



## 2025 Individual Member Motion: Trading with Israel

We ask the Board to demonstrate fairness and consistency in its ethical decision making, and cease all trading with Israel. The Co-op was the first supermarket to boycott Russian products in March 2022, a week after the invasion of Ukraine. Since October 2023, Israel has completely destroyed Gaza and wiped out its key infrastructure - including schools, hospitals and universities. By July 2024, it was estimated that at least 186,000 Gazans – mainly women and children - had died as a result of the bombing, destruction of health facilities, and denial of essential aid (The Lancet 20.7.24).

The International Court of Justice has ruled that Israel has a 'plausible case to answer' for genocide and that Israel's laws in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967 are 'tantamount to apartheid'. Israel has invaded the sovereign nations of Lebanon and Syria.

We urge the Board to show moral courage and leadership, apply the same ethical principles and values it did to Russia, and take all Israeli products off the shelves.

## 2026: Update

Our Co-op undertook a significant review of its sourcing policy to ensure it remains aligned with our values and principles, reflects the realities of modern supply chains, and responds appropriately where there is clear and widely recognised evidence of serious and sustained breaches of international law and human rights. This work was already underway, reflecting longstanding concern across both our membership and the business about how sourcing decisions should reflect Co-op values in a changing and increasingly complex geopolitical environment.

Members have played an important role in highlighting the strength of feeling on these issues. In particular, Motion 13 at the 2025 AGM demonstrated the depth of concern among many members about Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories. In considering these issues, we recognised the importance of taking an approach that was fair, principled and capable of being applied across all countries of concern.

Following this review, our Co-op announced a new sourcing policy covering countries where there is strong and credible international evidence of serious and sustained violations of international law and human rights. The aim was to ensure these issues are considered through a clear and principled approach, rather than treated in isolation.

We assessed countries against the [policy criteria](#) and as part of that assessment concluded that 17 countries, including Israel, met the threshold for action under our policy and, as a result, we announced that we would no longer source products or ingredients from Israel along with the other 16 countries. This built on our longstanding position of not sourcing products from Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, which has been in place since 2007.

This was a significant and carefully considered decision. It reflected the outcome of the wider policy review, the evidence considered through that process, and the importance of applying our values in a fair and consistent way. Members' voices were an important part of that picture, helping to reinforce the strength of feeling across our Co-op, but this decision formed part of a broader approach to how we consider sourcing in countries of concern.

At the same time, our Co-op continues to believe that peace is built through co-operation. Alongside changes to our sourcing policy, we have continued to support work that reflects this belief in practice, through our [Hate Divides Communities. Cooperation Builds Them Campaign](#), including our support for Wahat al Salam neve Shalom and others working to build a sustainable and just peace.

We recognise that these are deeply important and sensitive issues for many members, and that there will be a range of strongly held views. Our aim is to act in a way that is principled, credible and consistent, while also recognising the complexity of international supply chains and the importance of continuing to support peace and co-operation wherever we can.