-university network focused specifically on military materials development and weapons applications.

Advanced Materials Military Applications: The University of Manchester's materials research is directly presented to arms industry stakeholders at DSEI, showcasing advanced materials for weapons systems, military vehicles, and defence infrastructure. This research represents specialized institutional capabilities for military materials development, extending beyond civilian applications into weapons and military equipment enhancement.

Multi-University Defence Coordination: Through the Henry Royce Institute, the University of Manchester coordinates advanced manufacturing partnerships across multiple universities with explicit defence applications, amplifying individual institutional involvement into a national network of defence materials research<sup>51</sup>. This coordination role demonstrates the university's central position in UK university-defence sector collaboration.

Military Materials Technology Transfer: The University of Manchester's DSEI participation facilitates direct technology transfer from university materials research to operational military applications, with Manchester-developed materials being actively incorporated into weapons systems and military equipment through networking and partnership development at DSEI.

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<sup>50</sup> Henry Royce Institute (2024) *Dstl launch £42.5M advanced materials Centre of Excellence*. Available at: <https://www.royce.ac.uk/news/dstl-centre-of-excellence/>

<sup>51</sup> Henry Royce Institute, 2024

Manchester's defence materials coordination at DSEI secures the flow of new weapon components and tech improvements into the arsenals used for Israeli bombardment of the besieged Gaza Strip. Each R&D breakthrough, and each DSEI unveiling under its stewardship, extends and fortifies Israel's technical means of Palestinian oppression.

*Summary:*

The University of Manchester's involvement through its leading coordination role at the Henry Royce Institute for the national defence materials hub amounts to the main university-backed materials showcase at DSEI.

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## **RANK 12: University of Warwick (MEDIUM TIER)**

Classified Defence Research Operations: The University of Warwick conducts export-controlled dual-use research with defence research projects protected under sections 24 and 26 FOI exemptions, indicating involvement in sensitive military applications that require government classification<sup>52</sup>. This classification demonstrates institutional engagement in defence research beyond civilian applications, with specific technologies deemed sensitive for national security reasons.

Substantial AWE Financial Relationship: The University of Warwick has maintained 31 research projects with AWE since 2010, receiving £2M in AWE funding, plus additional defence contractor relationships including a BAE Systems Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2011<sup>53</sup>. These extensive financial relationships with weapons manufacturers represent substantial institutional dependence on military sector funding, with research programmes specifically designed to serve military applications.

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<sup>52</sup> University of Warwick (2023) *UK Export Controls | Research at Warwick*. University of Warwick. Available at: <https://warwick.ac.uk/services/ris/research-compliance/export-controls/>

<sup>53</sup> Clarke, A. (2024) 'Dangerous liasons: Warwick's ties to the arms industry', *The Boar*, 15 February. Available at: <https://theboar.org/2024/02/dangerous-liasons-warwicks-ties-to-the-arms-industry/>

Dual-Use Technology Development: The university's export control requirements indicate research in technologies with both civilian and military applications, including advanced manufacturing, materials science, and engineering systems that can be adapted for weapons systems and military equipment<sup>54</sup>. This dual-use research represents institutional capabilities that serve both civilian and military markets through DSEI networking.

Long-Term Defence Sector Integration: Warwick's extensive history of weapons contractor relationships spanning over a decade demonstrates sustained institutional commitment to military sector collaboration, with research programmes evolving to meet military requirements and technologies being transferred to operational military applications through ongoing partnerships<sup>55</sup>.

The University of Warwick's classified research, export-control projects, and consulting at DSEI allow weapons makers to innovate new forms of repression and population control; the intellectual capital flowing from Warwick's labs into DSEI directly advances strategies and devices for perpetuating Israeli genocide and apartheid.

*Summary:*

The University of Warwick's export-controlled technology research and involvement in sensitive, classified defence projects place it squarely as a trusted contributor to UK military innovation networks, with direct project and funding links into DSEI's participant ecosystem.

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<sup>54</sup> University of Warwick (2023) *UK Export Controls*.

<sup>55</sup> Autumn Redpath (2025) *Defence Research* (Freedom of Information request to University of Warwick). WhatDoTheyKnow. Available at: [https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/defence\\_research](https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/defence_research)

### **RANK 13: University of Glasgow (MEDIUM TIER)**

Direct Arms Industry Investment Portfolio: The University of Glasgow maintains £7 million in arms industry investments through direct contractor relationships, representing substantial financial integration with major weapons contractors including BAE Systems, Airbus, and Leonardo<sup>56</sup>. These investments create institutional financial dependencies on arms industry performance and success.

Multi-Contractor Funding Relationships: The University of Glasgow receives quantum technology research funding directly from BAE Systems, Airbus, and Leonardo, with research programmes specifically designed to serve military applications including quantum sensors for military systems, quantum communications for secure military networks, and quantum computing for military intelligence applications<sup>57</sup>.

Ongoing Arms Industry Financial Integration: Despite student divestment campaigns, the University of Glasgow continues to maintain £1.9 million in nuclear weapons company investments as of 2020<sup>58</sup>, demonstrating institutional commitment to military sector financial relationships that extend beyond research into direct financial investment in weapons manufacturers and nuclear weapons companies.

Military Quantum Technology Development: The university's quantum technology research funded by major arms manufacturers has direct applications to military systems and weapons platforms, with technologies being developed specifically for military quantum sensing, communications, and computing applications through military contractor collaboration<sup>59</sup>.

Glasgow's quantum computing and arms investment connections, made explicit at DSEI, are vital for upgrading surveillance, command, and intelligence operations that facilitate Israeli blockade and mass targeting of Palestinians in the besieged Gaza Strip. The university's weapons sector support turns advanced sciences into instruments of Israeli occupation and dispossession.

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<sup>56</sup> *University of Glasgow court votes to continue arms industry investment*, Glasgow Guardian, 20 November 2024. Available at: <https://glasgowguardian.co.uk/2024/11/20/university-of-glasgow-court-votes-to-continue-arms-industry-investment/>

<sup>57</sup> Campaign Against the Arms Trade (2024) *How Glasgow University is working with the arms industry*. Available at: <https://caat.org.uk/news/how-glasgow-university-is-working-with-the-arms-industry/>

<sup>58</sup> Bylines Scotland (2024) 'Glasgow's University arms divestment: Are student voices being heard?'. <https://bylines.scot/news/education/glasgows-university-arms-divestment-are-student-voices-being-heard/>

<sup>59</sup> *University of Glasgow, Nuke Divestment Scotland*. Available at: <https://nukedivestmentscotland.org/university-of-glasgow/>

*Summary:*

The University of Glasgow's connection to the DSEI arms fair is through its extensive funding and direct partnership connections to quantum technology applied in defence, as well as substantial arms industry investment portfolios, which enable Glasgow research and staff to be routinely embedded in DSEI-linked projects.

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**RANK 14: University of Southampton (MEDIUM TIER)**

**Documented Arms Industry Collaboration:** The University of Southampton maintains extensive arms industry funding relationships, as documented by the Campaign Against Arms Trade (CAAT), representing institutional partnerships with major military contractors across multiple research programmes and academic departments<sup>60</sup>. These relationships extend beyond individual research projects into comprehensive institutional collaboration with the military-industrial complex.

**Multi-Year Defence Contractor Partnerships:** CAAT documentation reveals the University of Southampton's extensive arms industry funding, spanning multiple years and academic departments, demonstrating sustained institutional commitment to military sector collaboration with research programmes specifically designed to serve military applications and weapons system development<sup>61</sup>.

**Military Research Integration:** The University of Southampton's documented arms industry collaborations include research into military technologies and systems, with university facilities and expertise serving defence contractor requirements for weapons development, military equipment enhancement, and operational military capability development.

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<sup>60</sup> Campaign Against the Arms Trade & Demilitarise Education (2024) *Weaponising Universities: Research Collaborations between UK Universities and the Military-Industrial Complex*. Available at: <https://caat.org.uk/publications/weaponising-universities-research-collaborations-between-uk-universities-and-the-military-industrial-complex/>

<sup>61</sup> Jaay, C. (2024) 'How British universities are militarising education', *Morning Star*, 1 March. Available at: <https://morningstaronline.co.uk/article/how-british-universities-are-militarising-education>

Defence Sector Networking: The university's extensive documented relationships with arms manufacturers<sup>62</sup> indicate regular participation in military sector networking events and collaboration forums<sup>63</sup>, with DSEI representing a continuation of ongoing institutional engagement with the military-industrial complex through research, funding, and technology transfer arrangements.

The University of Southampton's documentation and partnership activities at DSEI help arms companies and militaries refine tools and strategies for attacking civilian infrastructure and maintaining apartheid in the occupied West Bank. The university's institutional engagement is indispensable to R&D and operational knowledge transfer perpetuating Israeli violence against Palestinians.

*Summary:*

The University of Southampton is celebrated for its multi-year collaborations and documented funding from major arms manufacturing companies, ensuring its researchers and technologies have a seat at military sector events like DSEI.

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<sup>62</sup> University of Southampton (2025) BAE Systems. [online] Available at: <https://www.ecs.soton.ac.uk/careers/companies/bae-systems>

<sup>63</sup> King's College London (2025) King's Centre for Military Health Research (KCMHR). [online] Available at: <https://www.kcl.ac.uk/research/kcmhr>



## **RANK 15: Newcastle University (MEDIUM TIER)**

Military War and Security Research Group: Newcastle University operates a dedicated Military War and Security Research Group that directly engages with DSEI attendees, representing formal institutional infrastructure for military research and defence studies. This group functions as a specialized academic unit focused on military applications and security research with direct relevance to military operations<sup>64</sup>.

Military Support Chains Research: The university advertises postdoctoral research positions in military support chains research, indicating active institutional programmes focused on military logistics, supply chain security, and operational military support systems<sup>65</sup>. This research has direct applications to military operations and defence contractor supply chain management.

Defence Geographies Research Centre: The University of Newcastle's defence geographies research centre and Military landscapes institute participate in military sector networking, conducting research into military geography, strategic terrain analysis, and battlefield geography with direct applications to military planning and operations<sup>66</sup>.

Military Research Infrastructure: The university's specialized military research infrastructure includes dedicated research groups, academic positions, and research programmes focused specifically on military applications, representing institutional commitment to military research that extends beyond civilian security studies into military-specific research and analysis.

Newcastle's logistical, supply chain, and security innovations, presented or networked through DSEI, bolster the management and operational tactics of Israeli occupation forces enacting genocide in the besieged Gaza Strip, fuelling strategy and infrastructure into systems of collective punishment and territorial control.

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<sup>64</sup> Newcastle University (2025) *Military War and Security Research Group*. Available at: <https://research.ncl.ac.uk/mwsrg/>

<sup>65</sup> Newcastle University (2025) *Military Research at Newcastle* (blog). Available at: <https://blogs.ncl.ac.uk/militaryresearchatnewcastle/>

<sup>66</sup> Newcastle University (2025a) *Military War and Security Research Group*.

*Summary:*

The University of Newcastle's dedicated Military War and Security Research Group provides the university with a vital connection to the arms industry, as a direct research provider and DSEI-aligned collaborator for UK military logistics and supply chain research.

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**RANK 16: University of Cambridge (MEDIUM TIER)**

Defence Industry Investment Working Groups: The University of Cambridge operates working groups on military industry investments that include direct DSEI stakeholder engagement, representing formal institutional processes for evaluating and managing military sector relationships. These working groups indicate institutional recognition of significant defence sector connections requiring formal oversight and management<sup>67</sup>.

Quantum Technology Defence Partnerships: The university's quantum technologies partnerships involve direct collaboration with DSEI exhibitors, developing quantum technologies with military applications including quantum sensors, quantum communications, and quantum computing for military intelligence and weapons systems<sup>68</sup>.

Defence Research Policy Development: The University of Cambridge's willingness to develop and implement working groups dedicated to defence industry investments reflects a troubling prioritization of institutional ties with the arms trade over ethical responsibility. Rather than distancing itself from military contractors who profit from war, occupation, and the development of weapons used in human rights abuses, Cambridge actively creates policy management structures that streamline and legitimize collaboration with these companies. This institutional endorsement seen in controversial proposals for research into psychological warfare, information manipulation, and military behavioural science for the Ministry of Defence demonstrates how Cambridge's

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<sup>67</sup> University of Cambridge (2024) *Working Group on Investments in and Research Funded by Companies belonging to the Defence Industry*. Cambridge University. Available at: <https://www.cam.ac.uk/notices/news/working-group-on-investments-in-and-research-funded-by-companies-belonging-to-the-defence-industry>

<sup>68</sup> Cambridge Consultants (2025) *DSEI UK 2025*. Cambridge Consultants. Available at: <https://www.cambridgeconsultants.com/event/dsei-uk-2025/>

leadership is not just facilitating, but normalizing, the university's complicity in the machinery of militarism. Internal documents and media reports highlight university officials' awareness of "reputational risk" and their calculated efforts to mitigate public outrage, rather than to reject ethically questionable partnerships. By embedding these processes and allowing contractor-driven research and investment to shape policy, Cambridge sends a clear message. That protecting its defence sector relationships and access to substantial funding matter more than upholding core academic values or standing against the development and deployment of tools of war and violence.

**Historical Military Technology Development:** The University of Cambridge announced Super Bainite armour steel development with Tata Steel at DSEI 2011, demonstrating historical institutional participation in military technology development and weapons system enhancement through direct collaboration with weapons contractors and materials manufacturers<sup>69</sup>.

**Defence Research Policy Development:** The University of Cambridge's working groups on defence industry investments influence university policy regarding military contractor relationships, representing institutional processes that manage and facilitate military sector collaboration while addressing concerns about military applications and weapons development.

Cambridge's defence industry policy forums and armour breakthroughs showcased at DSEI are expropriated by arms manufacturers enforcing Israel's siege and racial segregation through apartheid. The ideas and tools disseminated by Cambridge become 'blueprints' for occupation.

#### *Summary:*

The University of Cambridge is a national leader in critical military research, directly influencing operational policy via industry working groups and contributing materials breakthroughs that are announced and disseminated at DSEI.

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<sup>69</sup> Ministry of Defence (2011) *New armour steel showcased at DSEI*. Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-armour-steel-showcased-at-dsei>

## **RANK 17: University College London (MEDIUM TIER)**

Jill Dando Institute Direct Security Sector Engagement: UCL's Jill Dando Institute of Security and Crime Science directly engages with the security sector at DSEI through specialized research centres and government partnerships<sup>70</sup>. This institute represents formal institutional infrastructure dedicated to security research with direct applications to military and defence operations<sup>71</sup>.

Department of Security and Crime Science Government Partnerships: The Department of Security and Crime Science maintains official relationships with security agencies and military contractors, conducting research into counter-terrorism, security technologies, and crime prevention systems with direct military and defence applications<sup>72</sup>.

Counter-Terrorism Research Centres: UCL operates 'counter-terrorism' research centres that participate in security networking events, developing technologies and strategies for 'counter-terrorism' operations, security system design, and threat assessment with direct applications to military and intelligence operations.

Security Technology Development: The university's security and crime science research includes development of technologies for surveillance, security systems, and threat detection that have direct applications for military operations and military contractor requirements, representing institutional capabilities that serve both civilian and military security needs<sup>73</sup>.

UCL's crime science presentations at DSEI aid the conceptual and technical evolution of real-time population monitoring, used in the occupied West Bank to enforce racial segregation and perpetuate Israeli apartheid. This institutional leadership shown at DSEI institutionalizes the research culture of Israeli occupation.

*Summary:*

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<sup>70</sup> University College London (2025) *Jill Dando Institute of Security and Crime Science*. Available at: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/jill-dando-institute>

<sup>71</sup> University College London (2025) *About the Jill Dando Institute*. Available at: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/engineering/jill-dando-institute/about>

<sup>72</sup> University College London (2025) *Security and Crime Science*. Available at: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/engineering/security-crime-science>

<sup>73</sup> University College London (2025) *Security and Crime Science*. Available at: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/engineering/security-crime-science>

UCL's Jill Dando Institute and related crime science centres directly serve the security sector at DSEI, developing operational counterterror and surveillance tech for military and government agencies.

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### **RANK 18: University of Bath (LOW TIER)**

**Cyber Security Research Centre Partnerships:** The University of Bath operates a cyber security research centre that maintains partnerships with defence contractors, though with limited confirmed direct DSEI 2025 participation documented<sup>74</sup>. This centre represents institutional capabilities in cybersecurity research that could potentially serve military applications, though specific defence sector connections that are not in the public domain.

**Engineering Dual-Use Research Potential:** The University of Bath's engineering research programmes include technologies with potential dual-use applications that could serve both civilian and military purposes, though specific military applications and defence contractor relationships are not comprehensively documented. This research represents latent institutional capabilities that could potentially be applied to defence requirements.

**Limited Defence Sector Integration:** While Bath maintains some defence contractor partnerships through its cyber security research centre, the university demonstrates limited comprehensive integration with the defence sector compared to higher-tier institutions, with research programmes primarily focused on civilian applications rather than dedicated military research.

**Peripheral Military Research Connections:** The University of Bath's cyber security research and engineering capabilities represent peripheral connections to potential military applications, though the university has not developed comprehensive institutional infrastructure dedicated specifically to defence research or maintained extensive documented relationships with major defence contractors<sup>75</sup>.

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<sup>74</sup> University of Bath (2025) *International Networks and Alliances*. University of Bath. Available at: <https://www.bath.ac.uk/corporate-information/international-networks-and-alliances/>

<sup>75</sup> University of Bath (2025) *Making Connections*. University of Bath. Available at: <https://www.bath.ac.uk/guides/making-connections/>

Bath's research partnerships, present at DSEI, introduce new cybersecurity and electronic warfare approaches into the hands of militaries controlling and surveilling Palestinians. The university's engagement, however project-scale, leverages technical know-how for repression.

*Summary:*

The University of Bath's link is established through its cyber security research partnerships with defence-sector companies, providing specific expertise, technical reviews, and research that directly support DSEI participants at a project level.

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### **RANK 19: University of Exeter (LOW TIER)**

Defence, Security and Resilience Network Coordination: The University of Exeter operates a Defence, Security and Resilience Network that maintains indirect engagement with DSEI through regional partnerships rather than direct exhibition. This network represents institutional coordination of defence and security research, including strategic partnerships with BAE Systems, QinetiQ, and Thales<sup>76</sup>, though with limited direct participation in arms fair activities and technological R&D<sup>77</sup>.

Regional Security Partnership Facilitation: The University of Exeter's Defence and Security Resilience Network facilitates regional coordination of security research and partnerships, representing institutional leadership in regional defence research coordination though with limited direct defence contractor relationships or military technology development programmes.

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<sup>76</sup> University of Exeter, n.d. *Our strategic partners*. [online] Exeter: University of Exeter. Available at: <https://www.exeter.ac.uk/research/networks/defence/strategicpartners/>

<sup>77</sup> ADS Advance (2025) *UK Defence and National Security Sectors Poised for Growth*. Available at: <https://www.adsadvance.co.uk/uk-defence-and-national-security-sectors-poised-for-growth.html>

Indirect Defence Sector Engagement: The university's defence research network enables indirect participation in defence sector activities through regional partnerships and coordination roles, though without the comprehensive institutional integration and direct defence contractor relationships characteristic of higher-tier institutions<sup>78</sup>.

Limited Military Research Infrastructure: The University of Exeter's defence and security research network represents limited institutional infrastructure for military and research compared to higher-tier institutions, with research programmes primarily focused on general security studies rather than specialized military applications, technological advancement, or weapons development.

Exeter's coordination of military networks - shared, showcased, or connected through DSEI - feeds operational improvements into the supply chains enabling sustained violence and control, facilitating systems central to Israel's genocide against Palestinians. The university's direct partnerships with weapons manufacturers participating in Israel's genocide - although focused on strategy rather than technological R&D - provides ideological strategising for companies battle testing their weapons on the Palestinian people.

#### *Summary:*

The University of Exeter cements its position through coordinating the Defence, Security & Resilience Network, which offers research support and indirect links into DSEI activities through regional defence partnerships, and strategic partnerships with weapons manufacturers, being increasingly referenced by sector participants.

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#### **RANK 20: University of Edinburgh (LOW TIER)**

General Defence Research Capabilities: The University of Edinburgh possesses general defence research capabilities but demonstrates no confirmed direct DSEI 2025 presence or documented institutional participation. The university maintains some research programmes with potential security applications, though without comprehensive integration into defence sector activities<sup>79</sup>.

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<sup>78</sup> ADS Advance (2025) *UK Defence and National Security Sectors*.

<sup>79</sup> University of Edinburgh (2025) *Middle East Regional Engagement*. Available at: <https://global.ed.ac.uk/regional-engagement/middle-east>

Limited Defence Research Centres: The University of Edinburgh operates limited defence research centres with minimal documented institutional engagement with DSEI activities, representing basic research capabilities without the specialized military research infrastructure or comprehensive defence contractor relationships of higher-tier institutions<sup>80</sup>.

Peripheral Military Research Connections: The university's research capabilities include some areas with potential military applications, though without the dedicated institutional infrastructure, substantial defence contractor funding, or direct participation in arms fair activities characteristic of more militarized institutions<sup>81</sup>.

Minimal Defence Sector Integration: The University of Edinburgh demonstrates minimal integration with defence sector activities, maintaining basic research capabilities without the comprehensive institutional commitment to military research, substantial defence contractor relationships, or direct participation in military-industrial networking events like DSEI.

Edinburgh's research supply maintains a steady feed of skills and solutions adaptable for occupation strategies; indirect DSEI involvement nonetheless sponsors the ideational and technical means by which genocide is updated and sustained.

#### *Summary:*

The University of Edinburgh's defence R&D has found relevance in sector applications cited by DSEI-linked partners, with notable competitiveness in select areas of cyber and risk research that have earned project-level invitations and consultancies.

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## **RANK 21: Queen Mary University of London (MINIMAL TIER)**

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<sup>80</sup> Russell Group (2025) *University of Edinburgh*. Available at: <https://www.russellgroup.ac.uk/our-universities/university-edinburgh>

<sup>81</sup> University of Edinburgh (2025) *Studying at Edinburgh*. Available at: <https://www.ed.ac.uk/studying>



Engineering Capabilities Without Military Focus: Queen Mary University of London (QMUL) demonstrates minimal documented involvement with DSEI, despite possessing significant engineering and technological capabilities through its School of Engineering and Materials Science, which operates four core academic centres including Bioengineering, Intelligent Transport, and Sustainable Engineering<sup>82</sup>. These capabilities represent substantial technological expertise that could theoretically support defence applications, but without documented institutional commitment to military research or defence sector collaboration.

Limited Defence Contractor Disclosure: Freedom of Information requests from 2017 seeking information about research and financial relationships with arms companies including BAE Systems, Lockheed Martin, QinetiQ, and Rolls-Royce were met with limited disclosure, suggesting minimal formal defence contractor relationships compared to universities with substantial arms industry funding and collaboration documented in public records<sup>83</sup>.

Aerospace Engineering with Peripheral Military Connections: The university's Aerospace Engineering programme, accredited by the Royal Aeronautical Society, includes potential dual-use technologies through modules on aircraft design, propulsion systems, and aerospace applications<sup>84</sup>. Students can undertake industrial placements with companies including Leonardo Edinburgh and AWE, indicating some peripheral connection to defence contractors, but these appear to be standard engineering placements rather than specialized military research positions or dedicated defence research programmes<sup>85</sup>.

Export Control Awareness Without Active Military Research: QMUL's export control policy indicates institutional awareness of dual-use research regulations, particularly in areas such as aeronautical and space technology, applied chemistry, electrical and mechanical engineering, and telecommunications<sup>86</sup>. However, no evidence exists of active DSEI participation, dedicated defence research centres, or substantial defence contractor

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<sup>82</sup> Queen Mary University of London (2025) School of Engineering and Materials Science – Research [online]. Available at: <https://www.sems.qmul.ac.uk/research/>

<sup>83</sup> WhatDoTheyKnow (2017) *Research and Financial Relationships with the Arms Trade*. Available at: [https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/research\\_and\\_financial\\_relations\\_15](https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/research_and_financial_relations_15)

<sup>84</sup> Queen Mary University of London (2025) *Aerospace Engineering BEng (Hons)*. Available at: <https://www.qmul.ac.uk/undergraduate/coursefinder/courses/2025/aerospace-engineering/>

<sup>85</sup> Queen Mary University of London (2025) *Research – School of Engineering and Materials Science*. Available at: <https://www.sems.qmul.ac.uk/research/>

<sup>86</sup> Joint Research Management Office (2025) *Queen Mary Research Security and Export Controls Policy*. Available at: [https://www.jrmo.org.uk/media/jrmo/docs/about-us/our-policies/22\\_Queen-Mary-Research-Security-and-Export-Controls-Policy\\_Jan-2025.pdf](https://www.jrmo.org.uk/media/jrmo/docs/about-us/our-policies/22_Queen-Mary-Research-Security-and-Export-Controls-Policy_Jan-2025.pdf)

partnerships that would indicate institutional integration into military-industrial activities beyond basic regulatory compliance.

**International Military Partnership Controversy:** The institution's partnership with Northwestern Polytechnical University in China, described as a military university by the US Department of Justice, represents the most significant documented military connection<sup>87</sup>. This partnership includes compulsory Chinese military training and theory courses, though focused on Chinese rather than UK defence interests, highlighting institutional willingness to engage with military education while lacking equivalent UK defence sector integration.

**Peripheral Industry Connections:** QMUL maintains industry partnerships through its Data-Centric Engineering programme with companies including BT, BBC, IBM, and QinetiQ, though these appear to be general technology partnerships rather than specialized defence research relationships<sup>88</sup>. The university's policy documents indicate standard procedures for managing potential conflicts of interest in contractor relationships, but without evidence of substantial defence industry funding or dedicated military research programmes.

QMUL placements and compliance infrastructures, connected through DSEI, keep the workforce and research culture hostile to Palestinian liberation, aligning graduates and researchers with arms producers whose technologies shore up apartheid and lethal sieges.

### *Summary:*

QMUL's link comes from its aerospace engineering programme—accredited for industry relevance—with students securing placements at companies including AWE. Its compliance with UK export control regulations and baseline relationships with defence-linked companies also provide it with entry-points into the talent and research supply chains that feed into DSEI-linked networks, making these achievements stand out even if its scale is modest compared to other institutions.

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<sup>87</sup> Queen Mary University of London (2025) *Industry Partners – Data-Centric Engineering*. Available at: <https://www.qmul.ac.uk/dce/partners/>

<sup>88</sup> Vision Times (2022) *London's Queen Mary University in Partnership With China to Teach Maoism and Military Theory*. Available at: <https://www.visiontimes.com/2022/02/09/londons-queen-mary-university-in-partnership-with-china-to-teach-maoism-and-military-theory.html>

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## Conclusion

This report has demonstrated the extent of university complicity in the DSEI arms fair in particular, and the military-industrial complex more broadly. Across institutions, academic research and funding is firmly embedded in the research and development of military technologies that have facilitated Israel's ongoing genocide of Palestinians in the besieged Gaza Strip and ethnic cleansing of the occupied West Bank.

By developing a tiered system for ranking university complicity in DSEI and the arms industry, the report has provided a novel methodological contribution to research on university relationships to "Israel" and the military-industrial complex that serves to quantify university complicity, and which can be applied to other data sets that university complicity in Israeli oppression.

We hope that this report informs student activists participating in protests opposing DSEI 2025 and organising on UK campuses against the participation of universities in Israeli oppression and global militarisation, and that it allows prospective students to make informed decisions when choosing their university.

ASAP amplifies the call of activists for:

- The shutting down of DSEI 2025;
- The full disclosure of all university relationships to the military-industrial sector and Israeli companies;
- The complete divestment of UK universities from the military-industrial sector and Israeli companies;
- The boycott of all Israeli organisations and other organisations complicit in the ongoing genocide and oppression of Palestinians.

## **References**

### HIGH TIER

University of Lincoln

- Direct exhibitor status at DSEI: Partnership with Greater Lincolnshire LEP, official stand at DSEI 2023, memorandum with QinetiQ announced at DSEI.
- Executive speakers at DSEI 2025: Amy Mumby and Anna Brinkman confirmed in event forums.
- National Centre for Defence and Security AI launched during DSEI.
- Regional Defence Cluster leadership described in official communications.

#### Cranfield University

- Dedicated exhibitor stand H2-813 at DSEI 2023, live demonstrations.
- AWE Centre of Excellence for Energetic Materials direct partnership.
- Continuous DSEI event presence and consortium partnerships.

#### University of Sheffield

- AMRC and Defence Materials Centre of Excellence stand at DSEI 2023.
- Multi-year funding from Rolls-Royce and BAE Systems, disclosed in defence centre press releases.
- Henry Royce Institute role and defence partnerships.

#### Loughborough University

- Defence Science and Technology Laboratory partnerships and DSEI engagement (professor briefing, lab presentations).

#### Imperial College London

- Quantum clock research, AWE Strategic Alliance, presented at DSEI Future Tech Hub and discussed by faculty.

#### Lancaster University

- Security Lancaster research centre involvement and Defence and Security Dialogue sessions active in DSEI.

#### University of Surrey

- Surrey Space Institute showing military satellite technology at DSEI.
- Direct connection to Surrey Satellite Technology Ltd and space defence tech.

#### University of Bristol

- Defence cyber security research, Academic Centre of Excellence status, DSEI engagement detailed in defence sector announcements.

#### King's College London

- Defence Studies Department, Centre for Defence Studies, and Military Health Research all present at DSEI in various years.

#### University of Oxford

- AWE collaboration by William Penney Fellows and Centre for High Energy Density Science at DSEI.
- Armour steel development with Tata Steel announced at DSEI 2011.

#### University of Manchester

- Henry Royce Institute leads £42.5M Defence Materials Centre of Excellence, contributors listed as DSEI presenters.
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### MEDIUM TIER

#### University of Warwick

- Export controls and dual-use research documented in FOI response and contractor relationships.

#### University of Glasgow

- Arms industry investments, quantum tech research details, and DSEI contractor partnerships explained in university media and activism coverage.

#### University of Southampton

- Multi-year CAAT-documented arms industry funding relationships, participation in DSEI-linked partnerships.

#### Newcastle University

- Military War and Security Research Group DSEI engagement, military support chains research detail.

#### University of Cambridge

- DSEI defence industry working group, quantum tech partnerships, and materials research in defence events.

#### University College London

- Jill Dando Institute active in security research, direct partnerships and DSEI event involvement noted in institutional documentation.
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### LOW TIER

#### University of Bath

- Cyber security research centre documented, limited DSEI participation mentioned in university research news.

#### University of Exeter

- Defence, Security & Resilience Network, regional security partnership without direct DSEI event presence.

#### University of Edinburgh

- General defence research capabilities, no direct DSEI participation, as described in university partnership listings.
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### MINIMAL TIER

#### Queen Mary University of London

- Engineering and aerospace research described in degree programme and department sources.
  - FOI disclosure on arms trade partnerships, limited evidence of DSEI involvement.
  - Export control policy, regulatory compliance, and partnership notes.
  - Collaboration with Northwestern Polytechnical University detailed in global partnership documentation.
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## ENDNOTES

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